

WEEKLY DIARY ITEMS - LBZSA

21 January Thru 27 January 1960

(U) Letter Contract AF 04(647)-449 with Aeronutronics - Program 609A

The Definitive Contract has been forwarded to initial review and authority is being requested to amend the Letter Contract to extend the anticipated definitization date until 30 March 1960 and increasing the funds obligated on the Letter Contract by \$254,000. It is anticipated the Definitive Contract will be in effect by 30 March 1960. A system 609A technical specification and procurement negotiation meeting was held at NASA, Langley Field, Virginia during the week 18 January. Delays in the specifications for hardware and procurement of same continue to jeopardize the program plan. Hardware for the first Air Force scheduled launch will use NASA major components. It is believed the first Air Force and NASA launchings will occur at about the same time in late April or early May. This office is very concerned with the apparent lack of coordinated urgent effort on the part of the NASA, required to accomplish the procurement of the System 609A hardware needed for this program. It is also evident that NASA is not providing the development schedule of the SCOUT System with the degree of urgency that the Air Force has attached to both programs.

(U) Contract AF 04(647)-476 with General Electric - Communications Satellite

A problem has arisen regarding the definitive contract. The Basic Agreement has a clause which states that a date will be specified in the contract as a date beyond which no performance on the part of the contractor will be required. No agreement has been reached on the date or the wording of such a clause as yet. As a result of this problem, the contract has been returned from initial review.

(S) Advanced System For Weapons Tests

WDCA has received a \$200,000 Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request from the Defense Atomic Support Agency. This MIPR has been forwarded to LBZSA for coordination prior to its acceptance by this office. After discussion with the AFMD Project Officer, the following information has been ascertained: The title "Advanced System for Weapons Testing" is the unclassified title of what was formerly called "Outer Space Weapons Testing" which is classified Secret. This program consists of five vehicles of the Atlas Able configuration. The purpose is to test the effects of a nuclear explosion in outer space. Of the five vehicles, three will have non-nuclear warheads, and the last two will have nuclear warheads. The payload will weigh about 1,000 pounds and will probably be exploded about one million miles out. The great virtue to exploding the weapon in outer space is that it obviates the hazard of fall-out. The total magnitude of the five shot program is envisioned to be about \$28,000,000. The \$200,000 from Defense Atomic

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Support Agency (this is an agency directly under JCS headed up by Admiral Parker and was formerly known as the Air Force Special Weapons Project Office) is for an advanced engineering study which includes all the thinking, engineering drawings, etc. up to the point of actually cutting the metal. This study is intended to be a co-equal effort by the Air Force and the AEC, but the AEC takes a dim view of spending their own money on this, and it may be that Colonel Curtin may decide to give half of the \$200,000 to the AEC.

Other problems include the AEC position that it is not necessary to test these warheads in outer space and that a high altitude shot would be sufficient. Nothing can be done with the \$200,000 until these problems are resolved by AFBMD (Estimated time for resolution is two to four weeks). In the meantime, Lt. Col. Bjornson of WZJM says we should accept the MIPR. WZJM envisions the \$200,000 would probably be used as follows: \$150,000 of it would probably be given to STL on a sole source basis for studies and drawings on the booster and interface, and the remaining \$50,000 would probably be given to other Air Force agencies such as Cambridge Research Center, Air Force Space Weapons Center, WADD, Rand Corporation, etc. At the end of this study phase we should then have the engineering know-how and drawings to give to any competent manufacturer to conduct the tests and manufacture the vehicles as a result of a competitive procurement.

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WEEKLY DIARY ITEMS - IBZSP

21 Jan 60 Thru 27 Jan 1960

(U) Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc. - AF 04(645)-65, WS 115A (THOR)

1. (U) Negotiations with Douglas were resumed on 22 Jan 60. Agreement was reached on the Santa Monica support effort which enabled the parties to complete the negotiation of the AFMPC flight test costs. The negotiation of costs of 60 additional IOC-GSE items were also completed. This concludes negotiation action that began with the Contractor on 19 December 1959 and resulted in an increase of \$28,114,129 estimated cost and \$1,820,419 fixed fee, totaling \$29,934,548.

2. (U) Transfer of THOR Pads 1 & 2 from SAC to AFEMD. A meeting was held at Vandenberg AFB on 25 January 1960 involving personnel from Douglas Aircraft Company, SAC, AMC, AFEMD and BMC (IBZSP). It was determined that the effort involved in placing and maintaining Pads 1 and 2 in storage for ultimate use by AFEMD would be accomplished under the provisions of L/C AF 04(647)-527, contingent, of course, upon funds being made available by AFEMD.

(c) Silo Launch Test Program

Aerojet-General Contract AF 04(647)-373 was approximately 95% completed on 2 Dec 59. A TD will be issued which provides for further testing along a different line of investigation to increase the yield of information. The work required by the TD will cost approximately \$268,000 and take 17 weeks to complete. A CON establishing contractual coverage for the work will be issued on or about 10 Feb 60, and the work will be completed during June 1960.

(U) Long Range R&D Valve Program
Contract AF 04(647)-163

AiResearch conducted some of the demonstration tests on the multiple passage solenoid valve on 15 Jan 60 at its plant and these tests were witnessed by representatives of IBZSP, WDFRS and STL. The tests were mostly unsuccessful due to excessive valve body leakage. Contractor has a remedy for the leakage which will be effected by 15 Feb 60. Approximately \$83,000 and a 120-day extension in the delivery schedule will be required to complete the contract. The Project Officer is now reviewing the need for funds vs progress to minimize the overrun.

Robertshaw-Fulton, Contract AF 04(647)-161, will not be able to demonstrate the operation of the pressure regulator for approximately 30 days. The demonstration was originally scheduled for this month. This delay is acceptable to the BMD Project Officer. There will be an overrun on this contract due to working a double shift on the program. To minimize the overrun, there may be a cut back in the contract by relieving Contractor from performing flight rating and qualification testing. These tests will probably be done by the Air Force at Edwards AFB.

(U) Crosley ARM-62 Command Destruct Receivers

The negotiations with AVCO Corp., Crosley Div., under Contract AF 04(647)-534, have been completed for a quantity of 144 units at a total price of \$345,888 on a fixed price basis. Execution of the contract is contemplated by 15 Feb 60 with delivery of the first ten units in April 1960 to meet a critical BMD requirement.

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(U) High Capacity LOX Pump Program

Two of these pump systems developed for the A. D. Little propellant loading system have been installed and tested and have proven very satisfactory. The third system (Aerojet-General) is now in the process of installation with testing to begin as soon as the installation is accomplished.

(U) Long Range R&D Valve Program

Tank

Disposition of a 5500-gallon LOX/GFP to Telecomputing Corporation, Whitaker Controls Div., Contract AF 04(647)-162, which is in the process of termination, created a problem since the Contractor expressed a desire to retain the tank at his testing facility. The Air Force has a continuing need for the tank for testing of ATIAS components at Rocketdyne (NAA). A meeting was held with Telecomputing personnel and an Air Force team visited the facility. It was decided to remove the tank. This was co-ordinated with the APPRO at NAA and WADD at Wright-Patterson AFB, since the Telecomputing facility is a testing subcontractor on the X-15 Project. The tank will not be required for the X-15 after 15 March 1960. A recommendation has been made to the Terminating Contracting Officer that the tank be removed from the contractor's facility and shipped to Rocketdyne not later than 15 March 1960.