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NPIC/TSSG/DED-1732-69

23 July 69

MEMORANDUM FOR : Director, National Photographic Interpretation Center

SUBJECT : Proposed Contract with [redacted] for  
Modifications to Chip Comparators at a [redacted]

25X1  
25X1

1. This memorandum requests approval for the commitment of funds for a contract. The specific request is stated in Paragraph 7.

25X1 2. Six [redacted] Chip Comparators have been procured and are presently operational in the Center. These instruments are used for stereoviewing and coordinate measuring of images on film chips. The interpreters use these instruments daily as a mensuration capability to support their photo interpretation work. Operation of the Comparators has disclosed two major problems: (1) a closed-circuit circulating water supply is employed to cool the illumination system incorporated in the instruments. This cooling system occasionally develops leaks, water penetrates the electrical system of the Comparator causing fuses to blow, thereby disabling the instrument. Furthermore, the decreased volume of water in the cooling system causes overheating and burnout of the high-intensity illuminating lamp; (2) the design of the mount for the optical viewing head of the instrument is inadequate and it has proven to be impossible to maintain focus throughout the area of the film chip being viewed. This malfunction substantially decreases the utility of an otherwise useful instrument.

3. The proposed project will install sensors and relays in the cooling system of the Chip Comparators that will indicate malfunction of the system and remove power from the high-intensity lamp before the lamp can be damaged. An enclosure will be added around the reservoir of the cooling system that will prevent leakage from penetrating the electrical system. Furthermore, the present mount for the optical viewing head will be replaced with a new and improved design. The total time anticipated for completion of the work is 18 weeks from the contract date. There is little, if any, risk involved in successfully completing this project.

25X1 4. [redacted] was invited to investigate the problem and, in response to this request, has submitted a technical and cost proposal which appears satisfactory to the Development & Engineering Division.

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Declass Review by  
NIMA/DOD

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to Chip Comparators at [REDACTED]

Cost for the project has been estimated to be [REDACTED] to modify the six  
Chip Comparators. The Contracting Officer will be requested to negotiate  
this contract in two phases. Phase I will modify one of the Comparators  
at an estimated cost of [REDACTED]. After modification of this first instrument  
has proven successful, Phase II will modify the remaining five instruments  
for an estimated cost of [REDACTED].

5. The proposed project is in direct response to requests by IAS  
and TSSG/ESD to correct the known faults in the Chip Comparators.

7. It is requested that approval be granted to negotiate with  
[REDACTED] for a contract to conduct the program described  
at a cost not to exceed [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]  
Chief, Technical Services & Support Group,  
NPIC

Attachment:  
Form 2420

CONCUR: [REDACTED]  
Director, Imagery Analysis Service

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

CONCUR: [REDACTED]  
Chief, Engineering Support Division

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPROVAL: [REDACTED]  
Arthur C. Lundahl  
Director  
National Photographic Interpretation Center

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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to Chip Comparators at

25X1

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