NSAM 271

November 8, 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BUNDY

Mac --

Here is a draft for the President's signature of a directive to Webb, regarding the development of substantive proposals for cooperation on space matters with the Soviet Union. This has been checked in substance with dependable people in NASA and State. Arthur Schlesinger helped me on the drafting. The NASA and State people are enthusiastic about receiving such a draft, and it should get things moving. I hope this can be brought to the President's attention before he gets together with Webb at Cape Canaveral, so that he will be saying the same things that we have put in the directive.

Charles E. Johnson

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By RNM NARS, Date 10/13/81

Mr Webb concurs heartily per CEJ

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November 12, 1963

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 271

MEMORANDUM FOR

The Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

SUBJECT: Cooperation with the USSR on Outer Space Matters

I would like you to assume personally the initiative and central responsibility within the Government for the development of a program of substantive cooperation with the Soviet Union in the field of outer space, including the development of specific technical proposals. I assume that you will work closely with the Department of State and other agencies as appropriate.

These proposals should be developed with a view to their possible discussion with the Soviet Union as a direct outcome of my September 20 proposal for broader cooperation between the United States and the USSR in outer space, including cooperation in lunar landing programs. All proposals or suggestions originating within the Government relating to this general subject will be referred to you for your consideration and evaluation.

In addition to developing substantive proposals, I expect that you will assist the Secretary of State in exploring problems of procedure and timing connected with holding discussions with the Soviet Union and in proposing for my consideration the channels which would be most desirable from our point of view. In this connection the channel of contact developed

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by Dr. Dryden between NASA and the Soviet Academy of Sciences has been quite effective, and I believe that we should continue to utilize it as appropriate as a means of continuing the dialogue between the scientists of both countries.

I would like an interim report on the progress of our planning by December 15.

S/John F. Kennedy

Information copies to:

Chairman, National Aeronautics and Space Council
Secretary of State
Secretary of Defense
Director of Central Intelligence
Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission
Director, National Science Foundation
Special Assistant to the President
for Science and Technology
Director, Bureau of the Budget
Director, U.S. Information Agency

cc: Mr. Bundy
Mr. Johnson
NSC Files

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