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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

COVERING BRIEF

9 OCT 1975

TO: DEPUTY DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC AND SPACE SYSTEMS

FROM: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, SPACE AND ADVANCED SYSTEMS

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(S) PROBLEM: To reply to Mr. Mathews' letter advising DoD that NASA is now negotiating an International agreement with the French involving GEOS-3 radar altimetry data. The data to be provided is to be restricted in accordance with the NASA/DoD Agreement regarding GEOS-3; however, NASA was not successful in moving the French investigator to an alternate area.

(S) DISCUSSION: The NASA/DoD Agreement states that NASA will make a determined effort to satisfy the French investigator by providing data only outside the annulus. The French investigator wanted dense (more than 1° x 1°) data over the Atlantic within the annulus. Now that NASA has been unsuccessful in their attempts to negotiate a shift in area, NASA intends to go ahead with the French investigator but provide less dense data, that is, data restricted to 5° ground tracks. This is considered to be within the intent if not the letter of the agreement.

Mr. Frank Williams of NASA states that the French ground stations which were originally to participate in the collection of GEOS-3 data at VHF, will not collect data under the proposed International agreement. The GEOS-3 satellite will transmit at S-Band, not VHF, at those times when the satellite is operating over that part of the Atlantic and within range of NASA stations. NASA says that to the best of their knowledge the French stations cannot receive the GEOS-3 data at S-Band.

(U) RECOMMENDATION: That you sign the proposed reply to Mr. Mathews (Tab A).

(U) CONCURRENCE: None

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: MAR 26 2014

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Date: 2/22/2000
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