

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE SECURITY SERVICE
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

ODC

June 11, 1954

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Long Range Requirements

TO: Director
National Security Agency
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

1. This Headquarters organized a Long Range Requirements Branch on 2 November 1953. This Branch is a part of the Requirements Division, Directorate of Plans, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations. This Branch is assigned the responsibility for the preparation of long range requirements for this command in the COMINT and ELINT field.

2. While the need for a long range requirement effort had been recognized for a considerable period of time, very little work had been accomplished up to this period. This was primarily due to the unavailability of personnel and time that was basically caused by the need for accomplishing current planning.

3. This Headquarters proposes, 1) to determine the state of aerial warfare, both foreign and friendly, that may be expected in calendar year 1961, (a seven-year cycle has been chosen because it normally requires seven years for procurement of an item after a requirement has been submitted when research and development is required); 2) the future communications intelligence and electronics intelligence requirements of the USAF; 3) the time limitations in regard to the intercept, processing and dissemination of this type information to the authorized user; 4) the state of foreign communication capabilities in 1961. Using these four factors there will then be prepared the General Operational Requirements (GOR's) that will state this command's responsibility, functions, methods and techniques of operation, and requirements.

4. These GOR's should be forwarded to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF, who will conduct coordination with NSA. If the approval of NSA is secured, the GOR's should be returned to the Director of Intelligence who will then pass these GOR's through normal Air Force channels. It is believed desirable for the Director, NSA to indicate at this time those developmental projects resulting

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

ODC, Subject: (Unclassified) Long Range Requirements

from this GOR for which NSA should be assigned the developmental projects. In order to secure the expeditious and most suitable development of an item to satisfy a requirement, it is believed necessary to assign developmental responsibility to that agency (National Security Agency, Naval Research Laboratories, Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories, Air Research and Development Command) most capable and experienced. Air Force practices then indicate that these GOR's will be reviewed carefully for proper assignment of responsibility and functions, for duplication of functions and responsibilities, and for validity. After approval, a series of meetings between representatives from the Office of the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Development, Headquarters USAF; Headquarters ARDC; and this headquarters will search current developmental projects that may satisfy all or a portion of these requirements. After this review, military characteristics will be prepared for new items required and not under development.

5. It is believed very desirable for representatives from NSA to participate in these meetings, in addition to those representatives indicated in the preceding paragraph. It is also proposed that a periodic series of meetings be arranged between members of NSA, NSG, ASA and AFSS in order that an informal exchange of ideas on long range requirements may be accomplished.

6. Knowledge of research and developmental projects as well as information of scientific group activities is very necessary for the proper preparation and review of the GOR's.

7. Therefore, it is requested that NSA concur with the following proposals:

a. That NSA arrange for a series of periodic informal meetings between representatives of NSA, NSG, ASA and AFSS, in order to provide for a free exchange of ideas and information.

b. That reports on NSA R and D projects be forwarded this headquarters, marked attention OPR-2.

c. That the minutes of the meetings and reports from the NSA Scientific Advisory Group be forwarded this headquarters, marked attention OPR-2.

d. That the AFSS be authorized to prepare GOR's in the COMINT field to be forwarded to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF for coordination with NSA.

e. That NSA indicate those projects which it is capable of developing and indicate those projects to be assigned to other

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

ODC, Subject: (Unclassified) Long Range Requirements

development agencies in the interest of expeditious and worthwhile development.

f. That approval by NSA of the GOR's be forwarded to the Director of Intelligence for processing through normal Air Force channels. SOP

g. That representatives from NSA participate in meetings subsequent to the last mentioned action that will be held by Headquarters USAF for the processing of the GOR's.

8. While it is believed that a seven-year period is normal for the completion of a research and development project, it may be possible to decrease this time period by proper coordination and cooperation in this field. We will greatly appreciate your concurrence in this matter.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

/s/ GORDON W. WILDES
GORDON W. WILDES
Colonel, USAF
DCS, Operations

~~SECRET~~