

PA 8/20/67  
8-20-67

The Catholic University of America  
Washington, D. C. 20017  
August 24, 1967

TE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW  
AND RELATIONS  
BOX 243

Dear Dr. Von Braun:

I have recently begun research on the events leading to the May, 1961 decision by President Kennedy to set as a national goal the landing of an American on the moon before 1970. I intend to publish a book on this decision; I also hope to use this research as the basis for my doctoral dissertation in political science at New York University.

I have been using the Historical Archives of NASA, among other sources, in my research. Dr. Eugene Emme, the NASA Historian, has informed me that the archives contain a copy of the memorandum dated April 29, 1961 which you prepared for then Vice President Johnson and which replied to questions regarding the acceleration of the space program originally posed by President Kennedy in an April 20, 1961 memorandum to the Vice President. Dr. Emme has told me that he cannot allow access to your memorandum without your permission; I would thus like to request permission to quote all or part of this document, which is of course of prime historical significance in tracing the development of the lunar landing decision.

I hope that you are able to give this request your favorable consideration; I believe that publication of basic documents such as this is important to creating an accurate historical record of a very significant national decision.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Logsdon  
Assistant Professor of  
International Relations

