

SAPC-23521  
Copy 2 of 6

16 January 1958

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Project Director

**SUBJECT :** Regular Commissions for Detachment B Contract Pilot Personnel

**REFERENCE :**

- a. [redacted] 8410 (IN 30436), dtd 21 Nov 57
- b. [redacted] 4938 (OUT 71561), dtd 27 Nov 57
- c. [redacted] 9337 (IN 32975), dtd 15 Jan 58
- d. SAPC-22482, dtd 15 Jan 58

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1. As you will see from the imposing cable references, the question of regular Air Force commissions for [redacted] pilots has come up before. In fact, when the lists came out and I discovered that only one of Stan's pilots [redacted] made regular, I inquired of both Colonel Geary and [redacted] why this had happened.

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2. My inquiry revealed that of the 18 pilots who had applied from Project AQUATONE, 9 had been accepted. This is an excellent percentage, all things considered. The disparity came in the distribution of regular commissions among the three detachments then in the field. The breakdown was as follows:

Detachment A	2	commissions	granted,	out	of	4
Detachment B	6	"	"	"	"	8
Detachment C	1	"	"	"	"	6

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3. In reference b, I attempted to give [redacted] a run-down on the results, as well as a forecast for future consideration of his pilots who did not make the grade. I have recast your cable draft, included as an attachment to reference c, asking [redacted] to submit new Efficiency Reports on his nominees, so that they will have the benefit of an evaluation later than the ones now in their files, which are a year old.

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4. Truthfully, I believe [redacted] pilots scooped the field for several reasons: (1) [redacted] was almost immoderate in his praise of his pilots, contrasted with [redacted]'s straightforward and less dramatic presentation of their skills; (2) [redacted] gave rather glowing endorsements of Detachment B pilots, based

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on the fact that he knew them well, since he had trained with them at [REDACTED] for several weeks prior to deployment, and had visited them overseas. [REDACTED] told me that his endorsements on [REDACTED] applicants were in the nature of a simple concurrence based on the fact that he did not know them personally as he did the Detachment B personnel. However, since all 18 cases were considered ensemble, the difference in [REDACTED] endorsements appeared to have a much different meaning.

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5. I shall keep abreast of the new selections and will see that you are advised.

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[REDACTED]  
Director of Administration  
PS/DCI

JAC/sb

Distribution:

- 1 - Addressee
- 2 - JAG
- 3 - Ops
- 4 - Pers (WJC)
- 5 - Admin
- 6 - RI

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