

U. S. NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY
Washington, D. C. 20390

5130-69:AJM:jmc
 NRL Prob R02-35
 SER: 00890

DEC 10 1963

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From: Director, U. S. Naval Research Laboratory
 Washington, D. C. 20390
To : Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Space Surveillance System
 Bahlgren, Virginia 22448

Subj: December 10 launch of NRL research satellites; information on and
 request for support of ~~(S)~~

Ref : (a) NRL ltr 5130-70:AJM:jmc ser 11793 of 6 Dec 1963

1. The next group of NRL research satellites is scheduled to be launched from Point Arguello, California at 1000 PST (1800Z) on 10 December 1963. Injection into orbit is expected to occur about 55.1 minutes after launch near latitude 21.5 South, longitude 52.0 East. The approximate orbital elements with EPOCH at the injection point are:

EPOCH		631210/105510Z
MEAN ANOMALY	(degrees)	0
PERIOD	(minutes)	103.556
INCLINATION	(degrees)	70.0
RIGHT ASCENSION	(degrees)	136.6 300.8
ARGUMENT OF PERIGEE	(degrees)	337.0
ECCENTRICITY		0
SEMI-MAJOR AXIS	(earth radii)	1.1453
HEIGHT	(nautical miles)	500.0

Any delay incurred in the scheduling of this launch will be reported relative to the above date and time, as plus the number of days and hours.

2. The three NRL payloads to be orbited with this launch are:

NRL Payload No.	Description	Radiated Frequency-mc/s
135	20-inch sphere	136.830
134	20-inch sphere	136.320
124	24-inch sphere	136.890

In addition to the above, a fourth payload will also be placed into orbit with this launch. Information concerning its characteristics may be obtained from [redacted] of the Survey and Geodesy Division, Ft. Belvoir, Virginia [redacted]

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3. The magnitude and direction of the anticipated separation velocities and the times of separation are tabulated below. The direction of the separation is given relative to the roll axis of the rocket body as seen from the rear of the vehicle looking forward.

NRL Payload No.	Separation Velocity		Separation Time from Injection
	Magnitude	Direction	
135	1.06 fps	5° down and right	+ 855 sec.
134	0.5 fps	5° down and left	+ 865 sec.
124	1.00 fps	5° up	+ 865 sec.

4. It is requested that the U. S. Naval Space Surveillance System provide orbital position and prediction data as described in reference (a) in support of this operation. In addition, it is requested that identification of the NRL payloads on the basis of their radiated frequencies be provided within 24 hours after the launch.

By Direction

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