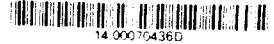


January 25, 1962

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. Arnold W. Frutkin, Director,
Office of International Programs,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration.

Mr. William P. Bundy,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense,
(International Security Affairs).

SUBJECT: U.N. Registration of Space Launches.

Following my memorandum to you on the above subject dated January 18, there have been further high-level discussions of procedures for registration with the United Nations of space craft successfully launched in escape trajectories into solar orbits or placed in sustained orbit around the earth. Recognizing the importance of establishing a form of registration by the United States which could be uniformly applied to launches by both NASA and the Defense Department, the attached format has been developed and checked out with the White House.

Unless additional problems appear, I have asked Mr. Packard of this office to work out with your staffs the initial U.S. registration report and remaining details of registration procedure. The U.N. Secretary General has formally notified our Mission to the United Nations that he is prepared to receive information pursuant to the Resolution, and, accordingly, we would like to submit an initial report as soon as possible providing information on all U.S. satellites now in orbit. We plan in connection with our registrations to make the point that the value of a public U.N.

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registry of the kind called for by the U.N. Resolution will depend on compliance by all states which conduct launches. In addition to preparing an initial report, I suggest that we also develop coordinated statements which might be used in the U.N. Outer Space Committee or other discussions to answer questions regarding the satellite categories named in item 3 of the attachment.

Philip J. Farley 
Special Assistant to the Secretary
for Atomic Energy and Outer Space

Attachment:
Registration Data

cc:


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REGISTRATION DATA FOR U.S. SPACE LAUNCHES

1. International designation of object.
2. Conventional designation of main vehicle.
3. Satellite category (one only of following:
 - a. Development of space-flight techniques and technology.
 - b. Space research and exploration.
 - c. Practical applications of space-based technology.
 - d. Non-functional objects.)
4. Date of launch.
5. Orbital parameters
 - a. Nodal period.
 - b. Inclination.
 - c. Apogee.
 - d. Perigee.

The above information would be furnished for all U.S. space craft successfully launched in escape trajectories into solar orbits or placed in sustained orbit around the earth. DOD would submit relevant information to NASA which would transmit uniform data for both NASA and DOD launches to the State Department. U.S. reports would be submitted at approximately semi-monthly intervals and significant changes in data on previously reported space craft would be included.

It is not planned to include the following data:

1. Space craft making only a few passes but not remaining in orbit.
2. Transmitting frequency or status of transmission.

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