



NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546

AUG 15 1972

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Academician M. V. Keldysh  
President, Academy of Sciences  
of the USSR  
Leninsky Prospect 14  
Moscow, V-71, USSR

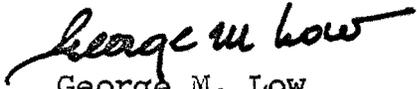
Dear Academician Keldysh:

I am very pleased at the substantial progress made by the US/USSR Joint Working Groups on the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project in their meeting at the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, July 6-17. It is particularly gratifying that the Working Groups have completed the three basic documents--the Project Technical Proposal, the Organization Plan and the Project Schedule Document--which are to govern the conduct of the Test Mission in 1975. I am happy to convey our approval of these documents as well as of the Summary of Results and Minutes of the Project Directors and their Working Groups.

I had the opportunity during the Houston meeting to discuss with Academician Petrov certain modifications to our procedural arrangements so that we may move more expeditiously to implement the Test Project. Specifically, we agreed that the Project Directors in the future will have full authority to make agreements and generally take such action as is necessary to implement the Project within the agreed framework established by the April 1972 agreement and the Summit Agreement of May 1972. Such actions may be taken without the necessity to wait for confirmation by principals. We also agreed that the Project Directors can make such technical changes in the planning and such revisions of the Project Schedule Document as they may agree upon, except that any change they may wish to make in the launch date will require our prior approval. I can now confirm our agreement with these procedures.

Looking ahead to our next meeting in October, we expect to reach agreement on a specific day to serve as the target launch date in July of 1975. Dr. Lunney will be in touch shortly with Dr. Bushuyev concerning preparations for that meeting.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George M. Low". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

George M. Low  
Deputy Administrator