MEMORANDUM TO: Secretary of State
Secretary of Defense
Director of Central Intelligence
Administrator, National Aeronautics
and Space Administration
Director, Office of Science and Technology

(SUBJECT: Space Program of the United States)

The President desires that the space program of the United States be forcefully
and effectively promoted and defended at the forthcoming session of the UN Outer
Space Committee and the General Assembly. The Department of State is
requested to consult with the Department of Defense, USAF, NASA, ARAD,
AGA and the Office of the Science Advisor to develop policies which meet
the following objectives:

1. To show that the distinction between peaceful and aggressive uses of
   outer space is not the same as the distinction between military and civilian
   uses, and that U.S. aims to keep space free from aggressive uses and ensure
   cooperation in its peaceful exploitation for scientific and technological
   purposes.

2. To build and sustain support for the legality and propriety of the use
   of space for reconnaissance. This position should proceed from the
   approved recommendations of the report submitted on this subject on June 30, 1962.

3. To make it plain that neither U.S. nuclear tests nor other U.S. space
   experiments in space were undertaken without a proper sense of scientific re-
   sponsibility, and that, in the case of the nuclear tests, these were a response
   to previous Soviet tests.

4. To demonstrate the preeminent character of the U.S. military
   program in space.

5. To show that U.S. policies for communication satellites are fully
   consistent with cooperative international arrangements.

cc: Mrs. Lincoln
Mr. Bundy’s files
Ritchie/GEJohnson
NSC files

McGeorge Bundy

August 27, 1962