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OXC-0156
Copy/ of 6

8 December 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, Development Projects Division
SUBJECT : DPD Operational Program for Fiscal Year 1960
and Activity Program for OXCART

1. I am transmitting to you herewith two documents recently approved by the DCI. These are the DPD Operational Program for FY-1960 (incorrectly entitled DPD Activity Programs-FY-1960) and OXCART Activity Program (incorrectly entitled Program Approval).

2. A few days ago I transmitted to you an approved activity program for the current fiscal year for [REDACTED]. This previously transmitted document together with the two transmitted herewith confirm that the following activity programs now have the necessary approval from the DCI.

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CHALICE Materiel ✓
CHALICE Operations ✓
External Research ✓
[REDACTED] ✓
Air Section ✓

25X1A2d1

You should note, however, that no approval has yet been granted for the following:

25X1A2d1 CHALICE Development
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (Operational Phase) 25X1A2d1
C-130B Procurement

3. Although an activity program has been approved covering CORONA in part, the approval status of this Project is not at present clear to me. In the first place, I do not know in precisely what amount approvals have been obtained for the obligation of FY-1960 funds. It is clear to me, however, that neither the Director nor I has approved an activity program totaling anything like the amount in the Operational Program transmitted to you herewith. In

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the second place, I am under the impression that the total for CORONA for FY-1960 in the Operational Program is well short of the sum that will be required. Accordingly, in transmitting these documents to you I must advise you that I request, as a matter of urgency, you furnish me with a statement of amounts already approved for this Project for FY-1960 and must advise you that no obligation of funds beyond these amounts is authorized until an activity amendment has been submitted.

25X1A2d1

25X1A2d1

4. With respect to other unapproved activity programs (listed in paragraph 2 above) I already have an activity program for [REDACTED] which I will submit shortly to the DCI. I gather there is no great urgency with respect to [REDACTED] (Operational Phase) or C-130B procurement. I do feel, however, that an activity program for CHALICE development should be submitted to me reasonably promptly even if only a small portion of it can be listed in the firm category at this time.

5. With respect to OXCART, despite the approval of the activity program transmitted herewith, I feel I must impose certain requirements for the approval by me of parts of the program as they are ready for action. My reason is that the size and sensitivity of this program and the source of funds for the bulk of it call for the closest supervision at a high level in the Agency. Accordingly, I would like to approve action of the Contracting Officer prior to his execution of contracts. Since I am notified of pending contract actions already in his Weekly Report, it will be quite sufficient to have a single sheet of paper prepared for my signature containing only the statement "Contract action with (name of company) in the amount of (\$) as proposed in attached Weekly Report No. ___ Approved." This procedure will involve a minimum of extra paper work but will compel me at least to look at these large transactions before they are finalized. In addition to the above, I wish to have at your earliest convenience what amounts to a separate activity program, still however a part of OXCART, for the opening, improvement and operation of [REDACTED]. I have orally authorized certain commitments in this program and would like to receive a written note of these for the record. Additional commitments should not be entered into until the activity program is available.

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2 Attachments:
DD/P-4-9575
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[REDACTED]
RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

Distribution:
Cys 1 thru 4 - Addressee

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