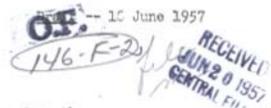
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Proposed News Release from the National Academy of Sciences

YOF 68

On learning of the announcement of detailed Soviet plans for
the launching of an artificial earth satellite as part of the scientific XeFIV(-E)
program of the International Geophysical Year, Dr. Detlev W. Bronk,

President of the National Academy of Sciences, which exercises supervision
over the scientific aspects of United States participation in the IGY,
made the following statement:

YOF 225

X OF 146. E

as part of the International Geophysical Year program are of great interest to scientists in the United States and throughout the world. We have known for some time that the Soviet Union intended to undertake such a program in commection with the International Geophysical Year. A formal announcement to that effect was made last September by Soviet representatives at a meeting of the international committee that guides the over-all planning for the IGY (Special Committee for the International Geophysical Year).

Earlier references to such a program were made in general terms by Soviet scientists in the summer of 1955 shortly after the formal announcement of the United States scientific earth satellite program was made on July 29, 1955 to the international IGY committee. We welcome the release of further details on the Soviet plans at this time.

"Doth the United States and the Soviet announcements followed the recommendation of the international IGY committee that each participating nation consider whether it could undertake such a program. The committee based its recommendation on its conclusion that measurements of great significance to science and of great potential benefit to humanity could be obtained with satellites.

each carrying no more than a few pounds of instruments. Furthermore, they will be limited in number and the effort to launch them will be expensive. Parallel programs in different nations can therefore multiply the amount that can be learned. That is why multiple satellite launchings for scientific purposes anywhere in the world would be important additions to the IGY efforts.

"Scientists in the United States look forward to further information about the launching of the Soviet satellite and to the opportunity
to help determine its orbit and to make observations as it passes within
range of our radio and optical tracking stations. Agreements were reached
at the international IGY committee meeting last September that all IGY
satellites will use a common frequency in the satellite transmitter that
is necessary for radio tracking. Participants in the observation program
for our own satellite include Argentina, Australia, British West Indies,
Chile, Ecuador, India, Iran, Japan, Netherlands Antilles, Peru, and the
Union of South Africa.

Data obtained in the many scientific programs of the IGY will be placed in world data centers for use by all the interested scientists of the world. Data from the satellites launched by the United States and by the Soviet Union will add significantly to the total body of information gathered there for the benefit of the whole world.