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

Note verbale dated 31 July 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed 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 space objects named "AYAME" and "HAKUCHO", both of which were launched into earth orbit by Japan in February 1979.

1. Name of satellite

   Experimental Communications Satellite (ECS)
   (Japanese name: AYAME)

2. International designation

   1979-009A

3. Date and time, and place of launching

   8.46, 6 February 1979 (GMT)
   Tanegashima Space Center, Kogoshima, Japan

4. Launch vehicle

   N Launch vehicle

5. Launching organization

   National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA)

6. Basic orbital parameters

   ECS was injected into the planned transfer orbit. On 9 February, however, ECS ceased radio emissions about 10 seconds after the apogee kick motor was fired. The present ECS orbit cannot be confirmed.

   Communications and propagation experiments of satellite-communication systems in the quasi-millimetre wave band as well as in the microwave band Operation and control experiment for geostationary satellites
8. Characteristics of satellite:

(1) Weight: 260 kg (mass at launch)

(2) Physical configuration and dimensions:
   (a) Configuration: Cylindrically shaped satellite
   (b) Height: 1.9 m (including antenna)
   (c) Diameter: 1.4 m

(3) Attitude control subsystem: Spin stabilization

1. Name of satellite
   HAKUCHO

2. International designation
   1979-014A

3. Date and place of launching
   21 February 1979
   Kagoshima Space Center, Uchinoura,
   Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan

4. Launch vehicle
   Mu-3C-4

5. Launching organization
   The Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science, University of Tokyo

6. Basic orbital parameters
   (1) Nodal period: 96 minutes
   (2) Inclination: 30 degrees
   (3) Height of apogee: 577 km
   (4) Height of perigee: 545 km

7. General function
   Observation of X-ray radiations of celestial bodies with good time resolution over a wide spectrum range

8. Characteristics of satellite:

(1) Weight: 96 kg

(2) Physical configuration and dimensions:
   (a) Configuration: Regular octagonal prism
   (b) Height: 0.66 m
   (c) Diameter: 0.76 m

(3) Attitude control subsystem: Spin stabilization

9. Expected life: 2 years