

~~TOP SECRET~~

Functions: 18 Points
Functions: MOL ✓

16 September 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: NSAM on MOL

On 9 September, Colonel Battle advised me that Dr. Brown, DDR&E, had asked him to prepare a NSAM on MOL. He showed me Attachment No. 1, for information. I suggested he clear it with ASD/ISA.

On 10 September, Colonel Sanders called to tell me that he had Colonel Battle's proposed NSAM. He discussed responsibility for this effort with Mr. Friedman who agreed to work on the matter. By the evening of the 13th, Major Yost and I had prepared Attachment No. 2. Dr. Brown's comment on the paper appeared on 15 September.

Mr. Friedman will try to get White House approval of the NSAM this week (White House expressed the original concern over the need for such a paper to Mr. McNamara).

2 Attachments

Jr.
PAUL E. WORTHMAN
Colonel, USAF

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~
MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

9/10/65

Dr. Brown:

The third paragraph refers to "the mission" of MOL in order to keep the classification at Top Secret. If necessary, the other word could be substituted and the classification adjusted accordingly.

Battle
C. L. Battle
Col., USAF

UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENTS

THIS DOCUMENT BECOMES Uncl.

~~TOP SECRET~~

48 10708

~~TOP SECRET~~

D R A F T
9/10/65

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Manned Orbiting Laboratory

To: The Vice President of the United States; Secretary of Defense McNamara; Secretary of State Rusk; Dr. Donald F. Hornig, Dir. Office of Science and Technology; Mr. James E. Webb, Administrator of NASA; Mr. Charles L. Schultze, Dir., BOB; V/Adm. William F. Raborn, Dir., CIA

The President wishes to have the security of the Manned Orbiting Laboratory Program conducted under the guidelines established in NSC Action 2454, dated 10 July 1962. This Action has resulted in a carefully-ordered security environment for military space programs. Its purpose is to avoid provocation in the national arena and to forestall initiation of international action that might impair the freedom of the United States to use satellites for military purposes.

A firm position must be maintained to ensure that the public information programs associated with MOL are kept modest and low-key. The publicly announced mission of the MOL should continue to be expressed solely as "the investigation and development of orbital capabilities, manned and unmanned, associated with national defense."

Statements made about the MOL should be worded so as to avoid calling attention to its principal mission. Explicit discussion of the mission by responsible government officials, even off the record, is especially undesirable.

The MOL has been initiated as a logical element in a continuing military space program; as such, it should be regarded as a part of the mainstream of activity with no particular need for public justification.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

September 13, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: MOL

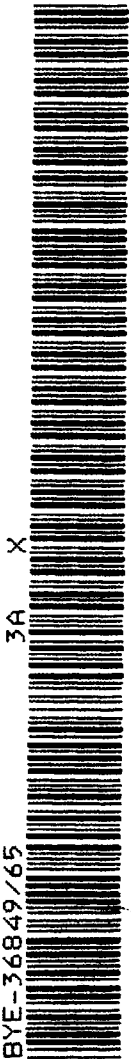
Attached is a draft NASM on certain aspects of the MOL program. In a discussion I had with Dr. Brown on Friday afternoon, he indicated that in the future you would be responsible for these types of problems within the Air Force. During the past year I have worked with Dr. McMillan on comparable matters and would appreciate getting together with you in a day or so to discuss this draft and related issues. In this connection, as you may know, there is a meeting scheduled of the Thompson Committee on Wednesday, September 22nd, which you will probably wish to attend as one of the two DoD representatives.

Sgd

Attachment

Alvin Friedman
Deputy

cc: Dr. Brown
Dr. McMillan ✓



3A X

BYE-36849/65

HANDLE VIA TALENT-
KEYHOLE CHANNELS
ONLY

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System

~~TOP SECRET~~

DIAXX-3A CONTROLLED

Copy 3A for 5 Copies
Page 1 of 4 Pages.

Control No. BYE 36849-65

~~TOP SECRET~~

Date _____

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM No. _____

TO: The Chairman, National Aeronautics & Space Council
The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Director of the Budget
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Administrator, National Aeronautics & Space Administration
The Director, U. S. Information Agency

SUBJECT: Political and International Aspects of the Manned Orbiting
Laboratory Program

The Department of Defense's Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL) will be developed and operated under the policy guidelines established in National Security Council Action 2454. In addition to (and derivative from) this broad policy, specific guidance for MOL is contained in Attachment 1 to this memorandum. The basic objective of the guidance is identical with that of NSC Action 2454; to forestall international and unilateral actions that might prevent the United States from using satellites for observation purposes.

Because of the ultrasensitive nature of this directive, its distribution will be limited to the addressees plus those few additional cleared associates to whom disclosure is considered absolutely essential. A paraphrased version is attached for limited distribution to other personnel who do not require complete program knowledge but who can assist in assuring compliance with MOL security discipline (Attachment 2).

2 Attachments

HANDLE VIA TALENT-
KEYHOLE CHANNELS
ONLY

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System

Copy 3 of 5 Copies
Page 2 of 4 Pages.

Control No. BYE 36849-65

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY FOR
THE MANNED ORBITING LABORATORY PROGRAM

1. The Department of Defense will continue to preserve the security of the National Reconnaissance Program by conducting development and operation of the Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL) within a disciplined security environment as expressed in NSC Action 2454. The MOL Program will be treated as an ultrasensitive activity within the National Reconnaissance Program; access to its sensitive elements will be extraordinarily curtailed.
2. MOL is a logical element of a continuing military space program; it will be regarded as a part of the mainstream of U. S. space activity and as such will require no more public justification than any other military space program.
3. The mission of MOL will be described to the public as the investigation and development of manned orbital capabilities essential to national defense.
4. Public information on MOL will be planned carefully at a modest, low-key level. All public information releases or statements on MOL made by representatives of Executive Departments or Agencies will be processed for approval through the Office of the Secretary of Defense.
5. Any MOL reconnaissance products will be controlled in the TALENT-KEYHOLE security system as a national intelligence resource.
6. The United States will promote, within the established bounds of security, the free exchange of bona fide non-sensitive technical data accruing from MOL experiments.
7. The United States government will reaffirm, as necessary, its abhorrence of orbiting weapons and will advise, publicly and privately, that no U. S. satellite -- operational or developmental -- manned or unmanned -- carries weapons of any kind.

HANDLE VIA TALENT-
KEYHOLE CHANNELS
ONLY

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System

~~TOP SECRET~~

Copy 3 of 5 Copies
Page 3 of 4 Pages.

Control No. BYE 36849-65

~~TOP SECRET~~

Date _____

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. _____

TO: The Chairman, National Aeronautics & Space Council
The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Director of the Budget
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Administrator, National Aeronautics & Space Administration
The Director, U. S. Information Agency

SUBJECT: Manned Orbiting Laboratory

The Department of Defense will conduct development and operation of the Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL) within the existing disciplined security environment established by the Secretary of Defense (DOD Directive S-5200.13).

MOL is a logical element of a continuing space program; it requires no more public justification than any other military space program. Public information on MOL will be planned carefully at a modest, low-key level. All public information releases or statements on MOL made by representatives of Executive Departments or Agencies will be processed for approval through the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

The United States government will reaffirm, as necessary, its abhorrence of orbiting weapons and will advise, publicly and privately, that no U. S. satellite -- operational or developmental -- manned or unmanned -- carries weapons of any kind.

Draft
Copy 3 of 5 Copies
Page 4 of 4 Pages.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Control No. 31E36849-65