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Series: Subject Files – OS001 (Space Research and Development)

Folder Title: 600792

1

THE WHITE HOUSE
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND TRACKING WORKSHEET

DATE RECEIVED: 12/17/2003

CASE ID: 600792

05001

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RICHARD SHELBY

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE UNITED STATES SPACE PROGRAM AND THE NEED FOR A CLEARLY DEFINED NATIONAL VISION FOOR THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) AND SPACE EXPLORATION

ROUTE TO: AGENCY/OFFICE	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION CODE	ACTION DATE	DISPOSITION TYPE RESPONSE	DISPOSITION CODE	DISPOSITION COMPLETED
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	NICK CALIO	ORG	12/18/2003	DH	A	04/01/31
	ACTION COMMENTS:					
✓NASA	CJ	R	040204		C	3/26/04
	ACTION COMMENTS:					
	ACTION COMMENTS:					
	ACTION COMMENTS:					
	ACTION COMMENTS:					

DJ

DJ

COMMENTS:
Recent events have overtaken the substance of this letter. The President's new vision for NASA is what the signers of this letter were seeking. Senator Shelby's staff does not need a letter of response. Mark Kleinsorge (Office of Legislative Affairs) NASA HQ.

MEDIA: LETTER

USER CODE: 22
ADDITIONAL SIGNEES

ACTION CODES:	DISPOSITION		
A - APPROPRIATE ACTION B - RESEARCH AND REPORT BACK D - DRAFT RESPONSE I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECCESSARY R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY	**TYPE CORRESPONDENCE:**	**DISPOSITION CODES:**	**COMPLETION DATE:**
	TYPE RESPONSE = ENTER INITIALS OF SIGNER OR NRN = NO RESPONSE NEEDED	A - ANSWERED/ ACKNOWLEDGED C - CLOSED X - INTERIM REPLY	COMPLETED = DATE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OR CLOSE-OUT DATE (MM/DD/YY)

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT (ROOM 84, OEOB) EXT-62590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT

SCANNED BY ORM

600792

1a

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 14, 2003

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

We are concerned about the future of the United States Space Program and the need for a clearly defined national vision for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and space exploration. We urge you to elevate the priority of the space program and develop a bold and coherent national mission for NASA.

As we all know, NASA is currently faced with many funding pressures as it seeks to ensure a safe return to flight, to allow the continued construction and full utilization of the International Space Station, and pursue the future of human space flight and unmanned exploration of space. NASA must carefully scrutinize and evaluate these issues as the Agency's budget request for FY05 and beyond is developed.

Based on the criterion that federal resource allocation directly reflects the strength and importance of national priorities, NASA's space activities have not been a high priority in the U.S. since the Apollo Program. Since the early 1970s, NASA's budget has averaged right around one percent of federal spending or less. In the past ten years, NASA has experienced negative real growth with relatively flat budgets. In short, NASA has attempted to do too much with too little for too long. It is time to fix that funding shortfall.

We are prepared to support you in the pursuit of a realistic and achievable vision for space flight. We want to see NASA return to prominence and achieve great technological and scientific breakthroughs. Like past generations, the American people will support science and technology being pursued by NASA that is aimed at achieving worthy goals. NASA should not pursue technology for the sake of technology, but rather, technology driven by the national mission.

We were encouraged by the visit Vice President Cheney made to Members of the Congress recently to discuss these pressing issues. We believe now is the time for the Administration to act to ensure a viable future for the space program in the U.S.

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We expect NASA to come to the Congress next year with a realistic FY05 budget request reflecting major changes in the culture, policies, direction, and goals of NASA. As Members actively engaged in these issues, it is our hope that the Administration will pay close attention to these activities at NASA. We are committed to ensuring that America remains the preeminent space program in the world. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Richard Shelby

Bill Nelson

Kay Bailey Hutchison

John Breaux

Trent Lott

Jeff Sessions

George V. Voinovich

Chuck Hagel

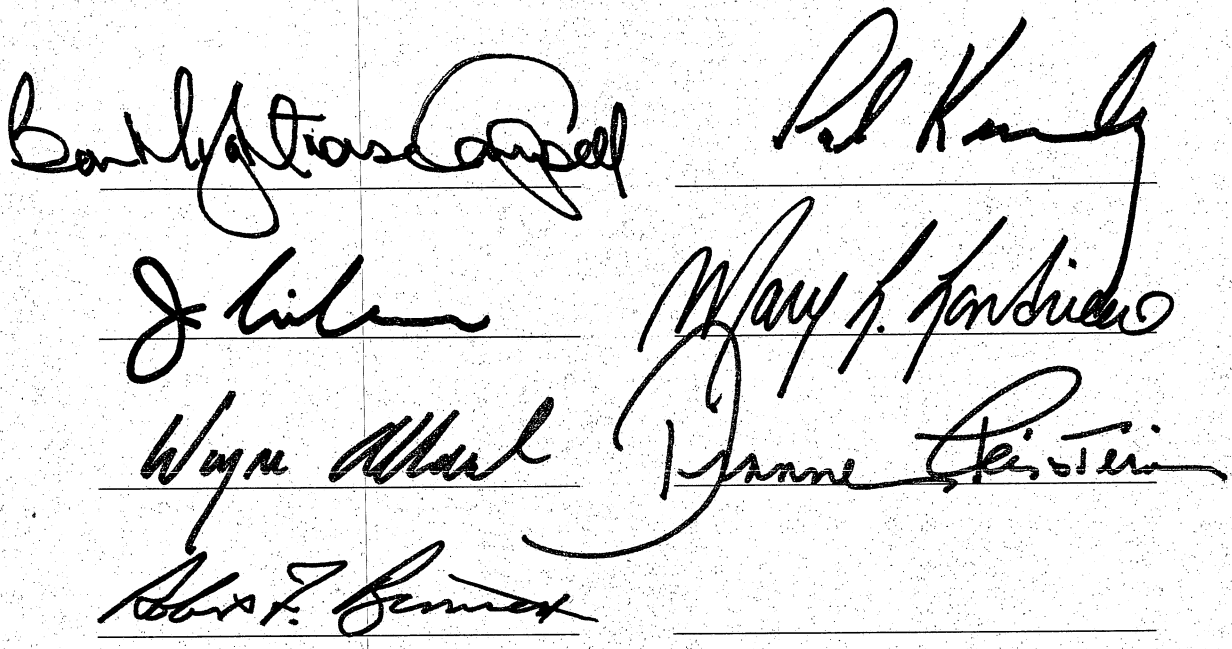
Gordon Smith

Tom Daschle

John Cornyn

Jim Johnson

Patty Murray



600792 1b

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Allard:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Wayne Allard
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

FEB 0 2 2004

1c

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Bennett:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Robert Bennett
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1d

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Breaux:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable John Breaux
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1e

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Burns:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Conrad Burns
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

January 31, 2004

Dear Mr. Leader:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Thomas Daschle
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1h

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator DeWine:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Mike DeWine
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1i

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Feinstein:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Hagel:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Chuck Hagel
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1k

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Hutchison:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1L

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Inhofe:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable James Inhofe
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1m

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Johnson:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Tim Johnson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1n

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Kennedy:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Edward Kennedy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Landrieu:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Mary Landrieu
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Lieberman:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Joseph Lieberman
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Lott:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Trent Lott
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1c

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Murray:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1s

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Nelson:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1t

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Shelby:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Richard Shelby
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

January 31, 2004

Dear Representative Smith:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Christopher Smith
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1v

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Voinovich:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable George Voinovich
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1w

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Sessions:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1x

January 31, 2004

Dear Senator Campbell:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your November 14, 2003 letter addressed to the President regarding the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,

David Hobbs

David Hobbs
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Ben Nighthorse Campbell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Bcc for Appropriate Action: NASA

1y

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL

February 04, 2004

TO: NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

ACTION REQUESTED: DIRECT REPLY W/COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID:	600792
MEDIA:	LETTER
DOCUMENT DATE:	NOVEMBER 14, 2003
TO:	PRESIDENT BUSH
FROM:	RICHARD SHELBY UNITED STATES SENATE WASHINGTON, DC 20510
SUBJECT:	EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE UNITED STATES SPACE PROGRAM AND THE NEED FOR A CLEARLY DEFINED NATIONAL VISION FOOR THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) AND SPACE EXPLORATION

COMMENTS:
Recent events have overtaken the substance of this letter. The President's new vision for NASA answers the issues raised in the Members' letter. Senator Shelby initiated the letter and his staff does not need a response to it now.

Mark Klemsoge
Office of Legislative Affairs.
NASA HQ

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-2590.

RETURN **ORIGINAL** CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT, ROOM 84, OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500