

M-N

November 21, 1966

Miss Mary Irene Phillips  
20643 Maple Lane  
Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

Dear Miss Phillips:

Mr. Julian Scheer has asked this office to answer your recent letter. Your desire to be an astrovet is most interesting. However, at this time there is no requirement for such a specialty in the space program. We are enclosing the latest list of prerequisites for astronaut candidates in the hope that they will give you some guidance as to your selection of subjects to take up in school.

Of course, by the time you are ready to make formal application for the astronaut program, the prerequisites may have changed substantially. It is conceivable that in 10 years or so there may be need of an astronaut veterinarian. At any rate your veterinarian studies should qualify you as having a college degree in one of the life sciences.

It is, of course, too early in the space program to consider sending children along on space flights.

We don't have any specific recommendations concerning what high school or college you should go to. You should, however, take science courses and consult with your advisor as to what college would be best for your veterinarian studies.

Mr. Scheer's office is in Washington and you would be able to meet him there if you visit the city. A visit to see the President would have to be arranged through the White House staff.

If you visit Cape Kennedy or Houston, you would be able to tour the space centers. The Kennedy Space Center tours are conducted every day except when launch schedules prohibit this. The Manned Spacecraft Center tours at Houston are held Sundays.

Sincerely,

William J. O'Donnell  
Assistant Public Affairs Officer  
for Manned Space Flight  
Office of Public Affairs

cc:  
F/Scheer  
FP/Lloyd