INFORMATION FURNISHED IN CONFORMITY WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1721 (XVI) BY STATES LAUNCHING OBJECTS INTO ORBIT OR BEYOND

Note verbale dated 18 February 1976 from the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat and has the honour to transmit to it, for purposes of information, three data sheets prepared by the National Centre for Space Research concerning the following launchings:

I. 1975-039 - D5A - 17 May 1975 - Kourou
   D5B - 17 May 1975 - Kourou

II. 1975-049B-SRET 2 - 5 June 1975 - Joint Operation with USSR

III. 1975-092-01 D2B - 27 September 1975 - Kourou

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations takes this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

I. D5-A (POLUX) AND D5-B (CASTOR) SATELLITES

International designation: 1975-039-01

Date of launching: 17 May 1975
Launching site: Kourou (French Guiana)
Launch vehicle: Diamant B P4
Weight: D5-A: 36 kg.; D5-B: 76 kg.
Period: 99.97 min.
Inclination: 29° 96
Apogee/Perigee: 1277 km/277 km

Experiments: D5-A (Pollux)

Testing in space of a hydrazine catalytic decomposition micropropulsion unit

Responsible organization: Société Européenne de Propulsion

D5-B (Castor)

Testing in space of the CACTUS accelerometer (ultrasensitive triaxial capacitive accelerometeric sensor)

Responsible organization: ONERA
Châtillon-sous-Bagneux (France)

II. SRET 2 SATELLITE (technological research and study satellite)

International designation: 197-049-02
Date of launching: 5 June 1975
Launching site: Soviet Union (see MOLNIYA satellite 1975-049-01)
Launch vehicle: Soviet (see MOLNIYA satellite 1975-049-01)
Weight: 30 kg
Period: 12 h. 16 min. 30 sec.
Inclination: 62.78°
Apogee/Perigee: 40,750 km/520 km

Experiments: Study of the behaviour of a passive cryogenic radiation system
Study of the aging of thermal casings and plastic films.

III. D2 B AURA SATELLITE

International designation: 1975-092-01
Date of launching: 27 September 1975
Launching site: Kourou (French Guiana)
Launch vehicle: Diamant B P4

Weight: 106.6 kg

Period: 96.8 min.

Inclination: 37°

Apogee/Perigee: 714 km/504 km

Experiments: Study of solar and stellar ultraviolet radiation

1. Spectral analysis of small and large sources located close to the plane of the ecliptic.

   Responsible organization: Laboratoire d'Astronomie Spatiale
   Traverse du Siphon
   13000 - Marseille (France)

2. Study of solar ultraviolet radiation and its absorption by the earth's atmosphere.

   Responsible organization: Laboratoire de Physique Stellaire et Planétaire Meudon (France)