

Department of State

*News*  
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**TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 STATE 293969

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R 311942Z DEC 68  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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1. FYI PRESIDENT RECEIVED FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER QUOTE ON BEHALF OF THE DANISH GOVERNMENT AND THE DANISH PEOPLE I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU MR. PRESIDENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE EPOCH MAKING TRIUMPHS OF APOLLO 8 STOP THE EXPLOITS OF THE COURAGEOUS AND DEDICATED CREW OF THE SPACESHIP HAVE FILLED US ALL WITH THE HIGHEST ADMIRATION. HILMAR BAUNSGAARD PRIME MINISTER OF DENMARK UNQUOTE. END FYI

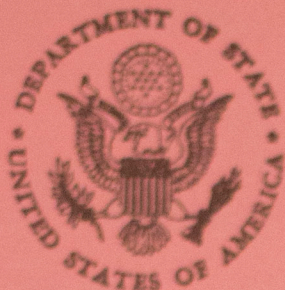
2. PLEASE TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER QUOTE DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: ON HEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE I THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE COMPLETION OF THE APOLLO VIII MISSION.

THE ACHIEVEMENT OF APOLLO VIII AND ITS GALLANT CREW IS AN HISTORIC STEP IN MAN'S SEARCH FOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE UNIVERSE IN WHICH HE LIVES, AND HERALDS A BRIGHT NEW ERA OF EXPLORATION AND SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION. COL. BORMAN, CAPT. LOVELL, AND LT. COL. ANDERS JOIN ME IN THIS EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR YOUR KIND WORDS. SINCERELY, LYNDON B. JOHNSON UNQUOTE

3. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN TO RELEASE BUT HAS NO OBJECTION

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*19*





*Department of State*

**TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 STATE 293969

SHOULD PRIME MINISTER WISH TO DO SO. IF PRIME MINISTER PLANS TO RELEASE, WOULD APPRECIATE TWENTY-FOUR HOUR NOTICE SO WHITE HOUSE MAY ARRANGE FOR JOINT RELEASE IF DESIRED. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT. RUSK

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