National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001

November 9, 2010

The Honorable Frank Wolf
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wolf:

Thank you for your letter, signed jointly with Congressmen John Culberson, Robert Aderholt, and Dana Rohrabacher, regarding my recent trip to China.

I fully appreciate the concerns raised in your letter, and I would like to relay that NASA was able to meet its objectives for the visit, which included becoming acquainted with relevant Chinese space officials and institutions, gaining a better understanding of Chinese human spaceflight programs and plans, and reaching a common understanding of the importance of transparency, reciprocity, and mutual benefit as the underlying principles of any future interaction between our two nations in the area of human spaceflight. Regarding the request in your letter for assurances that there were no discussions of cooperation on human spaceflight activities, you can be confident that my visit was introductory in nature and did not include consideration of any specific proposals for human spaceflight cooperation or new cooperation in any other areas of NASA's activities.

Although my visit did not include consideration of any specific proposals for future cooperation, I believe that my delegation's visit to China increased mutual understanding on the issues of human spaceflight and space exploration, which can form the basis for further dialogue and cooperation in a manner that is consistent with the national interests of both of our countries.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns on this matter, and I stand ready to brief you on the details of my trip, at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

CONGRATULATIONS, AGAIN ON YOUR ELECTION VICTORY. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU DURING THE 112TH CONGRESS.

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 15, 2010

The Honorable Charles Bolden
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

As you know, we have serious concerns about the nature and goals of China's space program and strongly oppose any cooperation between NASA and China. In light of the short notice and scant information provided before your departure to China, we respectfully request a full briefing with you upon your return.

Specifically, we would like to be briefed on the following aspects of your trip:

- The names and titles of China National Space Administration and China Manned Space Engineering Office representatives you met with;
- Date, time, location, and duration of each meeting;
- Specific topics that were discussed at each meeting;
- Specific accords or follow-up meetings agreed to; and
- All facilities you visited during the trip.

Most importantly, we would like personal assurance that at no time during your trip there were any discussions of cooperation on human space flight activities. In addition, we want a guarantee from you that Members of Congress will be fully briefed before Chinese representatives visit the U.S. in November and before you or any other NASA representative travels to China in the future. China's intentions for its space program are questionable at best, and the American public deserves full disclosure about any discussions between that country and ours.

We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Frank Wolf
Member of Congress

John Culberson
Member of Congress

Robert Aderholt
Member of Congress

Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress

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