

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Policy: MOL

11 June 1966

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: SAF-OI

SUBJECT: Annex 1, Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL) Information Plan



TO:	AAC	AFSC	CONAC	SAC	ACIC
	ADC	ATC	HQCOMD USAF	TAC	AFAFC
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(Office of Information)

1. The attached annex to the MOL Information Plan covering the announcement of the selection of MOL Aerospace Research Pilots is forwarded for your information and/or implementation. Request you insure that all holders of the basic plan within your sphere of activity receive this annex.

2. Local reproduction of the annex is authorized.

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

*E. B. LeBaillly*  
 E. B. LeBAILLY  
 Major General, USAF  
 Director of Information

Atch  
Annex 1

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Annex 1  
MOL Information Plan  
11 June 1966

Announcement of Selection of MOL Aerospace Research Pilots

1. Task Organizations:

OASD/PA	SAF-LL
SAF-OI	AFSC (SSD)
SAF-OIL	MAC (AAVS)
SAF-SL	Military Organizations to which selectees are currently assigned

2. Purpose:

This annex establishes policy and procedures and assigns tasks and responsibilities for the public announcement of newly selected MOL Aerospace Research Pilots.

3. Objective:

To produce information material on MOL pilot selection designed to satisfy normal news media interest in events of this type; and to make this material and the newly selected pilots available to interested media.

4. Situation:

a. Background and Facts:

(1) The first eight Aerospace Research Pilots selected for the MOL program were introduced at a press conference, November 12, 1965, held at the Air Force Systems Command's Space System Division Headquarters, Los Angeles AF Station, California. At that time it was

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announced that an additional 12 pilots would be selected in two subsequent increments. Information materials passed out in support of the introduction included: pictures and short biographies of the pilots; a short MOL program fact sheet, a news release; and copies of the statement issued by the President on August 25, 1965, approving the MOL program.

(2) A USAF Selection Board has chosen a second increment of pilots for assignment to the program. They were selected from among 25 finalists screened out of over 500 Air Force, Navy and Marine applicants late last year. An additional number of pilots of this 25 have been given the opportunity to attend the U. S. Air Force Aerospace Research Pilot School at Edwards AFB. Upon graduation they will be reconsidered for assignment to MOL in the final increment selection process.

b. Policy:

(1) OASD/PA memorandum of 31 March 1966 directs that introduction of new MOL pilots will be made at a press conference similar to and in the Los Angeles area as was done in the case of the initial group.

(2) Information materials will concentrate on the pilots and their selection and not on the program itself. Answers to questions about the program will be confined to the information contained in the aggregate of that material officially released prior to the conference.

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(3) Wives of selectees, who have no objection, may be interviewed by news media, if such requests are received, and provided the wives are requested to cooperate in confining interviews to the subject of the selection itself.

5. Responsibilities:

a. Arrangements have been made with OASD/PA to:

(1) Accomplish necessary coordination of release materials and plans with other Government agencies.

(2) Provide back-up release point in Washington for materials issued.

b. SAF-OI will:

(1) Prepare proposed material for release in conjunction with the press introduction, and forward to OASD/PA for approval.

(2) Prepare list of potential questions with proposed answers and submit to OASD/PA for approval.

(3) Prepare biographies and photographs of selectees for release and brief them on MOL information policy and procedures prior to the conference.

(4) Provide information personnel to set up and conduct the press conference.

(5) Provide material to SAF-LL for their use in advising appropriate Congressmen of selectees from their respective constituencies.

(6) Coordinate date and time for announcement with all task organizations.

c. SAF-OIL will assign a project officer to work with SAF-OI on conference arrangements, providing such assistance as issuing press advisories and assisting local media.

d. SAF-SL will:

(1) Provide advice and assistance to SAF-OI in the preparation of release materials.

(2) Provide program office representation at the press conference if the MOL Program Director so desires.

(3) Make arrangements for selectees to attend a briefing and photo-preparation meeting to be set up by SAF-OI at the MOL Systems Office, SSD, L. A.

e. SAF-LL will notify appropriate Congressmen of the selection of constituents from their states or districts. The notification will coincide with the time of the press conference in Los Angeles.

f. AFSC (SSD) will:

(1) Assist SAF-OI project personnel in setting up the pre-announcement briefing and photo-preparation meeting at Headquarters SSD.

(2) Provide facilities and support for the press conference similar to that provided for the initial announcement conference.

g. MAC (AAVS):

Provide photo assistance, both still and motion picture, as required by SAF-OIP for both documentary and news release purposes.

h. Military Organizations to which selectees are currently assigned will:

- (1) Follow closely the policy and procedures contained in the basic MOL Information Plan and in this annex.
- (2) Make selectees available for the pre-announcement briefing and the press conference.
- (3) Refer questions on policy and procedure not covered in this annex to OASD/PA.

6. Administration:

a. The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, Directorate for Plans and Programs, is the single point of contact for public information matters relating to the MOL program.

b. The SAF-OI contact in accordance with paragraph 6.a.(1) (a) of the basic plan is Major Robert Hermann, telephone OXFord 7-2808/5-9295.

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