

SECRET

SAPC - 7240
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11 July 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director

SUBJECT : Air Force R-17 Program

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to review the discussion at a meeting which you held this date attended by Brigadier General Fisher, Colonel Proctor (General Fisher's successor), Colonel Geary and [redacted] on subject program. This meeting was preparatory to a meeting which you and General Fisher had with General Cabell on the same subject.

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2. I concluded from the meeting that the Air Force R-17 (their terminology for Lockheed's CL-282, or our U-2) program does not intend to use [redacted] as a training area for their unit which is to be the 4028th Squadron. It was my understanding that their preference lies with McDill AFB in Tampa, Florida, preferred over Turner AFB. General Fisher indicated that the Air Force would continue to support us at [redacted] as long as necessary, including the assistance of the 4070th Squadron, and that they would, in fact, place the two or three first aircraft that they receive at [redacted] under Colonel Yancey for testing and instruction purposes. When AQUATONE no longer needs the use of [redacted] it would be closed up and abandoned. Concerning the possible training of radar or new pilots, General Fisher suggested this could be done at McDill AFB.

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3. I have taken the liberty of passing this information on to [redacted] who will inform [redacted] I have indicated that this is for their information only, not to be used for any action at present.

4. In consideration of the whole problem of the activation of the 4028th Squadron, several questions arise in my mind. First, is the 4028th to assume operational responsibilities at present under AQUATONE direction? Certain research and development and procurement is already being coordinated under [redacted] toward the operation of the 4028th, but a very great problem remains in the logistics and supply field (i.e., spare parts, etc.). [redacted] has informed me that he has no plans concerning the gradual turn over of material to the Air Force. Although no actual combined effort is needed at present on this matter, I believe it would be a good idea for him at least to be in contact with Colonel Proctor for a discussion on the subject. One other point which concerns me is that of personnel and liaison between AQUATONE and the 4028th. If, in fact, the 4028th is to assume the obligations on AQUATONE at all on a different basis, then it would certainly seem a good idea if plans were in the making for a continued liaison between the two organizations on all subjects of mutual concern, including possibly the placement of some of the 4028th personnel within AQUATONE on TDY until the activation of their unit at McDill. I would like to suggest that, to relieve you of some of these liaison problems, you appoint a liaison officer for this particular purpose.

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USAF review(s)
completed.

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