Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C02379707

3.3(h)(2)

6.2(d)

21 December 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: DAD/LS/ORD

SUBJECT: Project OXYGAS

REFERENCE: ORD 2690-64 dated 3 December 1964

1. We have reviewed the referenced memorandum and our response to the various questions will be covered in succeeding paragraphs. It should be noted that we agree in general with the program and your plans for supporting it through FY-65.

2. Maritime Branch will be interested in the program providing the contractor successfully completes the current technical feasibility study. Maritime Branch will take the lead in determining operational feasibility once technical feasibility has been demonstrated.

3. We concur in the program submitted by the contractor. We have no additional tasks to add. The system design study appears satisfactory; however, we would like to include sea launch and recovery and air transportation of the animals. Maritime Branch will arrange for the necessary support to carry out these evolutions. We only ask that we be kept apprised of all developments in order that the necessary arrangements for transportation may be made on a timely basis.

4. We welcome the opportunity for active participation by Maritime Branch personnel in this study. We will be happy to have a member of our staff survey [redacted] at a time to be mutually agreed upon by both of our offices.

5. We expect to be in a position to provide funds to assist in the study. Your reluctance to invest in specialized maritime equipment is understood and where such items may be required, we will plan to provide.

6. Our participation with your office in this project has in our opinion been a more than satisfactory arrangement. It is understood that as the project attains a more operational than technical complexion your office's input will diminish and ours will increase. I feel there will be need for continuing conferences between our offices as this transition takes place in order that properly balanced participation can be achieved.

[redacted]

Chief, Maritime Branch
Special Operations Division

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

XERO COPY XERO COPY XERO COPY XERO COPY

Approved for Release: 2019/07/30 C02379707