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78-2233

by 09- Sp...

2 JUN 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Space Shuttle - ACTION MEMORANDUM (U)

(U) We understand that the President is concerned that government users of the Shuttle are not transitioning fast enough to the Shuttle, that spacecraft are not being designed for the Shuttle, and that expendable launch vehicles (ELVs) are not being phased out as the Shuttle becomes available.

(U) Attached is a proposed memorandum to the President which gives an overview of the current DoD transition planning for Shuttle use and ELV phaseout. As a part of a continuing review process, this plan will undergo further changes as the POM FY 1980 review process continues.

(S) The chart attached to the proposed memorandum reflects our current estimate of spacecraft transition to the Shuttle based on the DoD FY 1980 POM planning and Intelligence budget planning. While DoD has aggressively supported the Shuttle program, our payload transition to Shuttle launch is probably conservative, as it must be for critical missions. Increasing success on orbit, which most of our current spacecraft are achieving, plus budget limitations tend to delay spacecraft block changes and transitions to the Shuttle. Funding problems have also contributed to deferring new space systems which would be designed uniquely for the Shuttle. In view of the President's interest in Shuttle use, it would be appropriate to examine, as a part of our normal review, in conjunction with Admiral Turner, each of the space systems involved in the transition plan. The purpose of this review would be to determine if some spacecraft transition schedules could be accelerated, the benefits that might be derived, and the costs and risks which would be incurred. There also may be steps which we can take now to assure better use of the Shuttle capabilities for our new payloads.

~~Classified by USDRE. Exempt from General Declassification Schedule of Executive Order 11652. Exemption Category 3. Declassify on 31 Dec 1993.~~

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS 545C 552
Date: 20 Jun 2014 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: 545C 552 (b)(6)
MDR: 13-M-4687

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date:

JUN 20 2014

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(U) I recommend that you sign the attached memorandum to the President which states that this review will be undertaken. I also recommend that Dr. Mark take the lead for you in conducting this review. A memorandum to Dr. Mark is attached for your signature.

William J. Perry

Attachments

Concurrence:

Under Secretary of the Air Force - Dr. Hans Mark _____

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUN 20 2014

[REDACTED] jw/1 Jun 78
OD(SAS) [REDACTED]

OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6)

Prepared by [REDACTED] 6/1/78

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78-2233A

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUN 20 2014

28 JUN 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Space Shuttle Transition Plan

During the spring budget review you expressed concern that we are not transitioning fast enough to the Space Shuttle, and thus may be incurring duplicate costs. Our current plan to use the Shuttle and phase out current expendable launch vehicles is described below.

Initial launches on the Shuttle as shown on the attached chart occur in FY 1981 from Kennedy Space Center and FY 1983 from Vandenberg Air Force Base. By FY 1984 we will be using the Shuttle to launch all classes of military as well as intelligence payloads. Currently operational spacecraft must retain a capability for launch on expendable vehicles during transition so that we can replenish our space systems on orbit even if the Shuttle encounters difficulties. Thus a minimum inventory of current vehicles will be retained as a backup. Assuming Shuttle success, Titan III production will end in April 1982 and our backup launch capability will be terminated in FY 1985.

Beginning in late 1983 or FY 1984, new Department of Defense systems will appear which will require the additional capability of the Shuttle and will not be compatible with current boosters. At least one of our intelligence spacecraft and most likely two will be recoverable from orbit. We are also exploring how the presence of men in space will contribute to our future systems, especially with respect to the erection of large structures on orbit.

While the Department of Defense is aggressively supporting the Shuttle program, our transition plan may be conservative. It must be so for critical missions. However, I intend to reexamine this plan with Admiral Turner to insure a cost effective transition. We will examine possible schedule changes, benefits, costs, and risks to improve Shuttle utilization and the redirection of Expendable Launch Vehicle procurements. I will report back to you when I have completed this assessment.

Harold Brown

Attachment

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EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION
EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION
DECLASSIFY ON: 31Dec1993

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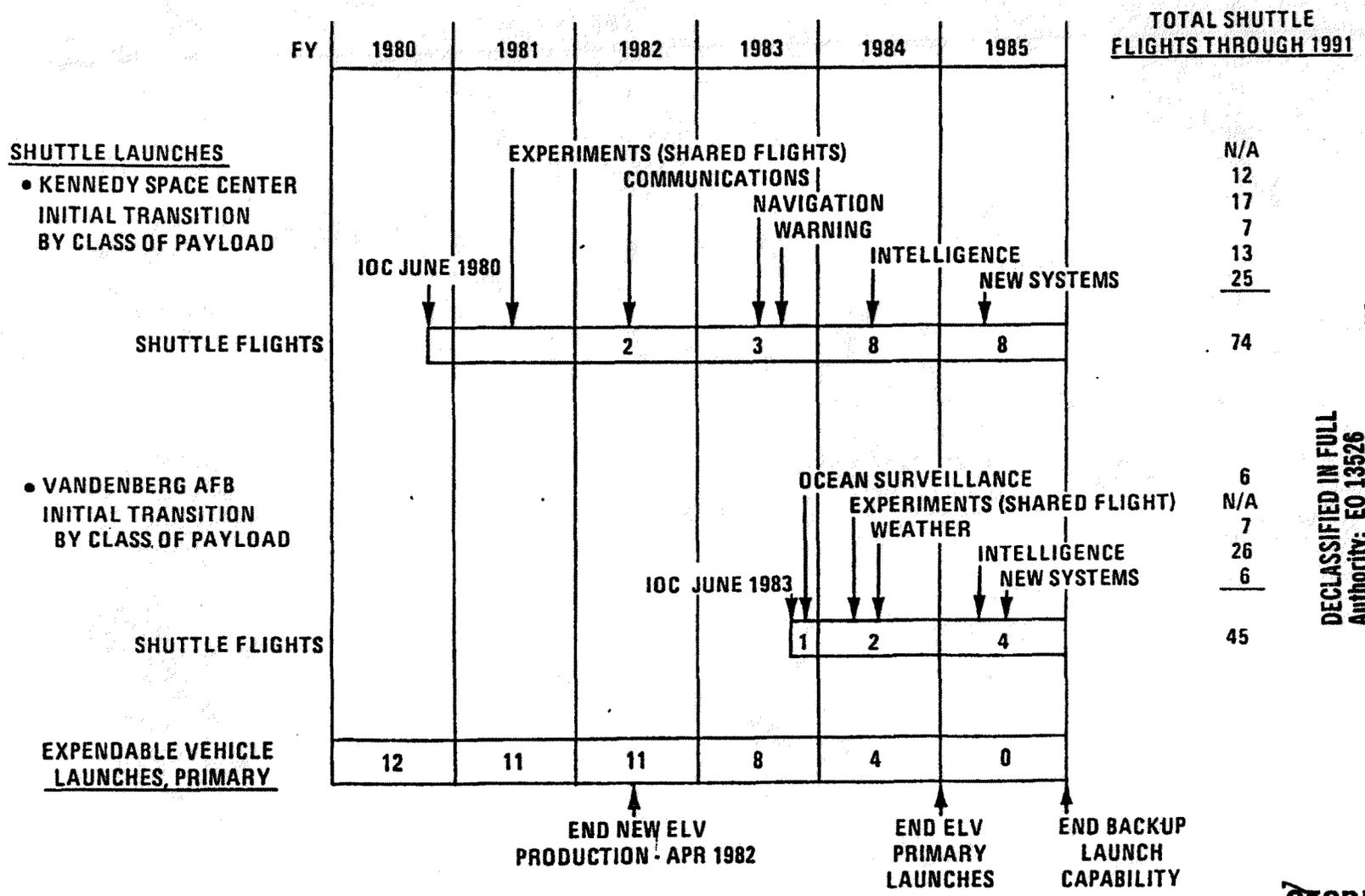
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5/30/78

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SPACE SHUTTLE TRANSITION PLAN



DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
 Authority: EO 13526
 Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
 Date: JUN 20 2014

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Space Shuttle Transition Plan

I would like to review for you our current plan to use the Shuttle and phase out current expendable launch vehicles.

Initial launches on the Shuttle as shown on the attached chart occur in FY 1981 from Kennedy Space Center and FY 1983 from Vandenberg Air Force Base. By FY 1984 we will be using the Shuttle to launch all classes of military as well as intelligence payloads. Currently operational spacecraft must retain a capability for launch on expendable vehicles during transition so that we can replenish our space systems on orbit even if the Shuttle encounters difficulties. Thus a minimum inventory of current vehicles will be retained as a backup. Assuming Shuttle success, Titan III production will end in April 1982 and our backup launch capability will be terminated in FY 1985.

Beginning in late 1983 or FY 1984, new Department of Defense systems will appear which will require the additional capability of the Shuttle and will not be compatible with current boosters. At least one of our intelligence spacecraft and most likely two will be recoverable from orbit. We are also exploring how the presence of men in space will contribute to our future systems, especially with respect to the erection of large structures on orbit.

While the Department of Defense is aggressively supporting the Shuttle program, our transition plan may be conservative, as it must be for critical missions. I intend to reexamine this plan with Admiral Turner to insure a cost effective transition. We will examine possible schedule changes, benefits, costs, and risks to improve Shuttle utilization and the redirection of Expendable Launch Vehicle procurements. I will report back to you when I have completed this assessment.

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUN 20 2014

Attachment

 iw/1 Jun 78
OD(SAS)/X 
Rewritten per SecDef instructions/9 Jun 78

D(SAS) 

DUSD(SSS)  6/9/78

OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6) ~~SECRET~~

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78-22330

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

26 JUN 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Space Shuttle Transition Plan (U)

(S) I share the concern, of which you are probably already aware, that our space systems, both military and intelligence, may well not be transitioning fast enough to the Shuttle, that spacecraft are not sufficiently being designed specifically for Shuttle capabilities, and that we will not phase out expendable launch vehicles quickly enough as the Shuttle becomes operational.

(U) I request that you arrange to have Dr. Mark take the lead in establishing a small group to examine the Department of Defense Space Shuttle Transition Plan over the next several weeks. The purpose of this review would be to see if some spacecraft transition schedules can be accelerated, the benefits to be derived, and the costs and risks which would be incurred. There also may be steps which we can take now to improve our use of the Shuttle capabilities for our new payloads.

(S) Please have Dr. Mark arrange for needed participation by Admiral Turner's staff. A representative from Dr. Perry's staff is available to assist in this review.

Harold Brown

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Declassification Schedule of Executive
Order 11652. Exemption Category 3.
Declassify on 31 Dec 1993.~~

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUN 20 2014

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SEC DEF CONTR No. X-1675

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Space Shuttle Transition Plan (U)

(S) The President is concerned that our space systems, both military and intelligence, are not transitioning fast enough to the Shuttle, that spacecraft are not being designed specifically for Shuttle capabilities, and that we will not phase out expendable launch vehicles as the Shuttle becomes operational.

(U) I request that you arrange to have Dr. Mark take the lead in establishing a small group to examine the Department of Defense Space Shuttle Transition Plan over the next several weeks. The purpose of this review would be to see if some spacecraft transition schedules can be accelerated, the benefits to be derived, and the costs and risks which would be incurred. There also may be steps which we can take now to improve our use of the Shuttle capabilities for our new payloads.

(S) Please have Dr. Mark arrange for needed participation by Admiral Turner's staff. A representative from Dr. Perry's staff is available to assist in this review.

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Date: JUN 20 2014

[REDACTED] jw/31 May 78
OD(SAS) [REDACTED]
Rewritten per SecDef instructions/
9 Jun 78

D(SAS) [REDACTED] OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6)
DUSD(SSS) _____

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Declassify on 31 Dec 1993.

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currently under review and will likely be decreased to a maximum of three each. Assuming Shuttle success, Titan III production phaseout will begin in 1980 and be complete in April 1982. However, no final decision to terminate production is needed before FY 1982; although, this will be reviewed continually. We currently plan to maintain a launch capability for our backup vehicles at Kennedy Space Center until FY 1984 and at Vandenberg Air Force Base until FY 1985. Around 1983, we would make a decision to fly out or dispose of any remaining backup vehicles in a timely manner.

(S) Beginning in late FY 1983 or FY 1984, new DoD systems will appear which no longer will be compatible with current boosters. These may include Ocean Surveillance, Deep Space Surveillance, several new communications and certain intelligence systems. The Defense Meteorological Satellite when it transitions will also be uniquely designed for the Shuttle.

(S) The additional Shuttle payload delivery capability will be used to enhance survivability, to increase the ability of our spacecraft to perform new missions, and to increase the life on-orbit of our spacecraft. One of our intelligence spacecraft and most likely two will be recoverable from orbit. We are also exploring how the presence of men in space will contribute to our future systems, especially with respect to the erection of large structures on orbit.

(U) I believe that DoD has a comprehensive plan to fully use the Shuttle and phase out existing launch vehicles as soon as possible. I will report back to you when I have completed my assessment of our current transition planning.

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUN 20 2014

Attachment

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Space Shuttle Transition Plan (U)

(S) The President is concerned that our space systems, both military and intelligence, are not transitioning fast enough to the Shuttle, that spacecraft are not being designed specifically for Shuttle capabilities, and that we will not phase out expendable launch vehicles as the Shuttle becomes operational.

(U) I request that you take the lead in establishing a small group to examine the Department of Defense Space Shuttle Transition Plan over the next several weeks. The purpose of this review would be to see if some spacecraft transition schedules can be accelerated, the benefits to be derived, and the costs and risks which would be incurred. There also may be steps which we can take now to improve our use of the Shuttle capabilities for our new payloads.

(S) Would you please arrange for needed participation by Admiral Turner's staff. A representative from Dr. Perry's staff is available to assist you in this effort.

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
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[REDACTED] iw/31 May 78
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DUSD(SSS) [REDACTED] has seen

1 JUN 1978

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General Declassification Schedule
of Executive Order 11652.
Exemption Category 3.
Declassify on 31 Dec 1993.

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Memo For Secretary of Defense

This package has been changed as your staff requested. The memorandum to the President has been shortened. The memorandum addressed to the Secretary of the Air Force requesting that Dr. Mark take the lead in the review is now attached.

Attachments

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUN 20 2014

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~~UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENTS THIS
DOCUMENT BECOMES UNCLASSIFIED~~

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

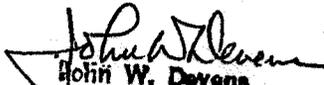
Memo For

C&D

6/5

Mr. Keister requests this package
be redone

- Memo to President should be shortened - use attachment for details
- Leave out paragraph classification markings.
- Memo to Under Secy AF should be to Sec AF requesting Dr. Mark take the lead.


John W. Devens
LTC, USA
Military Assistant

Page determined to be Unclassified
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: JUN 20 2014