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TELEPHONE ORBITING SOYUZ-APOLLO  
ASTRONAUTS ABOARD THEIR SPACECRAFT  
FOLLOWING LINK-UP

Thursday - July 17, 1975  
3:30 P.M.  
The Oval Office

**THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....**

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

4665

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

July 14, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR WARREN S. RUSTAND

FROM: Brent Scowcroft *BJS*

SUBJECT: Presidential Telephone Calls During  
Apollo-Soyuz Test Project

The US-Soviet joint space mission, the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project, is scheduled to be launched on July 15. The background information and talking points at Tab A and Tab B are forwarded with the recommendation that the President place congratulatory telephone calls to the Soviet and American space crews during that portion of the mission when the two space vehicles are docked (July 17-19) and to the Apollo crew after splash-down and recovery (July 24).

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MEMORANDUM

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RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO: Crew Members of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project:  
Apollo: Brigadier General Thomas P. Stafford,  
Vance D. Brand, Donald K. Slayton  
Soyuz: Colonel Aleksey A. Leonov, Valeriy N.  
Kubasov

RECOMMENDED

BY: Henry A. Kissinger

PURPOSE: To extend congratulations on the successful docking of the U. S. and Soviet spacecraft.

BACKGROUND: After three years of planning and cooperative work, the Apollo and Soyuz launches are scheduled for July 15. The mission plan calls for Apollo rendezvous and docking with the Soyuz and two days -- July 17-19 -- of joint activities, including experiments in space science and applications. A telephone call during the docked portion of the flight would permit you to congratulate both crews on their successful and historic achievement. It would provide an opportunity to underscore the importance of the mission for US-Soviet space cooperation, its contribution to the strengthening of US-USSR cooperation generally and to the efforts of all countries working together on projects that broaden human knowledge.

TALKING POINTS:

*Do you have me slight?*

1. Gentlemen, I am calling to express my very great admiration for your hard work and dedication in preparing for this first joint flight. All of us here send you our very warmest congratulations for your successful rendezvous and docking and our best wishes for the successful completion of the remainder of your mission.

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2. Your flight is a momentous event and a great achievement, not only for the five of you, but also for the thousands of American and Soviet scientists and technicians who have worked together for three years to ensure the success of this very historic and very successful experiment in international cooperation.
3. It has taken us many years to open this door to useful cooperation in space between our countries, and I'm confident that the day is not far off when people of many nations may join in international space missions made possible by this first joint effort. We all look forward to your safe return following the conclusion of the docking tests.
4. (to General Stafford) Tom, now that you've had a chance to test the new docking system, do you think it will be suitable for future international manned space flight?
5. (to Colonel Leonov) Colonel Leonov (Leh-ON-uf), the docking was a critical phase of the joint mission. Could you describe it and the reaction of the crews on meeting in space after such long preparation?
6. (to Mr. Slayton) Deke, you have had a long record of distinguished service preparing other astronaut crews for space missions, and we're extremely pleased to see you on the crew of the first international manned space flight. As the world's oldest space rookie, do you have any advice for young people who hope to fly on future missions?
7. (to Mr. Brand) Vance, I know each of the crew members has worked hard to learn either Russian or English. Has this training stood the test in the complicated procedures you must execute up there?

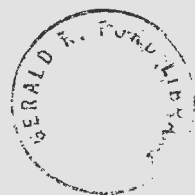
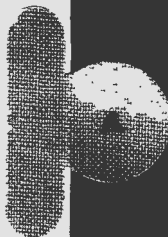
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8. (to Mr. Kubasov) Valeriy (VAL-er-e), I remember an enjoyable Saturday last September when both crews visited the White House and joined me at a picnic in Virginia. I am sure you have food of a different sort in space. What is the menu aboard Soyuz?
  
9. We all look forward to your safe return following conclusion of the docking tests. Again, congratulations and here's to a soft landing!



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

JULY 17, 1975

MR. PRESIDENT:

ONLY GENERAL THOMAS STAFFORD, COLONEL LEONOV AND  
VANCE BRAND WILL BE ON DIRECT AUDIO ~~H~~OOKUP WITH YOU.

IF YOU WANT TO ASK KUBASOV OR DEKE SLAYTON A QUESTION,  
YOU WILL HAVE TO RELAY THE QUESTION THROUGH STAFFORD  
OR LEONOV.

(NOTE: ALL WILL BE IN SOYUZ MODULE EXCEPT BRAND WHO WILL  
BE IN APOLLO MODULE.)

TERRY O'DONNELL





MEMORANDUM

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . . .

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USERECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO: Apollo crew members following splashdown and recovery (Brigadier General Thomas P. Stafford, Vance D. Brand and Donald K. Slayton)

RECOMMENDED BY: Henry A. Kissinger

PURPOSE: To extend congratulations upon their return to earth and for a great achievement following the Apollo-Soyuz joint space mission.

BACKGROUND: Following the July 17-19 docking of the Soviet and American spacecraft, the Apollo crew will remain in space five more days. They are scheduled to splash down in the Pacific on July 24. The telephone call after their arrival on board the recovery carrier would welcome them back to earth and note the historic importance of their mission both technologically and politically.

TALKING POINTS:

1. I am pleased to welcome you back to earth and to congratulate you on a successful and productive flight in space.
2. The new docking system you have tested offers us a possible foundation for future cooperation in space and in the next decade will provide us with a valuable tool to permit space rescues.
3. Your historic mission raises new hope that nations of the world can overcome their differences, that they may live in peace and work together to the benefit of all mankind.

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4. The flight of Apollo and Soyuz instills in all of us the desire to direct our energies to the improvement of life on earth. I sincerely hope that this first international manned flight will provide us all with an example to remember for many years to come.