

JSC ROUTING SLIP			ASTRONAUT OFFICE					Due Date	
Circulate	Coordination	File	Read	Necessary Action	Note and Return	See Me	Signature	Comply	
Name or Title			Initial	Date	Name or Title			Initial	Date
CB/Young ✓				6-21	Carr				
Baker					Crippen				
Mattingly ✓					Hartsfield				
					Lousma				
Haise					Peterson				
Bobko									
Engle					Kerwin				
Fullerton					Henize				
Overmyer					Lenoir				
Truly					Lind				
					Musgrave				
Bean					Parker				
Brand					Thornton				
Evans					Gibson				
McCandless					McClure				
Weitz					Read Boarding (2)				
					Tech Files				
Kimball					Appearances				
					Special Activities				

REMARKS:

Cross

Salinas

Smith

Two shift operation? in a one shift spacecraft? See Dr K is looking out for the M.S.

Note this was written before our meeting! ✓

From

Phone

Date

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas
77058

JUN 20 1977

Reply to Attn of: CA-GWSA-77-29

Dr. William R. Lucas
Director
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812

Dear Bill:

I recently had the opportunity to review the experiments being proposed for the first Spacelab mission, and I have a number of reservations concerning what I understand to be this complement of experiments. It appears that the Agency is structuring the 7-day first flight of Spacelab to be as complex and ambitious as Skylab. Considering that the first day of the flight will be consumed with launch and post-insertion activities and the last day in preparation for entry, at best, only 5 days will be available for experiment operations and flight testing of the Spacelab and its associated systems. Assuming a 10-hour workday with a two-shift operation, only approximately 100 hours will be available for experiment operations. To insure that the experiments and the flight tests can be accomplished within this limited time period, JSC and MSFC are jointly initiating a mission compatibility analysis.

I have also had the opportunity to review the requirements defined by the investigators as to the type of individual they desire to have operate their equipment in orbit. In reviewing the total list of requirements, it is clear that a generalist is needed, and apparently there is no requirement for an individual with any unique or special skill. Consequently, in line with the recent policy statement approved by Dr. Naugle and Mr. Yardley on May 20, 1977, concerning mission specialist/payload specialist roles, responsibilities, and working relationships, and in the interest of maximizing the return from Spacelab 1, I would propose that the U. S. payload specialists be selected from the present corps of mission specialists residing in Houston. Obviously, there are a number of advantages in selecting such individuals as payload specialists: They are career employees; they have already had the benefit of a great deal of training directly applicable to the task at hand; certain individuals have also had space flight experience; and all are already intimately involved in Spacelab design and development activities. Particularly in view of the limited time available in orbit, they might be able to adapt to the zero-gravity environment in a

much better fashion than other individuals who have not had the benefit of such training or space flight experience. That aspect of the flight should not be overlooked, as Skylab has shown us that 2 or 3 days could be lost in adapting to the environment. In addition, I intend to propose to John Yardley that, in the interest of conducting a two-shift operation, we fly two mission specialists on this flight.

I would be very pleased to discuss any aspect of my proposal with you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Christopher C. Kraft, Jr.

Christopher C. Kraft, Jr.
Director

cc:

NASA Hqs, AA/J. E. Naugle
AD/A. M. Lovelace
M/J. F. Yardley

bcc:

CB/J. W. Young
CH/C. S. Harlan
PA/C. E. Charlesworth
SA/R. S. Johnston

CA/GWSAbbey:cb:6/7/77:3558