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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF OUTER SPACE

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

Note verbale dated 31 March 1978 from the Permanent Representative
of Japan to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1721 B (XVI), has the honour to transmit herewith information concerning a space object which was launched into orbit by Japan on 16 February 1978.

1. Name of satellite

Ionosphere Sounding Satellite (ISS-b) (Japanese name: UME-2)

2. International designation

1978-018A

3. Date and time, and place of launching

4:00 UT; 16 February 1978

Tanegashima Space Centre, Kagoshima, Japan

4. Launch vehicle

N Launch Vehicle No. 4 (Flight number)

5. Launching organization

National Space Development Agency of Japan

6. Orbital parameters

(a) Period: 107 minutes

(b) Inclination: 69.4 degrees

(c) Apogee: 1,222 km

(d) Perigee: 977 km

7. General function

Spin-stabilized Ionosphere Sounding Satellite (ISS-b) is equipped with basic systems such as attitude control system, TT and C system (136 MHz, 148 MHz and 400 MHz), electric power supply system and so on, and mission equipment such as Ionospheric Sounder, Radio Noise Receiver, Plasma Measuring Equipment, Ion Mass Spectrometer and so on.

The satellite is intended for regular observation of global distribution of critical frequencies of the ionosphere by means of radio waves. And the results of the observation are to be utilized for radio propagation prediction and radio disturbance warning necessary for effective short-wave radio communication.

8. Characteristics and expected life of satellite

(a) Weight: About 141 kg

(b) Shape: Cylindrical (0.9 m in diameter and 0.8 m in height)

(c) Expected life: Probability of survival in 1.5 years is more than 70 per cent.
