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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 20330



July 12, 1968

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ~~FLAX~~ ^{and}

SUBJECT: Mr. Steadman's Speech

I have read Mr. Steadman's speech (Tab A) and believe it is suitable for presentation except for the section on MOL. "Excited," "fantasy," "Buck Rogers," "Sunday funnies" are not the words we prefer to see in a MOL story. I suggest you give him an entirely new write-up on MOL, perhaps excusing the substitution on the grounds that we know the phrases which meet the exacting requirements of Dr. Brown, Dr. Foster, and Mr. Goulding.

General Stewart's office helped me with the substitute paragraphs (Tab B).

Paul E. Worthman
PAUL E. WORTHMAN
Colonel, USAF

To

*Your proposed version forwarded
without change. Score one.
Thank you.*

May 68

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The U. S. Air Force Manned Orbiting Laboratory is the first manned military space program. It is a logical next step in the Defense Department's space research and development program -- that is placing man in the orbital part of the research picture. In MOL we will evaluate man's ability to enhance the development of both manned and unmanned equipment by putting the experimenter in space along with it. Additionally, we will ascertain the full extent of man's utility in space for defense purposes. I want to note that MOL is not a weapon system and it will not be used for any activity prohibited by the space treaty.

Even to those of us who are somewhat jaded by familiarity with space plans and programs, the MOL is a very impressive development project. Military men will be living and working in space for 30-day periods, helping to extend technological frontiers as they have done traditionally in the polar regions, in the air and under the sea.