

AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONCERNING THE  
GEMINI PROGRAM AND THE MOL (MANNED ORBITING LABORATORY) PROGRAM

This agreement defines the policy to insure the most effective arrangements and utilization of national resources in the execution of the GEMINI Program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the GEMINI B/MOL (Manned Orbiting Laboratory) Program of the Department of Defense. It supersedes the agreement of January 21, 1963, entitled "Agreement Between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense Concerning the GEMINI Program".

1. Purpose

The GEMINI and GEMINI B/MOL Programs constitute a major portion of the current near-earth manned space program of the United States. It is the intent of this agreement to insure that the scientific and operational experiments undertaken as part of these programs are directed at the objectives and requirements both of the DOD and the NASA manned space flight programs.

2. Establishment of the GEMINI-MOL Planning Board (GMPB)

A GEMINI/MOL Planning Board (GMPB) is hereby established, reporting jointly to the Administrator of the NASA and the Secretary of Defense, each of whom will designate a Co-Chairman. Subject to the approval of the Secretary of Defense and Administrator of NASA, the Co-Chairman will each name two additional members and a Secretary from their respective agencies.

The Board may establish supporting boards and panels as necessary to carry out its assigned functions.

3. Functions of the GEMINI/MOL Planning Board

The Board will, in accordance with the policy direction of the Secretary of Defense and Administrator of NASA, function as a single policy and planning coordination board to assure that the GEMINI and MOL Programs are planned, executed, and utilized in the overall national interest so as to avoid unwarranted duplication of effort in the field of manned space flight and to insure maximum attainment of objectives of value to both the NASA and the DOD. The Board will monitor the programs to insure coordination in the training of astronauts, planning of experiments, the conduct of flight and in-flight tests, and the analysis and dissemination of results. The Board will also consider the common use of existing facilities.

Should there be conflicts in meeting the requirements of the two agencies, in the use of resources, or in scheduling which cannot be resolved by the Board, the Co-Chairman shall so inform the Administrator of NASA and the Secretary of Defense.

4. GEMINI/MOL Project Management

a. NASA will continue to manage the GEMINI Project. The DOD will participate in the development, pilot training, pre-flight checkout, launch operations, and flight operations of the GEMINI Program to assist NASA and to meet the DOD objectives.

b. The DOD will manage the MOL program of which GEMINI B is part. In so doing, the DOD will take full advantage of the technology, hardware, facilities,

and operational capabilities in being and being developed by NASA in support of the broad objectives of the exploration and exploitation of the space environment.

c. NASA will define its experimental requirements and have the responsibility for those NASA experiments which are incorporated into the GEMINI B/MOL Program.

5. Funding

a. In recognition of its interest in the GEMINI Program, the DOD will contribute funds to assist in the attainment of the GEMINI objectives.

b. NASA will contribute the funds for such scientific experiments it wishes to conduct as part of the MOL Program of which GEMINI B is part.

The amounts of the above funding support will be the subject of recommendations submitted by the Board.

6. Additional Programs

It is further agreed that neither the DOD nor the NASA will initiate major new programs or projects in the field of manned space flight aimed chiefly at the attainment of experimental or other capabilities in near-earth orbit except by mutual agreement.

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James E. Webb  
Administrator, NASA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Robert S. McNamara  
Secretary of Defense

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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May 20, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR DCS/RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: OSS Studies

You are authorized to initiate contractor efforts on the Orbital Space Station Studies in accordance with the negotiated work statements submitted to me on February 19, 1964 as amended by the revision to Appendix A and "Supplementary Data" forwarded in your memorandum of March 12, 1964.

The program and the specific implementation of the work statement must be managed by AFSC in close adherence to the guidance provided by Secretary McMillan in his letter of March 3 to General Schriever on the MOL Program. This guidance amplifies and clarifies the intent of the revision to Appendix A of the work statement with respect to the reconnaissance experiments and is to be regarded as directive on the OSS studies as well. AFSC must assume full responsibility for insuring that this guidance is conveyed to the OSS contractors and is fully understood by them.

In order to insure that the activities of the contractors are directed toward an explicit determination of well-defined orbital experiments and a clear exposition of such experiments in the documentation, the contractors shall be instructed to include the following specific information in their final reports:

For each military mission which the contractor finds as a result of his investigations to be adaptable to evaluation in the MOL, he will provide a detailed description of the equipment to be employed and will present a suitable test method which explains clearly the manner in which the utility of man is to be determined.

In order to preclude any misunderstanding of 2.1.1 of the Appendix A of the work statement on postulated political climates, it should be emphasized to the contractors that this section is provided as background information and is not intended to include political studies in the scope of work.

Section 5.3 and 6.0 shall be deleted from the work statement, and studies of [redacted] and weapon delivery from orbit shall not otherwise be included in any aspect of these studies.

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Within the scope of the work statement, consideration should be given to placing particular emphasis with the three different contractors on aspects of this study in which each individual contractor has special background and experience. A report on the extent to which this is found desirable and feasible should be given to me at the time of the briefing on the results of Phase I studies.

Alexander H. Flax  
Assistant Secretary  
Research & Development

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