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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



12 OCT 1959

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

AFCIN-P2

SUBJECT:

Responsibilities for Satellite and Space Vehicle Programs

TO:

AFDAT

1. Reference is made to the proposed assignment for Midas to ADC contained in Draft Message prepared by AFDAT on 7 October 1959.
2. AFCIN does not concur with the assignment of responsibility for Midas Operational Planning to Air Defense Command. It is recommended that the responsibility for Midas Operational Planning be assigned to Strategic Air Command.
3. The attack alarm and other intelligence information to be collected by Midas may become a primary intelligence input. The attack alarm information from Midas will be relayed over the Midas - Bnews Communication Net simultaneously to the Bnews stations, SAC, NORAD, USAF Indications Center and the National Indications Center. Since each will react, there should be no conflict based on roles and missions. Also of importance is the potential of Midas to collect intelligence information on non-hostile or satellite launches. This information concerning number and duration of thrust stages, trajectory, and launch or impact areas must be collected, recorded, and effectively processed along with information collected by SAMOS and other means.
4. The major problems affecting Midas Operational Planning will be very similar to those affecting the operational planning for SAMOS and Atlas Missiles. The planning required to monitor the displays at the readout stations is a minor problem.
5. In view of the above it is recommended that the following paragraphs be changed to read:

Part II, Paragraph B - Midas Development Plan will be prepared by ARDC; Operational Plan for Midas will be prepared by SAC (in collaboration with ADC and ARDC), and Logistic Support Plan will be prepared by AMC.

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AFCIN-P2 ltr to AFDAT, Subj: Responsibilities for Satellite and Space Vehicle Programs

Part III, Paragraph C. Planning Commands will assume, for planning purposes, that SAC will be responsible for the operation of SAMOS and Midas.

Delete Paragraphs M and N, Part III.

6. AFCIN concurs with the rest of the message as drafted by AFDAT.



JAMES M. WALSH
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ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF,
INTELLIGENCE

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