PROG-7.1-5a

Sioux Falls

February 3, 1971

Memorandum

To: Associate Chief Topographic Engineer

From: Special Asst. for Data Center Development

Subject: Sioux Falls Interim Facility

The following observations are germane to a discussion of a temporary facility at Sioux Falls:

1. ERTS-A is scheduled to fly in early summer of 1972.

2. The most optimistic proposal from the A-E firm is a building completion by mid-August 1972, even with overlapping of design completion and construction start.

3. I would estimate a minimum of 60 days and more likely 90 days, to install equipment and exercise it before it could be put " on line."

4. The above (#3) does not consider time required for training of personnel or the massaging of techniques, both of which will take a minimum of six months.

5. Therefore, if all of the above were done serially the Center would not be "up and running" until about May 1973.

6. A temporary facility could:

   a. Allow us to train a nucleus staff;

   b. Develop and de-bug ordering, handling, processing, and shipping techniques; and

   c. Give us a limited production capacity which could provide reproduction of NASA aircraft images initially and provide a limited ERTS reproduction when it flys.

7. In order for this action to be timely, the temporary facility should be started in late summer of 1971.

8. The temporary facility could be relatively inexpensive:

   a. The city of Sioux Falls has offered 6600 sq. feet of floor space in the old airport terminal building at 80¢ /foot/yr. plus utilities. The building is airconditioned and has adequate utilities available. We would be free to mode modifications as required to adopt the building to a lab operation.

   b. The EROS program already owns a color automat processor which could be installed to give a flexible color reproduction capability.

   c. We could expect to acquire one or two B&W Versimats on the surplus market, which would give us a reasonable B&W repro capability.

   d. A number of printers have already been gleaned from the surplus market.

9. Staffing requirements, lease-hold improvement costs, installation costs, moving costs, operating costs, and production capacity can be defined later but this is wothhwhile only if we are philosophically committed to the concept of an interim facility.

Glenn H. Landis

cc: ERO Reading File
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