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December 18, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL STEWART

SUBJECT: Funding for MOL Support Requirements

On 12 December I met with Colonel Raddatz from Budget/Programs at Headquarters AFSC to discuss budgeting difficulties being experienced by AFSC for certain communications items in support of the MOL Program. The issue involved is procurement appropriation versus RDT&E funding in the FY 1970 budget (attachments 1 and 2).

There were two items budgeted as part of the Command Control Communications Program that will support MOL. The first item was equipment that provides the interface between the mission simulation equipment and the Satellite Test Center totalling \$1.3 million. A reclama for this item was prepared by the Air Staff (AFRDS) and submitted to DDR&E. There were indications that the requirement was misunderstood as MOL simulation equipment in the initial review and therefore the decision was made by DOD to delete it from the procurement appropriation as an appropriate RDT&E charge. Information from Mr. Barfield indicated that DDR&E was going to increase the MOL element to \$576.3 million if that was to be the case. However, this was never communicated officially to the Air Force and the enclosed reclama was prepared (attachment 3). We made Mr. Barfield aware of the reclama along with the opinion that we didn't care where the requirement was budgeted so long as we could identify the funds for it. The problem was complicated further from the Air Force viewpoint in that several million has already been spent on this item from the procurement appropriation. A denial of this requirement as a proper charge to that appropriation would technically require a transfer of costs incurred to the RDT&E appropriation. It also complicates the propriety of spending \$250,000 for engineering services in support of this requirement that was authorized in early November (attachments 4, 5 and 6). Informal information indicates that the misunderstanding has been recognized and the reclama should be upheld.

The second item involved \$5.4 million for ground launch communications support at Vandenberg. Attachment 7 is a copy of the AFSC budget submission which included the item. Colonel Raddatz was in the Pentagon to discuss the budgeting of this item with General Crow and the appropriate PEM as a follow up to his previous letter to General Crow on this subject (attachment 8). We offered our assistance to Colonel Raddatz in resolving the issue and asked him to make the PEM aware of our office as a point of contact and our desire to assist if possible.

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Since my meeting with Colonel Raddatz a reclama to the RDT&E appropriation has been submitted by the Air Force that includes our requirement at Vandenberg (attachment 9). We will continue to monitor these items closely and after the FY 70 budget decisions are rendered on them insure that the funding is accomplished in a timely manner.

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RALEIGH J. FORD
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Program & Policies

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