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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301



RESEARCH AND  
ENGINEERING

DECLASSIFIED IN PART  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: 12 FEB 2016

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X102  
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OSD 3.3(b)(1)  
NRO 3.3(b)(1)

Dr. A. M. Lovelace  
Associate Administrator/General Manager  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Al,

(S) As you know, [REDACTED] which was manifested on the fourth Shuttle test flight (OFT #4) has been cancelled. At the time of cancellation, we were well along in our preparations for our first use of the Shuttle. The Shuttle sortie pallet hardware and avionics support equipment were essentially complete and ready for experiment integration with integration planning well along and essential interfaces with NASA established.

(S) The Department of Defense now requests that the Air Force Cryogenic Infrared Instrumentation for Shuttle (CIRRIS-I) experiment, an important basis for several DoD efforts, be manifested on OFT #4 in place of [REDACTED]. We have recently reviewed in some detail the status and importance of the CIRRIS-I experiment. The Air Force is confident that the experiment can be integrated and ready on a schedule compatible with OFT #4 (April 1982). CIRRIS-1 is an IR experiment that will collect significant earth limb data in support of the Miniature Vehicle ASAT Interceptor Program, Space-Based Surveillance Systems, TALON GOLD, and MINI-HALO efforts. In addition, experiments supporting national satellite systems are being considered. It will also make a major contribution to the Shuttle contamination measurements important to future DoD Shuttle use, complementing NASA's SHIRT efforts in the contamination area with high spectral resolution measurements. The Space Sextant which was to be flown with [REDACTED] will now fly with CIRRIS-1. The Sextant provides a basis for autonomous satellite navigation -- an important element in our satellite survivability considerations.

(S) I believe that early DoD flight experience on the available programmed Shuttle test flight is necessary to improve the effectiveness of our planning for future Shuttle use and that the early establishment of essential DoD/NASA interfaces will benefit both agencies. [REDACTED] effort was to support DoD interests in developing procedures for sortie mode Shuttle use; we wish to continue this under the redefined experiment.

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REVIEW ON: 13 January 1987

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(U) The Air Force will be pleased to brief you on the CIRRIIS-I and Space Sextant experiments if you wish. Preparing for this OFT flight requires that we move out rapidly. We would appreciate an early favorable response to this request.

Sincerely,

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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301



RESEARCH AND  
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COVER BRIEF

TO: UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING  
FROM: DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING  
(STRATEGIC AND SPACE SYSTEMS)

13 JAN 1981  
*[Signature]*

PROBLEM: To obtain a commitment from NASA that the CIRRIIS-I and Space Sextant experiments will be manifested on the fourth Shuttle test flight.

DISCUSSION: We discussed this issue today. Dr. Lovelace is aware that this letter is coming.

RECOMMENDATION: That you sign the attached letter.

COORDINATION:

SAF *Hans Mark* (Date) Jan. 13, 1981  
ASAF (RDL) *[Signature]* (Date) 13 JAN 81

Atch

Office of the Secretary of Defense *U.S. & S. 2*  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS  
Date: 05 Feb 2016 Authority: EO 13526  
Declassify: \_\_\_\_\_ Deny in Full: \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify in Part: X  
Reason: 3.3(b)(1)  
MDR: 13 -M-4745

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