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6.2(d)

~~SECRET~~
~~EYES ONLY~~

7 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Research and Development

VIA: Chairman, DDO Technical Requirements Board

SUBJECT: AVIAN Program

1. Based on the recent AVIAN Program demonstration at [redacted], SE Division, working with the NIO/SA, requests that ORD continue the program to fulfill a specific requirement. A step by step -by-step description of one possible scenario has been prepared and forwarded on 31 October 1975. Using this description we plan to have our station officers release pigeons near the target. The pigeons should over fly the target carrying cameras and return [redacted] for recovery of the cameras and film. We expect ORD to demonstrate a scenario in the Washington area that would closely parallel the field situation using the alloted ORD funds. We understand that ORD could use funds remaining in calendar year 1975 at two contractors for basic research on homing pigeons and commit funds programed for calendar year 1976 at one contractor to demonstrate the feasibility of the equipment to meet the requirement. SE Division will fund the actual operation using ORD furnished equipment.

2. We understand that any additional work on the Bird Camera would be funded by ORD and be an insignificant amount. We have elected to go ahead with a bird operation with the understanding that total costs for one more year's work to complete a system will be about $100,000 for equipment, i.e., trained birds with cameras, mock ups and photo slides of targets needed for training.

3. We are planning a timetable whereby the birds with cameras would demonstrate the capability in the Washington area by April 1976, and additional trained birds with cameras would be ready for the operation overseas by June 1976.

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4. Details of this request have been discussed between [redacted] of ORD, [redacted] of OTS, and [redacted] of SE Division.

[redacted]
Chief
Soviet/East European Division

cc:

NIO/Special Activities
DDO/Ops Staff ([redacted])
OTS/Operations
OTS/D&E

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