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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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THE NRO STAFF

January 14, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. NAKA <sup>N</sup>  
COLONEL SWEENEY <sup>E</sup>

SUBJECT: Visit by Colonel Campbell from State Department

You will recall that we had an informal briefing set up today for Mr. Bob Packard and Colonel Dick Campbell from the Office of Space Atmospheric and Marine Science Affairs at State (Mr. Packard is the Director). Although our meeting was postponed when Mr. Packard was called away at the last moment, Colonel Campbell did visit with us. As a consequence we have rescheduled our briefing to 0930, February 9, 1971, after Mr. Packard returns from his Moscow trip.

The Moscow trip is the second recent attempt to establish greater cooperation with the Soviets in the space area. You will recall that several months ago the subject of rescue of astronauts and compatible docking mechanisms were discussed. Next week greater cooperation in the passing of weather satellite data will be a topic. We understand that among the alternatives that may be considered are offering the Soviets the use of one of our ESSA satellite vidicom systems for use on their spacecraft or perhaps making available ground read out stations to permit direct read out from one of the ESSA birds. There is a possibility that the ERTS Program may be discussed, but this is not a firm agenda item.

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Colonel Campbell brought with him a copy of a letter proposed for Ambassador Johnson's signature to Mr. Packard and Dr. Low. The subject is re-entry and identification of space fragments. This has implications for us in that it could lead to a new U.S. initiative before the U.N. for advanced notification of launches, more timely reporting of orbital parameters, and detailed identification of all parts of a satellite payload. These are items which have been brought up before but have never been firmly accepted. Colonel Campbell suggested that if we had strong reservations, he would try to stop the letter before it is signed out. We agreed that it would probably be better to let the State Department letter be sent for it is highly doubtful that the subject would be acceptable to the member states of the United Nations. The reason for the letter is that the Soviets have so far failed to acknowledge that the space debris which fell in the Western states several months ago came from one of their spacecraft, nor have they agreed to accept it when offered to them by the State Department. Colonel Campbell reports that State plans to ask the Soviets one more time to take their debris and failing to do so State intends to make the debris available for press viewing in a manner which will undoubtedly embarrass the Soviet Union. I objected to this on the basis that it would serve no useful purpose and seems contradictory in light of the discussions to be conducted next week in Moscow.

FREDERICK L. HOFMANN  
Major, USAF

1 Attachment  
Proposed Letter

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