

of new factors have evolved which alter the circumstances governing decisions concerning the disposition of our current and near-term projects. Great strides have been made in the field of space technology generally. Many new techniques have evolved in the electronics field which facilitate the accomplishment of certain space missions. A great deal of interest has developed on the part of industrial concerns in the development and operational use of communications satellites for commercial purposes. International interest has developed, and it appears necessary not only to take technical initiative with respect to the extension of newly available techniques but to prepare to deal effectively with policy questions both domestic and foreign.

Accordingly, in view of the new technical developments and the demonstrated interest of private industrial organizations in participation in the development of both the passive and active systems for civil use, NASA proposes to move forward in the active satellite-based communication field. While the precise character of NASA's activity in this regard has not yet been determined, it is to be concerned primarily with the development of those techniques and prototypes that promise an early demonstration of feasibility. The chief intent of such activities will be to exploit to the maximum extent, *and on a timely basis*, the new potentialities made available by recent technological advances and rendered of particular importance because of their scientific, domestic, and international applications and implications. NASA further proposes that during the forthcoming months representatives of NASA and the DOD work out a more detailed assessment of the division of responsibilities for active satellite-based communication systems "in the large." It is suggested that both NASA and DOD set forth their proposed programs in detail sufficient for such an assessment including plans for associated ground support facilities. NASA recommends that the exchange of programs and initial policy recommendations be accomplished through the mechanism of the NASA/DOD Aeronautics and Astronautics Coordinating Board for subsequent consideration by the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of NASA.

Your agreement to the actions proposed above is requested.

Sincerely,

s/ T. Keith Glennan,
t/ T. KEITH GLENNAN, *Administrator.*

Agreed to by

JAMES H. DOUGLAS

Date: August 27, 1960

(Promulgated 13th day of September, 1960)

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION CONCERNING THE AERONAUTICS AND ASTRONAUTICS COORDINATING BOARD

I. Policies and Purpose.

(a) It is essential that the aeronautical and space activities of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense be coordinated at all management and technical levels. Where policy issues and management decisions are not involved, it is important that liaison be achieved in the most direct manner possible, and that it continue to be accomplished as in the past between project-level personnel on a day-to-day basis.

(b) It is essential that close working relationships between decision-making officials within the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense be developed at all management levels. Where policy issues and management decisions are involved, it is important that the planning and coordination of activities, the identification of problems, and the exchange of information be facilitated between officials having the authority and responsibility for decisions within their respective offices.

(c) To implement the foregoing policies it is the purpose of this Agreement to establish the Aeronautics and Astronautics Coordinating Board.

II. Establishment of the Board.

There is hereby established the Aeronautics and Astronautics Coordinating Board, which shall be responsible for facilitating—

(1) the planning of activities by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense to avoid undesirable duplication and to achieve efficient utilization of available resources;