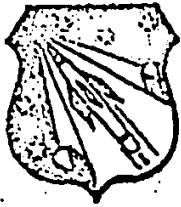


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AIR FORCE BALLISTIC MISSILE DIVISION
HEADQUARTERS
AIR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Air Force Unit Post Office
Los Angeles 45, California

27 FEB 1959

In reply address both communication and envelope to:

WDTV Director, Re-entry Vehicles Development

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCHRIEVER

SUBJECT: Light Re-entry Vehicle for Minuteman

1. At your request WDTV recently prepared a letter to the Chief of Staff, USAF, requesting that the Phase II Study Group for Minuteman warheads be reconvened. This group would consider the development of a light warhead for Minuteman on an accelerated time scale. This letter was forwarded for your signature on 20 February 1959. The parameters proposed were a maximum yield within 400 lbs and an operational availability date of July 1962.

2. At present there is only one re-entry vehicle under development for Minuteman: a 790 lb vehicle to carry a 600 lb warhead. The light re-entry vehicle was deleted as a development effort on 5 December 1958 and is now carried only as a low-priority study.

3. If it is your desire to re-activate the light re-entry vehicle development, it is requested that the Deputy Commander, Ballistic Missiles be so advised. Negotiations leading to a definitized contract with AVCO are scheduled to convene on 16 March 1959. The contract so negotiated, and the FY 60 budget estimates presented to the Budget Review Committee, should accurately reflect the work desired. A large portion of this work will be affected if two re-entry vehicles are to be developed.

Charles H. Terhune, Jr.

CHARLES H. TERHUNE, JR.
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Commander
Ballistic Missiles

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: 12-20-95	2. DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER) (S)
AUTHORITY: EAO/DA/DC/ADD	1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
NAME: [Signature]	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: [FRD]
2ND REVIEW DATE: 1-10-97	3. DATE THIS MO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
AUTHORITY: ADD	4. COORDINATE WITH:
NAME: [Signature]	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
	6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
	7. OTHER (SPECIFY)
	THIS PAGE ONLY

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WDTV-59-63

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