National Security Decision Memorandum 72

TO: The Secretary of State
    The Secretary of Defense
    The Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
    The Executive Secretary, National Aeronautics and Space Council

SUBJECT: Exchange of Technical Data between the United States and the International Space Community

The President has reiterated his desire that the United States should encourage and provide ample opportunities for international cooperation in space activities such as the post-Apollo program.

In furtherance of this objective, the President has directed the establishment of an ad hoc interagency group to review the policy aspects of, and establish procedures for, a program of technical data exchange between the United States and those foreign governments and agencies desirous of entering into cooperative arrangements with us.

Initially, but not exclusively, the group will concentrate on guidance and procedures for future European cooperation in the space program of the United States. The guidelines and procedures so devised for the post-Apollo and other cooperative programs will be designed to provide for timely and effective interchange of technical information between the parties, while at the same time insuring protection of the U.S. national interest.

The Group will be chaired by a representative of the Administrator, NASA, and will comprise senior designees of the Secretaries of State and Defense, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and the Executive Secretary, National Aeronautics and Space Council.

An initial report will be submitted for consideration of the President by August 1, 1970.

Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Director, Office of Science and Technology
    Director, Office of Management and Budget
    Mr. Peter M. Flanigan