THE RAMO-WOOLDRIDGE CORPORATION GM 66-313

LOS ANGELES 45, CALIFORNIA

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Maj. D. R. Latham

CC: R. Morrison
J. Sellars
F. van der Wal

DATE: 26 March 1958

Mouse-in-ABLE

SUBJECT: Project MIA Responsibility of Holloman Aero Medical Field Laboratory

FROM: G. E. Solomon

In a recent conversation with J. Sellars and F. van der Wal, Capt. Schock of Holloman Aero Medical Field Laboratory stated that Holloman personnel would bring to the launch site six harnessed mice and six unharnessed mice. In addition, they would bring equipment needed to harness other mice if this should become necessary. He also reported that a requirement of diapering the mice had been abandoned, since the problem seemed insoluble. At present, there are six harnessed mice and six caged, but free, mice being bench tested at Holloman for 72 hours to "condition" the subjects for the flight. This process is the only pre-flight treatment to be given the mice; no preliminary injections or diet control is contemplated.

Since the time of this conversation with Capt. Schock, it has become apparent that the animals will have to be wired, and the electrical system checked out, prior to their arrival at Patrick. Since instrumentation of the subjects will be done by STL personnel, and since the harnesses are an integral part of the electrical system, it is now planned that STL personnel will put on the harnesses. Furthermore, as a result of preliminary bench tests at STL, it appears that the "conditioning" runs weaken the mice so much that they are definitely inadvisable prior to the actual flight. Since the mice will not be "conditioned" and since the harnessed mice will be prepared at STL, the Holloman contribution will be to deliver six unharnessed mice.

CBC did the work only and got blown for their efforts!

We have received word that Maj. Simons, Capt. Schock, and Sgt. Dittmer, all of Holloman Aero Medical Field Laboratory, plan to be at Patrick for the MIA firings. Capt. Schock will visit Patrick on 7-8 April 1958 to be sure "everything is in order". He will then return to Holloman until time for the group to go to Patrick for the launching.

It was suggested to Capt. Schock that, since no special treatment of the mouse - alive or dead - would be required between the staging port and Holloman, and since the Aero Medical Field Laboratory is so short-handed, they might prefer to eliminate the downrange trip for a Holloman man, and receive the mouse either at Patrick or at Holloman upon its return. Capt. Schock agreed to this plan.

You should note that the above information was obtained on 21 March 1958 and therefore supersedes Schock's letter of 20 March 1958.

GES/gdh