MEMORANDUM

TO: SCIENTIFIC STAFF
FROM: INTERPLANETARY COMMUNICATIONS
SUBJECT: “A DAY IN THE LIFE …” ARTICLES
DATE: APRIL 3, 2056

The Interplanetary Geographic Society is planning an issue on your explorations of the satellites of the outer planets. They wish to include articles about each world that not only bring their readers up to date about our knowledge of each world, but help them imagine the reality of living and working on these distant worlds. Since you are living this reality, the editors have requested that you scientists write these articles.

Please write a description of your world and your daily life as an exploration scientist. The readership is mostly college-educated, somewhat scientifically literate, but non-technical people who are curious about the universe. Hence your articles should give them a solid dose of current scientific knowledge and your scientific interest and work on the world. This should be complete with some education about technical terms that you use and reference citations that will allow them to seek further details in their own libraries.

The readers are also very interested in your lives as human beings on these distant worlds. In the course of your description of your world, describe what it is like for you to live there. Describe your typical day and some of the details of your living quarters, life support supplies and clothing, personal and household activities. Comment on your working day and your surroundings as well as your "commute" to your lab and work site. Describe the landscape, the problems of travel and exploration. Help the reader build a mental image of what it is like to be outside on your world. Describe the sky, the ground under your feet and the patterns of light and dark ("day" and "night"). In short, help the Earth-bound reader travel with you for a day. Include some of your personal reactions and adjustments to life so far from Earth. Tell them how Earth looks from where you now stand.

Please make your article five to eight pages long and have it in the communications office (220 Bewkes Hall) by April 17.

Keep in mind that our support is from public funds so efforts such as this are quite important. Please take time to do this carefully and thoroughly. Our collection of references have been placed in the reserve section of the science library for your convenience. Please make good use of our resources. Our communications staff members at 220 Bewkes Hall and at the library reference desks are happy to help you with this work.

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1They do read Interplanetary Geographic, after all. Most also tend to read Scientific Earthling, watch the Discovery, Learning, Science, and History channels, and support public broadcasting.