

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 9:08 AM  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: [Redacted] 2017-00428 - ~~(S//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY)~~ MSC Articles for [Redacted] Launch --- ~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Classification: ~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~

Classified By: [Redacted]  
Derived From: INCG dated 20120213  
Declassify On: 25X1, 20671231  
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(b)(3)

Perfect. I'll extract from this for the VIP brief.

[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 10:48 AM  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: [Redacted] 2017-00428 - ~~(S//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY)~~ MSC Articles for [Redacted] launch --- ~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Classification: ~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~

Classified By: [Redacted]  
Derived From: INCG dated 20120213  
Declassify On: 25X1, 20671231  
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[Redacted]

See below for the article for [Redacted] Launch.

V/R

[Redacted]

(b)(1)  
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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 9:06 AM  
**To:** [Redacted]

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**Subject:** RE: [redacted] 2017-00428 ~~(S//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY)~~ MSC Articles [redacted] Launch ---  
~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

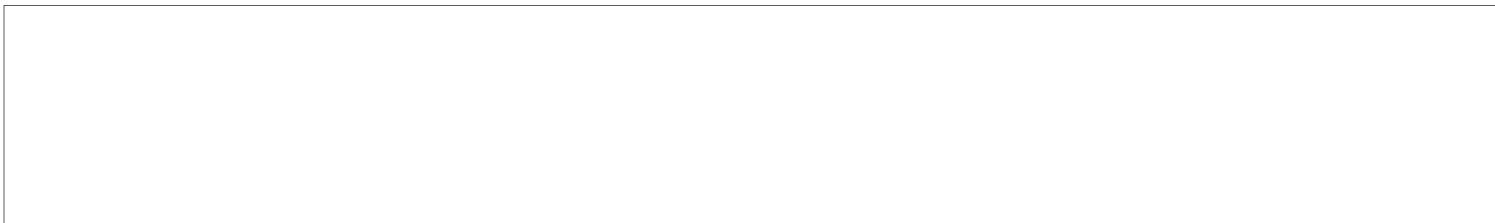
Classification: ~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~

Classified By: [redacted]  
Derived From: INCG dated 20120213  
Declassify On: 25X1, 20671231  
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(U) Final version:

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~~(S//TK//REL)~~ Another 'first' is the use of a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket for launch of an NRO space vehicle. After processing in the EPF, the integrated satellite and rocket fairing will be transported to SpaceX's launch pad at Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39A (LC-39A). LC-39A, originally named LC-39C, was initially built for launch of the Saturn V rocket for the Apollo manned space program, but has seen duty more recently as a launch pad for numerous Space Shuttle missions before being leased to SpaceX after the Shuttle's retirement. NROL-76 will be the fifth mission launched from the newly refurbished LC-39A, and will be the 35th mission for a Falcon 9 rocket. The launch window is set for between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. local time to avoid mid-day lightning and thermal concerns which can arise during certain portions of the year at the Cape, provide good daylight illumination for flight operations, and maximize launch availability via a long-duration window.

(b)(1)  
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~~(S//TK//REL)~~ The Falcon 9 rocket will [redacted] and a half minutes after launch. After the Falcon 9's first stage burns out and separates from the second stage, the first stage of the rocket will autonomously return to the SpaceX Landing Zone at CCAFS (referred to as a "controlled descent"). Designated by SpaceX as LZ-1, this landing zone was previously known as Space Launch Complex 13 (SLC-13) used in the 1960's for test flights of the Atlas missile.

(U//FOUO) The mission patch for NROL-76 shows Lewis & Clark heading into the great unknown (staring to the west) to discover and explore the newly purchased Louisiana Territory and report back to the National Command Authority (President Jefferson). This mirrors [redacted] of NROL-76 program and our goal to explore new capabilities for the Intelligence Community. The slogan "Explore-Discover-Know" echoes this symbolism for the program. The Falcon represents the SpaceX Falcon-9 booster that will launch NROL-76, the rifle represents command and power, the spyglass represents the ability to see to the horizon and to explore the unknown, and the star field represents the on-orbit mission noted by the one bright star. The number and placement of the stars have no significance.

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(U) Go NROL-76!



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Classification: ~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~

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Classification: ~~SECRET//TK//REL TO USA, FVEY~~