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25/2/46

UPGRADE OF CRYPT PROCESSING FACILITIES AT DSD - PROJECT
LOBSTERADC
ADS
ADAFor information: CH
SM
AP
CHR
SMTReference: A. SM Minute of 26 May 83

1. Expected progression of Project LOBSTER was discussed among representatives of A, C, S and D Branches on 3 Jun 83. ADC emphasised that BACKER was now fully committed and advised that an anticipated growth in processing demands meant an increasing loss of intelligence until greater processing power was available. Because the target is of prime interest to Australia, every effort had to be made to advance the installation of Project LOBSTER. The earliest practicable implementation schedule was then reckoned on the assumptions that the necessary government approvals would be forthcoming and that funds for works and equipment would be available.

2. The main constraint to the introduction of LOBSTER into service is the time taken to implement the required works. The following outlines the earliest practicable schedules and is based on Government approval being obtained early 1984:

a. Works

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------------|
| (1) | Formation of DHC/DSD working party to develop detailed works briefs, drawings and specifications | early/mid 84 |
| (2) | Works documentation prepared | mid 85 |
| (3) | Contract let for Works | late 85 |
| (4) | Works complete for LOBSTER installation | late 86 |

b. Equipment

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----------|
| (1) | DSD prepare procurement documentation (sole source supply) | by mid 84 |
| (2) | DDS request Tender | early 85 |
| (3) | Tender received | mid 85 |
| (4) | Let Contract | late 85 |
| (5) | Install equipment | late 86 |

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3. This schedule will require works funding for 1985/86 - obligation, 1985/86, 1986/87 - expenditure; and equipment funding, 1984/85 - obligation, 1985/86, 1986/87 - expenditure.

4. The schedule outlined above will bring LOBSTER into service 12 months later than that projected in Reference A. While efforts can be made to better the schedule, the likelihood of achieving any significant improvement is considered slight considering the leadtimes in establishing works and equipment procurement processes and the need to obtain additional funds (by offset against another Defence activity or project).

J.M. Noble
(J.M. NOBLE)
ADD

June 1983

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