

PRESS STATEMENT

Cernay, France

9 September 1984

From September 7 to 9, 1984, a working meeting of former astronauts and cosmonauts from the United States, the Soviet Union and France was held near Paris. Attending the meeting from the U.S. were, Donn Eisele (Apollo 7), Dr. Edgar Mitchell (Apollo 14), Russell L. Schweickart (Apollo 9), from France was Jean-Loup Chretien (Soyuz T-6), and from the USSR were Alexei Leonov (Voskhod 2, ASTP), Dr. Oleg Makarov (Soyuz 12, Soyuz 27, Soyuz T-3), Yuri Romanenko (Soyuz 26, Soyuz 38). The meeting had been preceded by several years of preparation. During the meeting the group expressed a common desire for regular contacts among persons who are bound together by their shared experience in space flight.

Acknowledging their concern for the future of humanity and recognizing opportunities for cooperation the participants expressed their determination to use the privilege of their unique experience to promote the development of space and the use of space technology for the benefit of all people.

Because of the specific nature of their experience space explorers are aware of the need for international cooperation in the peaceful development and exploration of space for promoting resolution of major scientific, technical and humanitarian issues..

On this basis the working group decided to establish an organization of people who have traveled in space. The purpose of the organization will be to explore and promote constructive uses of space for enhancing the quality of life around the planet and to provide a positive view of the future for generations to come; to promote the establishment of broader contacts among people who have flown in space and to identify opportunities for cooperation and issues of common concern.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE 6 Sept 84 draft

There exists today a small group of privileged people who have had the direct opportunity to leave the planet and look back at it from space. For many of us this experience has had a strong impact on our thinking and outlook. For many people around the world the photographic record of this experience, in combination with what we have had to say about it, has altered their understanding of mankind's relationship to and responsibility for the planet and its environment. Many thoughtful people believe that mankind's use of space will be high on the list of factors shaping the Earth's future. One need only look at the use of space in the communication and information fields today to exemplify this point.

Very few people in today's connected world are unaware of or untouched by space technology; whether directly through the use of communication satellites or by vicariously sightseeing aboard Voyager or Venera or their companions on their passage through the solar system. Clearly we are only at the beginning of the space age. Technologies which are emerging today from laboratories and drafting rooms are opening capabilities which will dwarf current accomplishments in both scope and importance. They run the gamut from Space Colonies drawing their sustenance from extraterrestrial materials and solar energy, to outposts on Mars and the satellites of the outer planets, to the powerful weapons of science fiction, both offensive and defensive.

All of us understand that the world is shrinking; we are becoming, through our technologies and common needs, a highly interactive global society. We are all totally dependent on the planetary environmental systems to sustain our very existence.

Ironically, it is the very same technology which allows us to grapple with global environmental challenges and plan for fantastic and visionary futures which also permits, through misuse or miscalculation, the total destruction of civilization and perhaps all human life. And unfortunately, almost the whole world is focussed on the negative possibilities, TO THE VIRTUAL EXCLUSION OF ANY POSITIVE VISION. Without a vision of the future, an image of hope, a possibility to strive toward, there is a diminished likelihood of it occurring. This vision of a positive future, a cooperative, planetary, life enhancing future is the challenge which we who have seen the planet from space, using the technology which can make it possible must address.

No group of people has had the privilege or the first hand experience of seeing this planet of ours as a single, beautiful, life supporting home, save us; the Astronauts and Cosmonauts, a small group of space explorers.

Many have seen the photographs, and many may be more articulate or more wise than we. None, however, but we can speak and act from the direct experience of being outside of and looking back on the single home of all the life we know of in the universe. And few command more public attention and respect for what they have done, whether deserved or not.

CHARTER

OF THE ASSOCIATION; COSMONAUTS AND ASTRONAUTS FOR PEACE AND COOPERATION.

Aims and Purposes:

The association, Cosmonauts and Astronauts for Peace and Cooperation is a non-governmental international public organization whose purpose is to promote the establishment of broad and close contacts among space explorers/researchers in order to use their high authority and unique experience for efforts to preserve peace and prevent nuclear war, to reduce mistrust in the relations among nations, to mobilize broad social forces to resolve global problems, to propagandize a sensible attitude by modern humanity toward its planet.

The Association defines the purposes of its activity as follows:

- to unify the efforts of the space explorers/researchers of the USSR, the USA, and other countries in their struggle to preserve peace and ward off the threat of a nuclear war
- to uphold in every way the idea that space exploration/research must be exclusively for peaceful purposes, to speak out against any forms of militarization of space;
- to further the dissemination of knowledge about the historic significance of man's entry into space.
- to familiarize world public opinion with the most recent achievements in the peaceful exploration/research of space;
- to study the possibility of expanding international cooperation in space to resolve global problems which confront humanity today, involving scientists from countries that do not have space programs in these explorations/researches.
- to study possible principles governing access, by all interested countries, to the results of space research for peaceful purposes, for purposes of development.
- to forecast space research in the future, evaluating its possible impact on the fate of humanity.

Basic Lines of Activity

- joint scientific consultations on matters of interest to the parties.
- public information and education.
- cooperation with various public organizations in order to carry out the purposes of the Association.

Possible Forms of Activity

- yearly congresses of space explorers/researchers involving participation of increasing numbers of participants from various countries and being held, in turn, on the territory of countries which are members of the Association or on the territory of other countries which might express the desire to /organize such forums;
- lecture tours by members of the Association.
- the issuing of joint scientific/popular publications, films, and television films.
- Soviet-American or multilateral "TV bridges" with participation by members

of the Association.

--the formation of working groups of members of the Association to discuss concrete problems in the period between Congresses, and the preparation of reports or materials for forthcoming Congresses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEASURES

1. Membership

At the initial stage citizens of the USSR, USA, and France who have been in space can become members of the Association. Subsequently persons meeting the qualifications who are from other countries could become associated with the work of the Association.

2. Where Congresses will be Held and their Periodicity.

Congresses will be held every year on the territory of countries with space programs, or otherd which have expressed the desire to organize such congresses.

3. Financial Aspects.

The conduct of congresses be on the basis of exchange and will not involve any hard currency expenditure. Congresses will be financed by the receiving side (transportation is financed independently).

4. Leading Organs.

During the first stage of the activity of the Congress two cochairmen are to be elected from the Soviet and American sides. The activities of the Congress between sessions will be coordinated by a consultative group consisting of one or two representatives of each participating country.

5. Representation at the Congress.

Up to five representatives from among the cosmonauts of each participating country.

6. Adoption of Decisions at Congresses.

All decisions are adopted at Congresses by consensus.

7. Ties with Other International Organizations

Any press release, appeal, or other concluding documents adopted at a Congress are to be sent to the UN, Unesco, the UN Geneva committee on disarmament, and other international organizations which seek to establish contact with the association.

8. Press Contact

Meetings of the Congress are to be confidential. At the conclusion of a Congress a press conference is held for representatives of the press at which a joint press release is issued at this conference; other materials of the Congress can be distributed with the common agreement of the participants.

Symbols.

A permanent emblem and a device of the Planetary Congress of space explorers /researchers are to be established.

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- to study possible principles governing access, by all interested countries, to the results of space research for peaceful purposes, for purposes of development.
- to forecast space research in the future, evaluating its possible impact on the fate of humanity.

Basic Lines of Activity

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- lecture tours by members of the Association.
- the issuing of joint scientific/popular publications, films, and television films.
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- the formation of working groups of members of the Association to discuss concrete problems in the period between Congresses, and the preparation of reports or materials for forthcoming Congresses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEASURES

(US TEXT)

From September 7 to 9, 1984, a working meeting of former astronauts and cosmonauts from the United States, the Soviet Union and France was held near Paris. The meeting had been preceded by several years of preparation. During the meeting the group expressed a common desire for regular contacts among persons who are bound together by their shared experience in space flight. The participants expressed their determination to use the privilege of their unique experience to promote the development of space and the use of space technology for the benefit of humanity around the planet.

Because of the specific nature of their experience space explorers are aware of the need for international cooperation in the peaceful development and exploration of space for purposes of promoting resolution of major scientific, technical and humanitarian issues in the interests of humanity as a whole.

On this basis the working group decided to establish a society of people who have flown in space. The purpose of the organization will be to explore and promote constructive uses of space for enhancing the quality of life around the planet and providing a positive view of the future for generations of children to come; to promote the establishment of broader contacts among space explorers, identifying opportunities for cooperation and issues of common concern, such as ~~space rescue and joint exploration of the solar system.~~

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Moved by concern at the state of space-ship Earth, the participants expressed their determination to use all their high authority and unique experience in the cause of preserving peace and preventing a nuclear war, of reducing mistrust in the relations among peoples, of using space exclusively for peaceful purposes..

The participants expressed their determination to use the privilege of their unique experience to promote the peaceful development of space and the use of space technology for the benefit of humanity around the planet.

Because of the specific nature of their experience space explorers are aware of the possibilities for international cooperation in the development and exploration of space for purposes of resolving major humanitarian, scientific, and technical problems in the interests of humanity as a whole.

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