

STATUS REPORT - SAMOS

*Submitted for
Gen B's speech
3-61*

The SAMOS program is confused at this time due to the fact that specific authority has not been provided by the Department of Defense to conduct the program in accordance with the desires of the Air Force. If approval does come, the Air Force desires to conduct a total of 25 test launches from September of 1960 through December of 1962. The first 3 tests will be for the purpose of testing components of [both the ferret and] photo systems. Following that will be 8 tests of the 36" focal length camera system, 7 tests of the 66" recovery satellites, [4 tests of the digital ferret system and 3 tests of the analogue ferret system.] To conduct this program AFEMD estimates that \$160 million will be required in FY 1960 [REDACTED] To insure that there will be an operational capability at the completion of the R&D program it is also desired to purchase long lead time items for the operational program starting with \$7.7 million in FY 1960 [REDACTED] The latter is the program which has yet to be approved by the Department of Defense. The total availability of the FY 1961 estimated fund requirement is also in doubt. We therefore cannot ^{Proceed} perceive to plan for a sensible program for SAMOS until we have received guidance from the Department of Defense.