

TWERLE STAFF MEETING

19 February 1974

Samoa:

The Government of American Samoa has been contracted to erect the launch assembly shelter with their own crews, at a maximum cost of \$20,000. This is a firm quote; all costs exceeding \$20,000 will be absorbed by the Samoan government. This contract will not involve NSF, as UCAR will deal directly with the Government of American Samoa.

John Masterson:

Reported that Goddard is trying very hard for a launch date of 15 August for Nimbus-F, so it will catch GATE's last intensive phase for sure.

Paul Julian is back in the hospital with complications following his recent surgery. Paul expects to be out of the hospital by the end of this week.

Mort Friedman feels that the TWERLE program is one of the best on the Nimbus-F.

John will be leaving for Paris next Monday (25 February) for two weeks. He will be meeting with Henri Overle. Before he leaves, he will bring John Firor and Akira Kasahara up-to-date on the TWERLE program.

Gene Ellis:

Reported that latest group of 123 dewars from Viz were poor--the weights were heavier (21-23 grams), and the silvering was not as good as has been before. (Note: These were Viz reject dewars.)

The latest group of dewars from R.H. Allen Co. look excellent--average weight is 15 grams and they are averaging between 300-400^oC/watt. The lowest was 327.

Ray Allen is hoping to produce 6 dewars per day once he is set up. This group of dewars has slightly more silver deposited--they were cooked longer--and the length of the outer tube has been extended.

Gene should be moved out of his present lab by May to avoid any basement storage area damage that may result from floods caused by spring rains.

Mike Gray:

Has 201 antennas completed. Should be producing 30 per week. Instead of using a building to balance the antennas, Mike is experimenting with using a mailing tube mounted on a wooden pole with a pulley to install the antenna. Mike will try this idea on the roof.

Christchurch will be launching 10 test flights, beginning this week. (3-5 of these will be TWERLE.)

Jack Warren:

Reported that he and Charlie Smith will be traveling to Ascension Island on 4 March.

The Travel Committee has drawn up a recommendation that the extended field policy be upgraded to reflect the 25% rise in the cost of living since 1969, which was when the existing field policy was put into effect. They are also recommending an increase in base pay for certain areas of the world.

Aubrey Schumann:

Reported there are presently 5 balloon test flights in progress. One of these has already been flying over 30 days.

Claude Morel:

Working with Dennis Shea on pressure sensor calibrations. By tomorrow the first batch of 80 will be completed.

Jack Tefft:

Consulting engineers in Ghana have advised of a break-down of their sand trucks, which is delaying site construction.

RF Sources has phase lock receivers available to track balloons as soon as they are launched at a cost of \$14,000 each.

cc: J. Masterson
P. Julian
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