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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

19 October 1976

NOTE FOR DR. CURRIE, DDR&E

Attached for your information.

*Frederick L. Hoemann*  
FREDERICK L. HOEMANN

Colonel, USAF  
Deputy Director for  
DOD & Interagency  
Policy

1 Attachment  
Pkg Dealing With  
U.S.-USSR Space  
Cooperation

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUN 20 2014

Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 USG552  
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National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Washington, D.C.  
20546

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Reply to Attn of: WX

September 24, 1976

NOTE FOR COL. HOFMANN

I enclose three copies of a correspondence package dealing with the U.S. - USSR space cooperation discussions next month. While already exhaustively coordinated and re-coordinated, Dr. Lovelace feels that the PRB members should be aware in advance of our plans to preclude any surprises. Can you get these to the appropriate people for their information?

*David Williamson, Jr.*

by *David*  
David Williamson, Jr.

Enclosure a/s

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National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Washington, D.C.  
20546

SEP 22 1976

Reply to Attn of. I

TO: NSC/Dr. David Elliott  
DOS/D/Mr. Rutherford Poats  
OES/SCI/SEP/Mr. William Root  
EUR/SOV/Mr. James Wilkinson

FROM: I/Director, International Programs Policy

SUBJECT: October Discussions with the Soviets on  
Post-ASTP Cooperation

NASA discussions with the Soviet Academy on post-ASTP space cooperation are now scheduled in Washington from October 19-22, 1976. The discussions are expected to follow the lines spelled out in Frutkin's letter to Vereshchetin of August 13, 1975, which was coordinated with you at that time (copy of letter attached). The Secretary of State on August 10, 1976, personally approved the planned October discussions along these lines.

As stated in Dr. Fletcher's August 5, 1976, letter to the Secretary of State (also attached), the discussions, essentially exploratory in character, would be expected to result in agreement on joint studies rather than commitments. We have been asked to keep the discussions in low key so far as public notice is concerned.

There is thus no change in the earlier plans for the discussions which have been coordinated with you. The purpose of this memorandum is to keep you informed of planning for the talks. If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch with me (755-3872).

*Ben M. Zook*  
Ben M. Zook

2 Enclosures

Page determined to be Unclassified  
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IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5  
Date:

JUN 20 2014

13 1975

I

Mr. Vladlen S. Vereshchetin  
Vice Chairman  
Council for International Cooperation  
in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space  
Academy of Sciences of the USSR  
Leninsky Prospect, 14  
Moscow, V-71, USSR

Dear Mr. Vereshchetin:

In keeping with the understandings between Dr. Low and Acting President Kotelnikov on future cooperative space projects, discussed in the informal meeting of May 20, we were requested to arrange for an agenda and any technical preparations necessary for the formal meeting to be held later this year. I undertook to communicate our thoughts on these matters to you.

We believe the principal agenda item should provide for the elaboration of an agreement on the chief understandings reached in the Moscow meeting of May 20 with respect to (1) further joint manned spacecraft operations, (2) future opportunities for either side to accommodate payloads and astronauts of the other side, (3) studies of a future space station which might be developed through cooperative efforts, and (4) certain programs of practical applications of space.

(1) On the first item, i.e., joint projects which would involve the Shuttle/Salyut/Soyuz spacecraft, we would suggest that the two sides establish a Joint Working Group (JWG) to begin immediate consideration of this matter. This Manned Flight Operations JWG would be asked to recommend appropriate specific projects, project objectives, and plans for implementation, including schedules and milestones.

We would expect this activity to follow a pattern similar to that established during the Apollo/Soyuz Test Project and to engage many of the same personnel on both sides who have performed so well in that project.

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(2) On the second item, insofar as it relates to possible Soviet use of the Shuttle-based Space Transportation System for various payloads, we suggest that the agreement between us should provide that we will furnish to you the necessary information regarding flight opportunities, user requirements and terms and conditions for use as soon as this material becomes available (sometime next year). It would be desirable if the agreement could make a reciprocal reference to Salyut or other payload opportunities which might become available for US experimenters through NASA. In addition, we believe this second item should provide for consideration of flight opportunities for astronauts of the two sides, on an approximately reciprocal basis, where mutual project interests and objectives warrant.

(3) With respect to the third item, a future Space Station, we propose that our agreement should begin by stating a basic reservation to the effect that neither side would make any commitment at this time as to whether a future major space station would, in fact, be developed independently or jointly. The agreement would then provide for a phased program of independent and coordinated studies, each depending upon completion of the preceding study to mutual satisfaction. We would envisage this agreement to elaborate a first phase in which there might be such steps as the following:

(a) A Space Station Joint Study Group would be appointed;

(b) The first task of the Space Station Joint Study Group would be to define the specific aspects or elements which would be addressed in subsequent conceptual studies of a space station and to establish a schedule for those studies;

(c) The two sides would then proceed independently to carry out conceptual studies, with form and content responsive to the study elements and schedule as defined by the Joint Study Group; the Joint Study Group would also recommend the method and extent of coordination desirable during the independent conceptual studies.

(d) After the conceptual studies are completed, the Space Station Joint Study Group would meet as necessary in an attempt to harmonize the concepts of the two sides. Their

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results would, of course, as in all steps, be submitted to the principals, indicating those aspects on which they could agree and those on which they might not be able to agree;

(e) The agreement then would provide for principals to consider the results achieved in the first phase and to decide whether, in their opinion, these results provided a sufficient basis for proceeding to a second phase.

The second phase, if mutually agreed, would consist of efforts to develop preliminary designs for a space station. This preliminary design work might be divided between the two sides or it might be performed jointly, in whole or in part, reflecting whatever division of responsibilities might have been recommended in the course of the first phase conceptual studies. The precise character of the preliminary design phase could be determined at the time a joint decision was made to proceed with it.

Our agreement would, in this way, contemplate a succession of studies from the conceptual phase to the preliminary design and then final design phases. The principals would review the recommendations at the end of each step and phase with a view to determining whether and specifically how to proceed further toward a possible coordinated development project. Again, there would be no prior commitment to proceed beyond any given phase.

Although it is eventually most desirable to include third countries, we would suggest deferring this involvement until the end of phase I when it might be seen whether we could satisfactorily harmonize our respective concepts of a space station. It is to be hoped, however, that our agreement will provide in principle for such involvement.

(4) With respect to the fourth item, collaboration in certain categories of practical applications of space systems, we believe that our agreement should provide for the appointment of a Joint Applications Working Group. This body would engage in studies designed to develop recommendations for appropriate and feasible cooperation between us in the monitoring of important environmental parameters and in the development and operation of search and rescue systems. Again, the Working Group should recommend a schedule incorporating milestones for its work.

More specifically, we believe our agreement, on this fourth

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item should, in the environmental field, provide for the study and eventual conduct of joint or coordinated investigations of problems affecting the earth's atmosphere and oceans on a global scale. One such problem is represented by the possibility that various human activities may be contributing to progressive depletion of the protective ozone layer. Thus, extensive stratospheric studies are required to trace and verify the processes involved, establish quantitative baselines for the essential parameters and monitor their future trends. More broadly speaking, there is important work of this character to be done with respect to the earth's energy balance, solar radiation as it interrelates with the earth's atmosphere and other parameters critical to climate changes. Very likely, new techniques must be developed for some of the measurements required.

We were together asked to consider whether preliminary meetings of experts on any of the above subjects might be desirable before the Fall meeting and to make any necessary arrangements. Certainly, we believe that it would be very desirable, with respect to Shuttle/Salyut/Soyuz prospects, if Dr. Lunney and Prof. Bushuyev could accelerate their discussions regarding the compatibility requirements for the Shuttle docking mechanism. Now that the ASTP flight is completed, we urge the earliest possible meeting between them on this subject.

We see no requirement for other meetings of experts prior to the Fall meeting of principals but would be entirely open to any proposals by you on this point.

We would propose that the Fall meeting be cochaired by Acting President Kotelnikov and Dr. Low and that both sides would have present at the Fall meeting such personnel as may be required to provide technical assistance with respect to the proposed agreement between us. We would prefer that the meeting itself be held here in the US since the last meeting was in Moscow. We suggest mid-November in Washington as the best time.

We are, of course, open to other suggestions, such as a meeting in Moscow. In this case, however, we would think the meeting should be held immediately after the anniversary ceremonies of the Academy of Sciences in October so that Dr. Low need not make two trips in fairly close succession. On the whole, a meeting in the US seems preferable.

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I hope the above is a useful approach to assist us in meeting our joint responsibilities to our principals. I would appreciate your earliest reaction.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
Arnold W. Frutkin,

Arnold W. Frutkin  
Assistant Administrator  
for International Affairs

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I/AWFrutkin:kab:8/11/75:x53868  
AWF Chron, RF, AEM-3  
FILE: I/Pol

Concurrence:

M/Yardley (in draft)  
AD/Dr. Low (in draft and final)



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Washington, D.C.  
20546

Office of the Administrator

JUN 5 1976

Honorable Henry A. Kissinger  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

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Date: JUN 20 2014

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In May and August of 1975, with the concurrence of the Administration, we undertook discussions and correspondence with the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union looking to possible major bilateral projects to follow the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project. After some delay, the Soviet side has now responded in an apparently forthcoming manner, proposing a meeting on certain specific suggestions earlier put forward by us. The substance of the suggestions, as indicated in the attached Soviet response and the NASA correspondence which prompted it, would appear to require joint studies rather than commitments at this time.

We have checked with your staff as well as that of the NSC and have prepared an affirmative response to the Soviet side. That response will be transmitted through the Department in the event that there is any wish to reconsider it at this time.

You may be assured that in pursuing these discussions with the Soviet Academy we will continue to safeguard assiduously the interests of the United States and preserve a proper balance in any technical exchange which may take place. It is understood that the discussions themselves are to be treated in low key so far as public notice is concerned.

Sincerely,

James C. Fletcher  
Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft



For Phil Thiolicau, NASA

July 22, 1976

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 FUR-12 TSO-70 ACDA-07 CIAE-06 DUPE-00 PM-04

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 ERDA-05 SSO-06 INRE-00

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NASA IMMEDIATE

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JUN 20 2014

NASA FOR DR. FLETCHER

~~P.O. 116521 N/A~~

TAGS: TSPA, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR SPACE AGREEMENT; LETTER FROM ACADEMICIAN  
ALEXANDROV TO DR. FLETCHER (04.00)(04.00)

1. JULY 21 SCI COUNS MET WITH DR. V.S. VERESHCHETIN, VICE  
CHAIRMAN INTERKOSMOS, TO RECEIVE JULY 21 LETTER FROM ACADEMICIAN  
A. ALEXANDROV, PRESIDENT USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, TO DR.  
FLETCHER, ADMINISTRATOR OF NASA. UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF TEXT  
OF LETTER FOLLOWS.

2. QUOTE. DEAR DR. FLETCHER: IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH OF THIS YEAR  
WE EXCHANGED LETTERS RELATING TO FURTHER COOPERATION IN THE FIELD  
OF PEACEFUL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF SPACE. AT THAT TIME,  
BOTH SIDES NOTED THAT LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS COMPARABLE IN SCALE  
AND SIGNIFICANCE WITH THE "APOLLO-SOYUZ" PROJECT ARE IMPORTANT  
FOR OUR COOPERATION.

THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES IS READY TO SEND TO WASHINGTON AT THE  
END OF SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR, OR AT ANY TIME CONVIENIT  
TO YOU--A DELEGATION OF SOVIET EXPERTS HEADED BY ACADEMICIAN B.N.  
PETROV, CHAIRMAN OF THE "INTERKOSMOS" COUNCIL, IN ORDER TO CARRY  
OUT NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO THESE MATTERS.

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AT FIRST WE INTEND TO PROPOSE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES AND MEANS OF REALIZATION OF A JOINT PROJECT CONNECTED WITH SPACE VEHICLES OF THE TYPE "SHUTTLE", "SOLYUT" AND "SOYUZ" AND THE CARRYING OUT OF A JOINT SCIENTIFIC WORK.

DURING THE TALKS, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO DISCUSS IN A PRELIMINARY WAY THE MANNER OF JOINT STUDY OF THE QUESTIONS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF CREATING IN THE FUTURE AN INTERNATIONAL ORBITAL STATION ON A BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL BASIS AS WELL AS OTHER QUESTIONS OF COOPERATION.

IN SO FAR AS WE UNDERSTAND, THESE PROPOSALS AGREE WITH THOSE OF NASA IN MR. FRUTKIN'S LETTER OF AUGUST 12, 1975.

I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR REPLY ON QUESTIONS TOUCHED UPON IN MY LETTER. SINCERELY YOURS, A. ALEKSANDROV, PRESIDENT, USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. END QUOTE.

3. VERESHCHETIN EXPLAINED TO SCI COUNS THAT ACADEMICIAN B.N. PETROV'S DELEGATION WILL PROBABLY CONSIST OF ABOUT TEN PEOPLE. HE FURTHER INDICATED THAT SOVIETS HAVE NO PRECONCEIVED NOTION AS TO TIMING AND WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THEY ARE NOT PRESSING FOR A MEETING, ONLY THAT THEY ARE READY FROM LATE SEPTEMBER ON TO MEET AT A TIME TO BE FIXED BY THE U.S. SIDE.

4. VERESHCHETIN FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS AN INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 12 THROUGH 16 IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA. IN CASE THE U.S. SIDE WOULD FIND OCTOBER CONVENIENT FOR THE MEETING SUGGESTED IN ABOVE LETTER, MANY OF THE SOVIETS WOULD LIKE TO COMBINE ATTENDANCE AT THE CONGRESS WITH THEIR TRIP TO THE U.S. WHILE THEY WOULD PREFER FOR THE MEETING TO TAKE PLACE AFTER THE CONGRESS, THEY ARE ALSO READY TO MEET BEFORE THE DATES OF THE CONGRESS.

5. LETTER FROM ACADEMICIAN ALEXANDROV TO DR. FLETCHER IS BEING POUCHED UNDER REGISTRY NUMBER 3585263.  
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NASA/I/AWFRUTKIN:GG  
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Date: JUN 20 2014

JCF  
*Net*

~~E.O. 11652: N/A~~

TAGS: TSPA, UR

SUBJECT: SPACE AGREEMENT: POST-ASTP COOPERATION  
----- DISCUSSIONS {04.00.00}

FOR SCICOUN

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM DR. JAMES C. FLETCHER, NASA ADMINISTRATOR, TO ACADEMICIAN A.A. ALEKSANDROV, SOVIET ACADEMY PRESIDENT.
2. "WE WELCOME YOUR JULY 21 LETTER INFORMING US THAT YOU ARE PREPARED TO MEET HERE IN OCTOBER TO CONSIDER POST-ASTP COOPERATION ALONG CERTAIN OF THE LINES INDICATED IN OUR AUGUST 13, 1975 LETTER. WE PROPOSE THAT THIS MEETING TAKE PLACE BEGINNING OCTOBER 19 IN WASHINGTON. PLEASE INFORM US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF THIS DATE IS ACCEPTABLE." WE CAN THEN WORK OUT FURTHER DETAILS OF THE MEETING WITH ACADEMICIAN PETROV. WE ASSUME SOVIET SIDE AT MEETING IN OCTOBER WILL GIVE FURTHER DETAILS OF ITS REACTION TO PROPOSALS OF OUR AUGUST 13, 1975 LETTER AND THAT WE WILL THEN DISCUSS THESE MATTERS FURTHER WITH A VIEW TO WRITING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO PROVIDE FOR SUCH STUDIES AS WE AGREE TO UNDERTAKE. WE WILL BE PREPARED TO BRIEF YOUR SIDE ON POSSIBLE USE OF THE SHUTTLE/SPACELAB IF YOU WISH AND IF YOUR SIDE WILL BE PREPARED TO BRIEF ON SALYUT USE." AA

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