Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C06527477

3.3(h)(2)

6.2(d)

SECRET

23 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: NIO/SA

SUBJECT: TACANA TCT Meeting - 17 December, 1975

1. On 17 December 1975 a TCT meeting was held to review progress on the TACANA feasibility study. The following subjects were discussed:

a. TCT membership and tasking for team members.

b. Operational test requirements

c. Contractor proposal and project status

d. Camera design

The following Agency personnel attended the meeting:

3.5(c)

[redacted]-OTS	Charles Adkins-OT/ORD
[redacted]SE/USSR	[redacted]
[redacted]LSR/ORD	Donald Reiser-DD/ORD
[redacted]SOG	[redacted]
[redacted]-IAS	
[redacted]-NED/OSI	Harry Wood-C/OT/ORD
[redacted]-OT/ORD	

2. TCT Team Membership

Since the first TCT meeting, a number of agency offices expressed definite interest in having technical personnel participate as TACANA TCT members and sent representatives to attend this meeting. As the discussion progressed, it was evident that most of the attendees were unaware that TCT membership required a full time commitment to the TACANA project. When this became clear, it was decided to limit TCT composition to three working members: [redacted] OTS/SDB, Chairman; [redacted] SE/I/USSR, co-chairman, and [redacted] LSR/ORD, secretary. In this configuration

SECRET

E2 IMPDET CL BY [redacted]

Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C06527477

Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C06527477

the team includes two people [redacted] who are extremely familiar with the actual operational requirements underlying the TACANA project and one team member, [redacted] (ORD) who is directly responsible within ORD for accomplishing an objective test of Avian capabilities and limitations in relation to TACANA objectives.

Four ad hoc teams were formed to provide expertise to the TCT as necessary. The target analysis team reports to [redacted]. It consists of members from IAS, OSI, and OWI. These are: [redacted] OSI, [redacted] /IAS, [redacted] /OSI, and the OWI member has not been named yet. The Camera Equipment Team reports to [redacted] This team includes Charles Adkins/ORD, [redacted] /ORD, [redacted] OTS, and [redacted] OTS. The other two teams; the Support Team, (consisting of SOG pilots) and the TACANA Birds Team (consisting of contractor personnel) report to [redacted] /ORD. The ORD camera development team also maintains close coordination with [redacted] because he is responsible within ORD for the development and test of the complete Avian system, not just the bird subsystem.

3. Operational Test Requirement

[redacted] presented and discussed the operational requirements for a test program to demonstrate the operational utility of the Avian asset. These requirements can be summarized as follows:

SE Division/DDO has provided information which is being used to design a denied area operational analog in the continental United States which simulates an actual operational scenario. For the purpose of this analog, contractor facilities in California will be used as a safe training area in the United States. Metropolitan Washington will correspond to a denied area capital. An Agency building in Washington will simulate the safe haven, and the [redacted] will represent the actual target area. All representations of the analog target area to the Contractor in his training phase will utilize information and support realistic for a denied area. There will be no access to the safe haven or target area for any Avian asset prior to the period of acclimatization during the analog test, and the contractor will not have access to the target area. The contractor will not use full scale outside models of the target area that would be recognizable from overhead photography. The contractor will be provided photography which is equivalent to the resolution limits of KH-8 photography.

Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C06527477

Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C06527477

Contractor Proposal and project status.

[redacted] reported that the contractor's TACANA proposal had been received and approved by the ORD project review board for funding in January. The contractor's work statement outlines a program that is designed to provide three distinct and separate tests of the denied area analog. These tests adhere to the guidelines established in the operational test requirements and will enable the contractor and ORD researchers to detect possible limitations of the Avian asset prior to the final test in Washington, D.C. The first test will take place in California, the second in the Mid West, and the third and final test in Washington, D.C.

Prior to this meeting, the contractor had successfully moved and relocated a flock of birds from Point Loma near San Diego, California [redacted] California. These birds readily accepted their new home and within a few weeks were homing from a distance of 15 miles while transporting a simulated camera package. The contractor sees this a positive sign that changing these and new birds from location to location will be an achievable goal. The results of the camera studies conducted to date and some additional tests slated for mid-January will be used to configure a final camera design to be completed in early February. Two cameras are scheduled to be constructed, that will include a low F-number lens. The new camera design will increase the film size from 9mm to 16mm in width. The film roll will be capable of taking 180 pictures at a rate of one picture per second for a total coverage time of three minutes. The field of view in the direction of motion will be roughly 30° and result in an approximately contiguous pictures along the ground. The increased film width will almost double the lateral field of view and thereby increase the probability of photographing the target. In addition, this new design doubles the number of pictures, thereby nearly quadrupling the overall probability of recording the target. This new camera design is scheduled for final flight testing by the end of March 1976. Final modifications and analysis should be completed by early April.

[redacted]
Secretary, TACANA TCT

Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C06527477