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February 8, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: MOL/DORIAN Briefing to House Committee on Science and  
Astronautics Members

MOL briefing to the Congressmen named below took place at 1000  
hours on February 5, 1968 in Dr. Brown's Conference Room.

Rep George P. Miller, Committee Chairman  
Rep Joseph E. Karth  
Rep Emilio Q. Daddario  
Peter A. Gerardi, Staff Technical Consultant

Preliminary remarks were made to the Congressmen by Secretary Brown  
who made the following points:

- MOL is a big program and it will receive more and more attention from all quarters.
- The Congressmen present should know more about the MOL Program so that they can clearly view the national space effort in perspective. That is the purpose of today's briefing.
- The program is very sensitive from a security standpoint and their understanding and support was requested.
- The MOL objective is an operational reconnaissance system as soon as possible.
- We are not duplicating NASA, in fact, we are exchanging appropriate technology and MOL uses many NASA developed hardware items.
- The program can be done sooner and with greater assurance by using a man in the system.

Dr. Brown excused himself at the conclusion of his remarks and General Stewart conducted the formal briefing using the charts listed in Attachment.

The following Air Force personnel were present:

Major General James T. Stewart - SAFSL  
Major General Lawrence S. Lightner - SAFLL  
Dr. Michael I. Yarymovych - SAFSL  
Colonel Ralph J. Ford - SAFSLP  
Lt Colonel Don Floyd - SAFLL

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The principal points brought out by the Congressmen either as questions or observations were:

- How does man contribute to the system? (Daddario)
- How does man help to get the system sooner and by how much? (Daddario)
- What does the security accomplish and what is it aimed at achieving? (Daddario)
- How are you able to say [REDACTED] is the camera that far along? (Daddario)
- Will we dispose of it (the orbiting vehicle) when finished? (Karth)
- Why can't you use one vehicle for both MOL and AAP? (Daddario)
- Congress is concerned over the problem of using hardware and activities when the original mission is complete (Daddario - referring to use of Apollo hardware for AAP).
- We (in Congress) can't get away from the problem of why we can't use one vehicle (MOL vs AAP) or the other, but there is no question that you people (USAF) need your program (Daddario)
- I have no problem supporting both programs; but we work as a committee and we must face up to people who don't understand the difference. (Daddario)
- We understand, but we will be up against the question of "Why all the dollars for space when we need housing." (Miller)
- You will get the support for your program (MOL) but it may be at the expense of NASA. (Daddario)
- Excellent briefing.

It appeared that all questions directed to MOL were answered to the satisfaction of the Congressmen. General Stewart's and Dr. Yarymovych's responses to questions relating to MOL vs AAP equipments conveyed the following points:

- NASA use of MOL has been studied at length.

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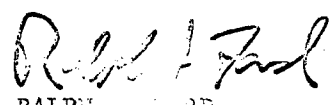
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- NASA possibly could use MOL for certain experiments, but the overall NASA objectives are directed to long on-orbit life, docking, rendezvous, etc, the MOL is not.
- MOL vehicles less camera and associated items could be made available to NASA in the 72 time period.
- NASA space exploration is useful to the nation and future space programs.

In his concluding remarks, General Stewart commented that follow-on versions of MOL would probably look very similar to the present configuration except for the addition of an on-board read-out capability and extended on-orbit vehicle life (45-60 days). General Stewart also stated that MOL would be employed in a mix with unmanned satellite reconnaissance vehicles to achieve the correct balance between very high resolution photography and lesser resolutions appropriate to intelligence needs. He explained that there is no requirement to view all targets at [redacted] resolution.

General Stewart indicated he would brief Mr. Teague and Mr. Hechler at their early convenience. In a side discussion with Mr. Daddario, Mr. Miller wondered if it were desirable and practical to brief a few more of their "bright, young" committee members on MOL.

In summary, the briefing appeared to achieve the results desired and the Congressmen seemed to be both appreciative and impressed.



RALPH F. FORD  
Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Program and Policies Div,  
SAFSL

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