

COPY

Space Program

July 9, 1971

Mr. William G. White
1715 West 27th
Topeka, Kansas 66611

Dear Mr. White:

This will acknowledge and thank you for your letter of July 2 concerning manned space flights and NASA programs.

Appreciate knowing about the NASA programs you are advocating. You mention that these programs should cost no more than \$4.5 billion per year. The Senate has authorized \$312 billion for the space program budget for fiscal 1972. It is quite likely that when the Conference Committee reviews this authorization that the amount will be even less. Although funding for the space programs has been significantly reduced each year, we must not simply discontinue our space efforts but our domestic problems have demanded that we devote our time and energy toward this end. There has certainly been and will continue to be less emphasis on space programs than during the 1960s. In spite of the cutbacks in the space program, I expect ~~space~~ space exploration to continue as scientists attempt to ~~obtain~~ obtain answers to many unsolved questions. In any event, you may be assured that I will keep your views in mind when the NASA appropriations bill comes before the Senate Floor for consideration.

Thank you again for writing and sharing your views with me, and if I may be of assistance to you in the future, please let me know.

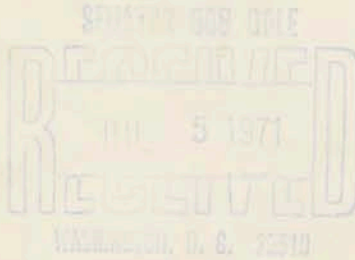
Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD:mrk

July 2, 1971

Senator Robert Dole
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.



Dear Senator Dole:

I am a strong advocate of manned space flight and I would like to urge you to support the following programs;

1. Continued Apollo missions after 1972 at the rate of at least one per year. They should be of the Lunar Laboratory concept which would permit extended stays on the Lunar surface for periods up to four weeks.
2. Increased budgets for the Space Shuttle in order to have it in operation by 1980.
3. Plans for a permanent manned space station in earth orbit for operation by 1980. It should provide support for several dozen persons.
4. An elaborate fly-by mission to the outer planets in 1976.
5. Unmanned landing probes to Venus and Mars by 1974.
6. Joint space missions with the Soviet Union, possibly in the areas mentioned above.
7. All other NASA programs.

I would estimate these programs to cost no more than \$4.5 billion per year. This is a reasonable sum and would be a sound investment in the future of our country.

Sincerely yours,

William G. White

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