

MINUTES OF FRANGIBLE TARGET SYSTEM  
CONFERENCE HELD AT YUMA, ARIZONA, 6 APRIL 1955

1. A conference was convened by Air Defense Command and held at Yuma County Airport on 6 April 1955 for the purpose of providing development guidance for a prototype lightweight tow target system to be furnished by Lockheed Air Services under existing contract.

2. The following conferees representing interested commands attended:

W. W. Marshall	Lt Col	CADF
J. A. Carey	Col	CADF
W. D. Taylor	Capt	EADF
E. B. Nuehale	Lt Col	EADF
G. T. Eagleston	Col	4750th
W. L. Best	Capt	4750th
D. W. Franklin	Maj	4750th
V. Garrison	Maj	4750th
H. M. Middleton	Capt	4750th
J. G. Crimp	Maj	4750th
M. J. Brady	Lt Col	4750th
F. J. Vetort	Col	4756th
M. C. Johansen	Maj	ADC
B. H. King	Col	525th ADGp - EADF
V. W. Matis	Civ	AAC
M. F. Wilson	Maj	AAC
R. K. Stout	Civ	WADC
J. E. Bellitt	Civ	WADC
T. R. Waddleton	Lt Col	ARDC
F. C. Cox	Maj	ARDC
J. P. Lappin	Lt Col	APGC
W. Thornton	Civ	APGC
T. D. DeJarnette	Col	ADD, AFOTC, AFGC
M. S. Will	Maj	ADD, AFOTC, AFGC
R. L. Meyers	Capt	APGC
F. M. O'Connor	Maj	WADF
W. A. Lane	1st Lt	AFAC
K. E. Brown	Maj	AFAC
R. H. Zimmer	Civ	Lockheed
G. C. Anderson	Civ	Lockheed

3. The following requirements and specifications were established and unanimously agreed upon by all in attendance for incorporation into the Lockheed Development contract.

a. Tow Cable: A nylon or similar non-conductive rope type line maximum 1/16" in diameter with tensile strength commensurate with system requirements based on 7,000 feet of line at .75 mach at 20,000 feet.

b. Aircraft Adaptability: This installation will be designed for T-33's.

c. Speeds: Capable of .75 mach at 20,000 feet and above.

d. Target Carrier Design: Regardless of location the aircraft must be easily trimable and the installation simple.

e. Reel:

(1) Power: Ram air driven.

(2) Control: Direct, positive, mechanical. Reel controls to be placed in the front cockpit, preferably on the left side.

(3) It is desirable but not mandatory that the reel be jettisonable. Capacity to be 12,000 feet of 1/16" line.

(4) Provisions for ground operation will be incorporated.

f. Cable Counter: A lap counter will be connected into available circuitry. Cord will be color coded.

g. Cable Cutter: Electrically activated.

h. The target design will provide for stability through all ranges of operation including reel in and out.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS:

a. The qualitative operational requirement for a frangible tow target system was submitted under AFR 57-3 on 5 May 1954. The progress made by the responsible agencies in developing such a system has been completely unsatisfactory.



b. Delay in receipt of an operational light weight high speed target system for use of tactical units in training has directly and adversely affected Air Defense Command's over-all combat readiness.

c. Due to the facts presented in paragraphs a and b, above, normal procurement action to eliminate these deficiencies is unacceptable. Conferees concluded that high level interest aiming toward expediting by extraordinary means the timely procurement of sufficient quantities of the systems for adequate training is mandatory.

d. It was concluded and agreed that a joint APGC, AFAC, ADC evaluation and OST test to take place at Yuma will be required to aid in expediting prototype test programs. Aircraft support and housekeeping will be supplied by Yuma. AFAC will be the responsible agency for engineering evaluation and APGC will be the responsible agency for OST.

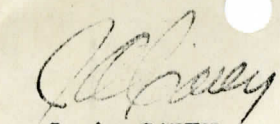
5. RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. That most extraordinary action be taken by AMC, OOAMA and WADC to approve changes to the original contract specifications necessary to incorporate the system requirements stated herein.

b. That the contractor take extraordinary action to provide the hardware for test.

c. That physical testing be completed and a standard procurement item based upon acceptable data be determined within the next 120 days.

d. Any additional target systems that are available within the time scale as proposed herein can be competitively tested.



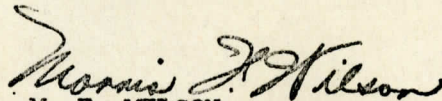
J. A. CAREY  
Colonel, USAF  
Central Air Defense Force



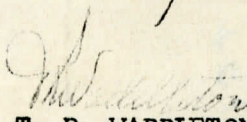
M. C. JOHANSEN  
Major, USAF  
Air Defense Command



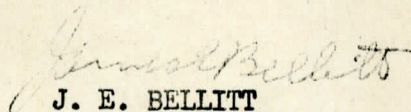
B. H. KING  
Colonel, USAF  
Eastern Air Defense Force



M. F. WILSON  
Major, USAF  
Alaskan Air Command



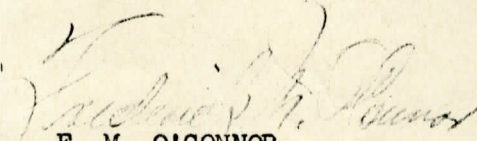
T. R. WADDLETON  
Lt Colonel, USAF  
Air Research and Development  
Command



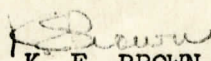
J. E. BELLITT  
Wright Air Development  
Center



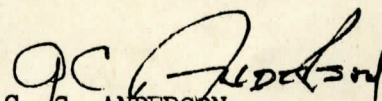
R. L. MEYERS  
Captain, USAF  
Air Proving Ground Command



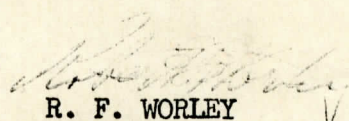
F. M. O'CONNOR  
Major, USAF  
Western Air Defense Force



K. E. BROWN  
Major, USAF  
Air Force Armament Center



G. C. ANDERSON  
Lockheed Air Services



R. F. WORLEY  
Colonel, USAF  
4750th Air Defense Wing (Weapons)  
Chairman



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