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FOR H. COHEN/L. MAZZA FM C. STEVENSON
FOLG EXTRACT FROM SPACEWIRE DAILY, DTD
4 OCT 67 IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFO.

NOTE ITEM 2 PARTICULARLY. QUOTATION MARKS ARE SPACEWIRE'S.
QUOTE

OBSERVATIONS ON MOL STATUS

INASMUCH AS THE SANSO MOL PROGRAM APPEARS TO BE GROWING IN IMPORTANCE AS THE PROSPECTS FOR A VIGOROUS AAP PROGRAM DIMINISH* THREE COMMENTS OF CONSIDERABLE MARKETING SIGNIFICANCE INCLUDE.../1/ BEST ESTIMATES OF THE LAUNCH DATE POINT TOWRD FEBRUARY* 1971* ALTHOUGH THIS WILL NOT BE ANNOUNCED PRIOR TO THE ELECTION* /2/ ALTHOUGH MOL WAS FORCED TO UNDERGO AN FY 1968 FUNDING CUTBACK OF ABOUT 25 PERCENT* SOURCES TELL SPACEWIRE THAT EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO SUPPLEMENT THE FY 1968 ACTIVITY THROUGH FUNDS AVAILABLE FROM "BLACK PROGRAMS" WHICH WILL UTILIZE MOL AS A SPACE-CRAFT. THESE SOURCES EMPHASIZE THAT THE CUTBACK SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A SLIPPAGE* BUT NOT MISINTERPRETED AS A DEEMPHASIS OF THE PROGRAM* AND /3/ ONE OF THE MAJOR AREAS OF DOD INTEREST FOR EARLY MOL MISSIONS IS THE EQUIVALENT OF THE LUNAR MAPPING AND SURVEY SYSTEM WHICH COULD PROVIDE* IN ADDITION TO PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LUNAR SURFACE FROM LUNAR ORBIT* HIGH-QUALITY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE. UNQUOTE

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