

~~M~~ORANDUM

~~SENSITIVE EYES ONLY~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 17, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR

HENRY KISSINGER

I would like to offer the following thoughts in preparation for our discussion about Post-Apollo cooperation with the European Space Organization.

I see the following negative factors:

- 1) There is likely to be substantial high technology transfer to the Europeans in return for a small (10%) European contribution.
- 2) The management of the shuttle project will be complicated by the necessity to satisfy partners before decisions are made.
- 3) The proposed arrangements will lock us into the shuttle program, depriving us of the flexibility to tailor the program to our evolving needs.
- 4) The European financial contribution is of dubious value since the cost of doing business with them as partners will be greater and because we will probably have to undertake back-up programs for those elements or systems being developed abroad.
- 5) The proposed arrangement develops competition for our own commercial exploitation of our satellite technology.

These were the factors which led me and Peter Flanigan to conclude that a joint effort with the Europeans is not in our best interests. In my conversation with the President on February 22nd I got the impression that this was in line with his general thinking. I am looking forward to having your advice and views so that we can determine how to proceed.



Edward E. David, Jr.
Science Adviser

cc: Peter Flanigan