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AFCGM

21 February 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR OF GUIDED MISSILES, OSD

SUBJECT: ICBM Force Objectives

References: a. SAFS Memo, 10 Feb 58  
b. SAFS Memo, 17 Feb 58  
c. AFCGM Memo, 21 Feb 58

1. This memorandum is in response to a verbal request from your office to specify the Air Force ICBM planning objectives with program costs.

2. In arriving at the force objective mix for FY 63 and 64 the following factors have been considered:

a. The recommendations of the Gaither Committee that a force of 600 ICBMs is required.

b. The strategic target requirement.

c. The requirement to maintain a strong offensive posture continuously and therefore not divert unduly large sums of money and manpower from the manned bomber force to the strategic missile system until prospects of achieving reliability and accuracy performance requirements for missiles are assured.

d. The fact that first generation of ICBMs, ATLAS and TITAN are expensive and complex. Expectations are that replacement of the first generation by a simpler, less expensive solid propelled ICBM (MINUTEMAN) will begin in 1963.

e. The United States as a nation will probably be well into the space age by 1963/65. Any ATLAS and TITAN boosters which are excess to operational force needs during this time period will be employed in astronautics programs.

3. After consideration of the above factors, the Air Force recommends approval of the following ICBM force structure. Upon receipt of approval, funding estimates will be refined and a financial plan will be submitted. The number of missiles is a firm requirement. The force mix is subject to change as research and development on ATLAS, TITAN, MINUTEMAN and THORIC progresses.

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR  
INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY  
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Memo for Director of Guided Missiles, OSD, Subj: ICBM Force Objectives  
(Continued)

ICBM FORCE OBJECTIVES  
(in numbers of missiles)

	<u>FY 58</u>	<u>FY 59</u>	<u>FY 60</u>	<u>FY 61</u>	<u>FY 62</u>	<u>FY 63</u>	<u>FY 64</u>
ATLAS		10	30	70	90	90	90
TITAN				10	50	110	110
MINUTEMAN						100	400
Totals		10	30	80	140	300	600

ESTIMATED DOLLAR REQUIREMENTS  
(in millions of dollars)

ATLAS	653.7	665.4	588.8	443.1	142.0	107.0	72.0
TITAN	356.4	560.5	636.7	821.0	316.0	421.0	133.0
MINUTEMAN	26.0	233.0	276.0	308.0	290.0	240.0	185.0
Totals	1036.1	1458.9	1501.5	1572.1	748.0	768.0	390.0

PRESENT FUNDING AUGMENTATIONS REQUIRED

(FY 58 and FY 59)

	<u>FY 1958</u>		<u>FY 1959</u>	
	<u>Present</u>	<u>Augmentation</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Augmentation</u>
ATLAS	653.7	0	665.4	0
TITAN	356.4	0	404.5	156.0
MINUTEMAN	0	26.0	0	233.0
Totals	1010.1	26.0	1069.9	389.0

CHARLES M. McCORKLE  
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