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AFDAT/Maj Floyd/sas/11791/17 Feb 60

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Transfer of the SAMOS, MIDAS and DISCOVERER Development Programs to the Department of the Air Force

Reference your memorandum of 17 November 1959 transferring responsibility for the SAMOS, MIDAS and DISCOVERER programs from the Advanced Research Projects Agency to the Department of the Air Force. In accordance with your desires, a briefing of the three Development Plans together with Development/Operational Annexes for SAMOS and MIDAS is to be given to the DESAE and representatives of the three Services on 19 February 1960.

The Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee reviewed these programs on 10 February 1960. Approval to plan for their execution as presented was granted.

One copy of each of the Development Plans and Development/Operational Annexes is furnished as an attachment to this memo. Specific action requested is as follows:

DISCOVERER Development Plan. This plan provides for a program of 19 flight vehicles and, in accordance with the guidance, continues the DISCOVERER program essentially as previously planned. To accomplish this it has been necessary to allocate to the DISCOVERER program ~~the following amount of funding:~~

It is recommended that the DISCOVERER Development Plan and this allocation be approved.

SAMOS Development Plan. This plan provides for a 25 flight vehicle program and maintains a level of effort consistent with a minimum essential research and development program. The SAMOS program has been allocated within the fund limitations of \$160.0 million in FY 1960. ~~It is recommended that the SAMOS Development Plan and this allocation be approved.~~ Your approval is recommended.

SAMOS Development/Operational Annex. This annex to the development plan has been prepared to define the necessary funding and describe the items of work, equipments, and additional facilities

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necessary to provide a timely base for a future operational program. The plan is the basis for the Committee's plan to look at the development and employment into an operational configuration. It is recommended that the MIDAS Development/Operational Annex be approved. Funds will be provided from Air Force sources.

MIDAS Development Plan. This plan has been limited within the funds remaining following the cutting of Department and the MIDAS minimum essential R&D plan. The amount remaining for MIDAS was \$11.1 million in FY 60. The research and development objective and philosophy have been changed in the plan. However, the impact of this funding rate affects the time schedule of accomplishment of various items of work functionally. This delay of a logical and feasible accomplishment of MIDAS development tasks has required adding to the MIDAS plan a special section (Tab 5, Section E). This section describes these additional R&D tasks and the costs of same (FY 60, \$20.6 million) which will result in an increase in the total of funds to make the program to a minimum essential R&D program. Any program which is less than a minimum essential R&D program will necessarily sacrifice valuable time, reduce efficiency and ultimately add to the over-all program costs. Your approval of the Development Plan together with these additional R&D tasks is recommended. If you concur in our recommendation concerning the development plan, recommend your approval of an Emergency Fund request (being separately processed through Comptroller channels) for \$20.6 million to cover the FY 60 costs of the additional R&D tasks noted above.

MIDAS Development/Operational Annex. This annex defines the funding and describes the items of work, equipments and additional facilities, which when added to the minimum essential R&D program provides a logical base from which a follow-on operational program could be projected. It must be pointed out that the MIDAS Development/Operational Annex is based upon actual approval of the MIDAS minimum essential R&D program. It is recommended that the MIDAS Development/Operational Annex be approved to insure the timely completion of the essential tasks necessary to provide a basis for a future operational program.

In addition to the above and in satisfaction of your memorandum of 17 November 1979, a briefing on the Operational Plans for HADS and MIDAS systems including details of user relationships will be given to DASA and representatives of the three Services on 25 February 1980. A copy of these plans, presently being reviewed by the Air Staff, will be forwarded to you prior to the briefing.

(Signed)
JOSEPH V. CHARYK
Under Secretary of the Air Force

5. Attach
1. MIDAS R&D Program
2. MIDAS Development/Operational Plan
3. MIDAS R&D Program
4. MIDAS Development/Operational Plan
5. DISCOMBAT Program

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