

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**SECRET**

WDR memo to Col Torrens, Subj: ARS Activities

- f. 1 Mar Receive contractors' Development Plans and distribute to Board members and interested parties. (ACTION RDESGG)
- g. 1 Mar Initiate the preparation of development plan in skeleton form pending results of Evaluation Board. This action continues throughout period. (ACTION - WDTG)
- h. 12, 13, 14 Mar Contractors brief Technical Advisory Board on their development plans at Wright Field. (ACTION - see d. above. RDESGG to notify members of T.A.B.)
- i. 15 Mar Technical Advisory Board delivers its recommendations to Evaluation Board. (ACTION - RDESGG and WDR)
- j. 16 Mar Convene Evaluation Board at WDD. Determine evaluation procedure and review recommendations of Technical Advisory Board. (ACTION - WDR)
- k. 19, 20, 21 Mar Contractors present management information in writing to supplement development plan and give oral presentation of proposals.
- l. 22-23 Mar Evaluation Board considers proposals and selects recommended contractor(s).
- m. 23-26 Mar Outline Development Plan. (ACTION - WDR)
- n. 26-31 Mar Prepare and publish Development Plan. (ACTION - WDTG)
- o. 1 Apr Transmit Development Plan and preference list of contractors to conduct development to ARDC. (ACTION - WDR)

4. It is apparent that this is an extremely tight schedule and will virtually require around-the-clock activity for a period of several weeks. It does not even mention the feverish activity that must follow in actually placing a contractor under contract, initiating development, acquiring facilities, completing tests, and launching a satellite by August 1953.

5. Admittedly, a disapproval of the proposal to participate in the IGY would relieve the urgency and remove most of the problems. If we presume favorable consideration, however, the problems involved are manifest.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

WDR-55-8

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WDR Memo to Col Terhune, Subj: AFS Activities

a. Approvals. Unlike the ICM or IEM programs, we are not selecting a contractor for an approved program. Not only must the nominated contractor be approved by higher headquarters but also the whole idea of proceeding with an AFS development. I am assured by Genes that the existing approval is for the conduct of feasibility programs only. Therefore, our 1 April development plan must be reviewed and approved, not only in Baltimore, but USAF and OED as well. Should the Stewart Committee report favorably, this will lessen but not completely solve this dilemma. This is particularly true in light of General Putt's apparent willingness to accept partial support by IGI and rely on AFS for the remainder. In summary, should we be required to meet the IGY Plan, our 1 April submission must receive high priority treatment for approval and issuance of a go-ahead.

b. Funds. Perhaps this is tied to a. above; but it must be recognized that we have a requirement for FY56 of approximately 13.0 million with nothing in hand, and for FY57 something in excess of 35.0 million against 15 million currently programmed by Wright Field to cover both the system and laboratory efforts.

c. Personnel. On the more leisurely program contemplated by Wright Field, they felt undermanned with a Lt Colonel, two professional civilians, two Captains, and a Lieutenant, not including participation by Trank, Cornog, and Glasser. We now face the accelerated effort with greatly lengthened communication channels with a team comprising only the three junior officers cited above, Glasser, Cornog, and presumably reduced participation by Trank. Contrasted with the effort we devote to the other systems, this is signally. I feel that as a minimum, we must secure a Colonel or Lt Colonel at a very early date to be assigned full time in charge of the 117L office. In addition, unless other competent individuals can be secured to man this office, the participation by R-W must be increased by an order of magnitude.

6. I am aware of the relative priority of this program and do not mean to exult it unduly. Perhaps my concern stems from the realization that to R37, this program is in some sense a ballwether by which they will judge WDD as a whole.

O. J. GLASSER  
Colonel, USAF  
Assistant for W3-117L

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WDR

Col Glasser

696

3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WDR-56-8