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Following message has been received by President Johnson from Mayor Willy Brandt on occasion of Gemini 5 flight:

QTE Dear Mr. President:

I was very happy to hear that the two astronauts had landed safely. I admire the courage and the endurance of the two men and also think of their families, who will be happy to embrace them again safe and sound. The United States has by this experiment taken a big step forward and has at least overtaken if not surpassed its great competitor. For this, I wish to express my most heartfelt congratulations.

Willy Brandt UNQTE.

Mission should deliver following reply to Mayor's communication soonest:

QTE Dear Mayor Brandt:

I would like to express to you on behalf of the American people my sincere appreciation for your message of congratulations on the success of the Gemini 5 flight.

We hope that the fruits of this project and succeeding manned space flights will be of benefit to all people, and that through the peaceful exploration.....

EUR:GER:Thorton:df. 9/9/65.

EUR - Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.

GER - Mr. Puhon

S/S - Mr. Eagleburger White House -

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exploration of space all men can be brought closer together.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson UNQTE.

The White House does not plan to <sup>(release)</sup> ~~return~~ the text of the President's reply,  
but has no objection to its release should the Mayor wish to do so.

End.