

Selection of space-related documents found in the LBJ Library

1. Executive Order designating NASA facilities as the John F. Kennedy Space Center (November 1963)
2. Suggested statement for President regarding pending Soviet rocket launch (October 1964)
3. Washington Post article regarding new Soviet rocket (October 1964)
4. Documents comparing the American and Soviet space programs (various 1964-1968)
5. Correspondence between the Kremlin and LBJ regarding exchange of photographs of the moon during various space flights (both Soviet and American) (1964-1966)
6. Press coverage and correspondence regarding Soviet accomplishment of first space walk. Also non-LBJ Library background on that space flight and the Soviet postage stamp commemorating the event (1965)
7. Statements by Ambassador Dobrynin and President Johnson at the ceremony of the Outer Space Treaty (October 10, 1967)
8. Press report of statement by Webb (head of NASA) regarding launch of Zond 5 Soviet spacecraft (1968)

EXECUTIVE ORDER

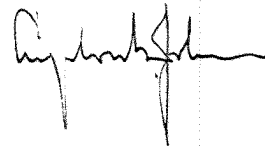
DESIGNATING CERTAIN FACILITIES OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA, AS THE JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

WHEREAS President John F. Kennedy lighted the imagination of our people when he set the moon as our target and man as the means to reach it; and

WHEREAS the installations now to be renamed are a center and symbol of our country's peaceful assault on space; and

WHEREAS it is in the nature of this assault that it should test the limits of our youth and grace, our strength and wit, our vigor and perseverance -- qualities fitting to the memory of John F. Kennedy:

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, I hereby designate the facilities of the Launch Operations Center of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the facilities of Station No. 1 of the Atlantic Missile Range, in the State of Florida, as the John F. Kennedy Space Center; and such facilities shall be hereafter known and referred to by that name.



THE WHITE HOUSE

November 29, 1963

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Suggested statement for President regarding pending Soviet rocket launch (October 1964)

PP WTEB SAN FRANCISCO
DE WTE 3S

SENT
WHCA

FROM: HAYES REDMON
TO : BILL MOYERS HAND DELIVER TO CAROL WELSH IN SAN FRANCISCO
CITE: CAP64260

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Confidential

SOVIETS READY FOR A TWO-MAN SPACECRAFT LAUNCH. WEBB SAYS THE EARLIEST THEY CAN GO IS 3AM EDT MONDAY. THIS WOULD BE MIDNIGHT IN LAS VEGAS. HIS GUESS IS THAT THEY WILL WAIT ONE OR TWO MORE DAYS. HE SUGGESTS THE PRESIDENT NOT MAKE A STATEMENT UNTIL AFTER THE LAUNCH IS ANNOUNCED. HOWEVER, IF PRESIDENT WISHES TO COMMENT ON THE BASIS OF SPECULATIVE PRESS REPORTS INTELLIGENCE AND POLICY PEOPLE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO USE OF FOLLOWING STATEMENT. A STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT BEFORE THE SOVIET LAUNCH IS ANNOUNCED WOULD SET A BAD PRECEDENT FOR THE FUTURE BUT MIGHT INDICATE PRESIDENT'S CLOSE ATTENTION TO SPACE DEVELOPMENTS. FOLLOWING STATEMENT SUGGESTED BY WEBB AND WELSH CAN BE USED EITHER PRE-LAUNCH OR POST LAUNCH.

SUGGESTED STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT:

ONE OF THE MAJOR REASONS WHY YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS MAINTAINED A VIGOROUS PACE IN THE NATIONAL SPACE PROGRAM HAS BEEN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THE SOVIETS WERE STILL COUNTING ON SPACE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR PRESTIGE AND POWER.

THEY STARTED EARLY WHILE SOME IN THIS COUNTRY HELD BACK AND REFUSED TO TAKE THE ACTIONS NEEDED TO CATCH UP.

SINCE MAY OF 1961 WE HAVE TAKEN THE ACTIONS THAT ARE NOW GIVING US A FAST BUILD UP.

THE SATURN V (FIVE) IS FIFTEEN TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN THE MOST POWERFUL RUSSIAN ROCKET AND HAS BEEN UNDER CONTRACT SINCE 1961. THE SATURN I (ONE) IS TWICE AS POWERFUL AS ANY THE RUSSIANS HAVE FLOWN AND WE HAVE HAD 7 SUCCESSFUL TEST LAUNCHES OF IT. THESE SATURN BOOSTERS ARE BEING DEVELOPED FOR THE APOLLO MISSIONS WHICH WILL GIVE US THE EQUIPMENT AND THE KNOW HOW TO LAND ON THE MOON AND IN THE PROCESS DEVELOP OUR ABILITY TO OPERATE MANNED SPACE CRAFT ANYWHERE THEY MAY BE NEEDED OUT TO A QUARTER OF A MILLION MILES FROM THE EARTH.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE WILL BE FLYING THE SMALLER GEMINI TWO MAN SPACE CRAFT USING THE TITAN BOOSTER FOR LAUNCH POWER. TWO UNMANNED TEST FLIGHTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE. WHILE OUR FIRST MANNED GEMINI FLIGHT CANNOT GO UNTIL EARLY NEXT YEAR, IT APPEARS THAT THE RUSSIANS ARE ABOUT TO ENTER A GEMINI TYPE PROGRAM OF THEIR OWN. SINCE THEY HAVE HAD A LARGE ENOUGH BOOSTER FOR SEVERAL YEARS, WE HAVE WONDERED WHY THEY DIDN'T DO IT SOONER.

IN OUR OWN PROGRAM, THE TWO MAN GEMINI, WHICH CAN OPERATE ONLY OUT TO FOUR OR FIVE HUNDRED MILES, WILL RAPIDLY GIVE WAY TO THE THREE MAN APOLLO, WHICH CAN GO OUT TO QUARTER OF A MILLION MILES. THIS APOLLO CAPABILITY IS THE US BID FOR PRE-EMINENCE IN SPACE. IF THE RUSSIANS USE THEIR EARLY START TO US TO GEMINI WE MUST MAKE DOUBLY SURE WE ARE FIRST WITH APOLLO.

DTG: 112258Z

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Washington Post article regarding new Soviet rocket (October 1964)

Could Take Men to Moon

THE WASHINGTON POST --
Wednesday, October 14, 1964

Russia Builds Huge New Rocket

By Howard Simons
Staff Reporter

The United States has information that Russia is building a giant new rocket booster which could be capable of taking Russian cosmonauts to the moon.

A high National Aeronautics and Space Administration official said yesterday "there is increasing evidence" of the new booster's existence.

It was further indicated that the Russians are preparing to run the moon race fast and hard, notwithstanding recent

statements suggesting the opposite.

The new booster, whose size is unknown, apparently has been built in secret. It has not yet been displayed. And it was not employed in launching the three-man Voskhod spacecraft which landed safely yesterday after a 24-hour orbit around the earth.

Government officials still are convinced that to send the Voskhod aloft the Soviets mated old, reliable space boosters into a multistage rocket. They also are con-

vinced that there was no malfunction during the Voskhod journey and 24 hours was all the Soviets intended for the three-man space trip.

U. S. Scientists envy Soviet space doctor.
Page A6.

vinced that there was no malfunction during the Voskhod journey and 24 hours was all the Soviets intended for the three-man space trip.

Regarding the new and bigger booster, if the U.S. were building a similar vehicle in secret, the first visible evidence—visible, that is, to orbiting reconnaissance satellites—would be the construction of giant test stands. Presumably, this is what American reconnaissance satellites have spotted in Soviet Russia.

There is reason to believe, too, that Government officials expect more direct evidence of the big booster's presence during coming months. This could mean either that the booster is "seen" on the test stands, or its roaring, blazing test firing is detected from afar.

For a long time U.S. officials have maintained that without a bigger booster than the Soviets have used successfully to put their sputniks and Vostoks and Voskhod aloft, the Russians could not make

it to the moon's surface. What the Russians needed, these officials contended, was a bigger booster, something near the size of the monstrous 7.5-million-pound thrust Saturn V, which will take Americans to the moon.

Just a year ago, National Aeronautics and Space Administrator James E. Webb said there was no indication the Soviets were building bigger boosters. In May of this year, however, Webb said in a little publicized speech to

the Missouri Cotton Produce Association that "there some evidence" the Soviets "are working on larger rockets, but we cannot say yet for sure."

Today, Webb and other Government officials are sure

In his Missouri speech, Webb speculated that "it is quite possible that the Russians may also be testing a super rocket by 1967-68, the period when NASA will be flight-testing the Saturn V."