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ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY
Washington 25, D. C.

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SAMOS
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MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL OSTRANDER

SUBJECT: Summary of SAMOS Program Situation

The purpose of this memorandum is to outline the sequence of events leading to the current confused and inadequate funding situation existing in the SAMOS Program. There is an urgent need for establishing a policy or program decision so that AFMD can proceed with planning, programming and contract negotiations in an intelligent orderly manner.

In January 1959, after a series of program reviews and ARPA Air Force discussions, a SAMOS development plan was submitted to ARPA involving a reoriented and agreed upon program. The program as presented by AFMD required \$96.6 million for FY 1959 and \$160.0 million for FY 1960. This development plan was approved by ARPA with minor exceptions which are essentially irrelevant to the discussions presented here. The \$160.0 million for FY 1960 provided for an 18 shot R&D program including both readout and recovery. Toward the end of FY 1959, a review of the total ARPA budget for FY 1960 indicated that because of budget ground rules established, certain program adjustments would have to be made. A txr was sent to AFMD citing that only \$135 million would be available for SAMOS in FY 1960. It was suggested in the txr that perhaps this adjustment could be accommodated by deferring recovery. (Contracts at this time had not yet been awarded on the E-5 camera nor the recovery capsule.) In response to this txr AFMD prepared new development plans in conjunction with which briefings were provided to the Air Force staff and to ARPA in July 1959.

In these briefings it was pointed out that readout alone would require \$143.8 million in FY 1960 and approximately [REDACTED] in FY 1961. Recovery was estimated to require approximately \$25 million in FY 1960 and [REDACTED] in FY 1961 for totals of \$168.8 million in FY 1960 and [REDACTED] in FY 1961. Due to the lack of a clear cut policy decision on recovery per se, plus funding difficulties, it was decided independently by both the Air Staff and ARPA that the development plans could not be approved. As a result

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no development plans were officially approved or provided to the Pentagon. Since July, no firm guidance has been provided to AFEMD primarily because there has not been a final resolution concerning funds available for the FY 1960-61 time period.

After many more discussions relative to the readout and recovery pros and cons, it was decided that recovery would be reinstated in the SANDS Program. A txw was forwarded to the Secretary of the Air Force containing the following:

- a. Contracts for recovery are authorized immediately, the program level for FY 1960 will be \$148 million,
- b. 
- c. AFEMD will prepare a new development plan at these program levels providing for balanced program which will accommodate recovery at the expense of readout, if necessary.

Currently, contracts are being negotiated on recovery and AFEMD is in the process of preparing new development plans in accordance with this guidance. These development plans are due to be submitted during the week of 23 November.

In the meantime, because of budgetary difficulties, some conflicting guidance by the Air Force relative to recovery has been forwarded to AFEMD. The justification for this conflicting guidance is based upon the following reasoning:

- a. Inadequate total funds are available,
- b. readout has been progressing in the hardware stage for some time,
- c. recovery has not yet entered the hardware stage.

Therefore, it makes more sense from the timely intelligence data acquisition standpoint and is less disruptive to the program, to move into recovery very slowly. As further justification for this position it might be noted that the ARPA SANDS funds available for FY 1961 have now been determined to be  which is inadequate to support the planned readout program alone. If recovery is emphasized, this could mean that within the limited funding available, readout would be essentially eliminated, with a consequent severe loss of time and dollars already invested. It has been ARPA's contention, considering economical and technical factors that both readout and recovery should be developed.

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It is extremely improbable that AFEMD can provide an acceptable development plan this month under these circumstances. To add to the confusion there is the unresolved situation with respect to transfer of ARPA space programs to the services. In addition, the Air Force had budgeted for space programs for FY 1961 approximately [REDACTED]. Of this, [REDACTED] was budgeted for SAMOS. These funds were to be used for the operational program to accommodate necessary lead time. It is understood that approximately [REDACTED] of these total funds were deleted in a recent budget revision at the OSD level. It is not known how this [REDACTED] deletion was apportioned.

It can be concluded that there is not in existence an integrated program approach, that unilateral actions are being taken, that AFEMD is in an extremely difficult position and the the program is thereby suffering unnecessarily. It is strongly recommended that an Air Force-ARPA meeting be held with the objective of arriving at a firm joint position relative to the technical approach to be followed and the joint program funding level to be supported. This joint position should then be provided to the Director of Research and Engineering in order that a firm decision can be made and meaningful guidance provided to AFEMD.

for Dow
Edward E. Harriman
Chief, Satellite Branch

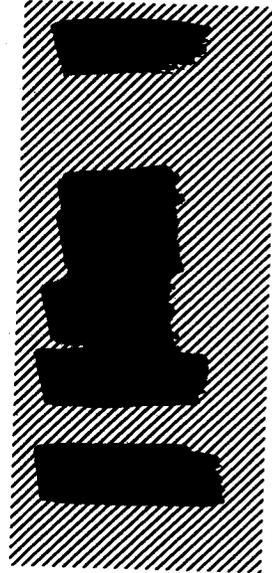
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SUMMARY OF SANDS FUNDING SITUATION

Required (Jan 58 devl. plan)	<u>FY 1960</u> <u>160.0</u>
Required - July 59 briefing	
readout	143.8
recovery	<u>25.0</u>
total	<u>168.8</u>
Available (ARPA guidance)	148.0
Available (Current)	148.0
Available (Air Force) (operational program)	

*Funds in millions of dollars.



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