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# NASA HISTORY: NEWS AND NOTES

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Vol. 10, No. 2

Fall 1993

## **INTERNATIONAL SPACE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD**

We are in the final stages of planning for the international space history symposium that will take place on Thursday, 14 October 1993, just before the beginning of the 1993 Society for the History of Technology meeting in Washington D.C.

The symposium will take place in the Main Auditorium at the NASA Headquarters located on E Street, S.W., between 3d and 4th streets in Washington, two blocks south of the Federal Center, S.W. metro stop. Attendees should enter the building through the West Lobby (4th Street) doors.

The auditorium is immediately accessible from the lobby. Most of the building--except for the auditorium, public stores, restaurants and the NASA library--is secure. If attendees also want to visit the NASA History Office and are not NASA employees, they will need to sign in and wear a visitor's badge. If anyone anticipates doing this, please send your name and social security number to the History Office prior to the meeting to speed entry. NASA employees should bring their agency IDs.

The program committee has assembled what it hopes will be an informative and interesting set of three sessions. We have asked many people to participate on the program, both those within the NASA History Program and outside scholars. The intent of this program is two-fold. The first is to bring together scholars from throughout the world interested in the history of space flight, many of whom have never met before. Second, the symposium presents a forum to consider historiographical issues and to exchange ideas.

The intent of the symposium is not so much to present finished scholarly papers as to facilitate round-table discussions of the subjects on the agenda. Each

session participant will make a short comment about the topic and then join in to discuss the subject with the audience. The give and take of the participants and the audience should create a meaningful dialogue from which all can benefit.

The first session, "Institutions and Individuals Active in Space History: An Overview," will begin at 9:00 a.m. with Joseph N. Tatarewicz, University of Maryland at Baltimore County, moderating. In this session representatives from institutions interested in space history will describe the resources, staff, programs, interests, and current projects; while individuals will introduce their work and interests. Through this session and the more detailed materials to be included in the registration packets attendees should gain a broad perspective on space history and hopefully become aware of other individuals with similar interests or projects. This session will also introduce some of the historiographical issues to be dealt with later in the day, by way of discussing the various niches that these institutions fill and the competing demands and expectations they experience.

The Second session, "The Historiography of Space History to 1993," will convene at 1:00 p.m. and will feature presentations by John Krige, ESA History Project, European University Institute; R. Cargill Hall, Center for Air Force History, Washington, D.C.; Michael J. Neufeld, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution; and John M. Logsdon, The George Washington University. It will be moderated by Virginia P. Dawson, The Winthrop Group, Inc.

The final session, "Current Trends and Future Needs," will be chaired by Arturo Russo of the ESA History Project and will include comments by Tom D. Crouch, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution; Sylvia K. Kraemer, Special Studies Division, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; William Sims Bainbridge, National Science

Foundation; and Robert J. Brugger, The Johns Hopkins University Press.

It is not too late to register for this symposium, although the room's seating capacity is nearly filled. To receive more information please send an expression of interest to Roger D. Launius, NASA History Office NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546, 202-358-0384.

### **SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY MEETING**

The Society for the History of Technology is holding its annual meeting at the Key Bridge Marriott in Washington, D.C., on 14-17 October 1993. There are several history sessions featured on the program that will be of interest to aerospace historians. It includes a session called "Project Apollo and Society: Prophecy, Reality, and Reaction," with papers on "The Possibility of Space Flight: From Fantasy to Prophecy," by Howard E. McCurdy, The American University; "JFK, the Decision to Go to the Moon, and the Columbus Factor" by Lawrence Suid, Marine Corps Command and Staff College; and "Post-Apollo Space Program as a Political and Technological Challenge for Europe" by Lorenza Sebesta, European Space Agency History Project.

Another session is entitled "German and American Rocket Engineers: Missile and Space Program Management at Peenemunde and Huntsville." It will feature papers by Michael J. Neufeld, National Air and Space Museum, on "The German Rocket Engineers and the Peenemunde Legacy in Huntsville"; Andrew J. Dunar, University of Alabama in Huntsville, on "Hard Times: The Post-Apollo Transition at Marshall Space Flight Center"; and Stephen Waring, University of Alabama in Huntsville, on "From Rocketry to Space Science: Engineers, Scientists, and New Missions at NASA's Marshall Center." Several other sessions deal with aspects of technology that are useful to aerospace history specialists. For further information about the meeting, and registration materials, contact Bruce Seely, Department of Social Sciences, 1400 Townsend Drive, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI 49931-1295, telephone 906-487-2459.

### **GODDARD HISTORICAL ESSAY COMPETITION ANNOUNCED**

The National Space Club is soliciting entries for the 1993 Robert H. Goddard Historical Essay Award.

Essays may explore any significant aspects of the historical development of rocketry and astronautics, and will be judged on their originality and scholarship. They cannot be more than 5,000 words long and must be submitted by 3 December 1993. The prize is a plaque and \$1,000 award. For further information contact the Goddard Historical Essay Contest, c/o National Space Club, 655 15th Street, N.W., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20005.

### **SYMPOSIUM HELD ON PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP, CONGRESS, AND THE SPACE PROGRAM**

On March 26-27, 1993 the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at the American University and the NASA History Office co-sponsored a symposium on "Presidential Leadership, Congress, and the U.S. Space Program," at The American University in Washington, DC. It was an interesting meeting. The sessions were stimulating, and the meeting itself attracted considerable attention both within and without NASA. About 130 people registered for the symposium, straining the conference room's capacity. There was a sizable contingent of NASA personnel, but the majority of attendees represented the Canadian Space Agency, European Space Agency, aerospace industry, university, and Department of Defense. Major papers were delivered by such noted scholars as John M. Logsdon, George Washington University; Fred I. Greenstein and David Callahan, Princeton University; Michael R. Beschloss, Washington, D.C.; Robert Dallek, University of California, Los Angeles; Robert H. Ferrell, Indiana University; Joan Hoff, Indiana University; and Lyn Ragsdale, University of Arizona. Comments were delivered by such authorities as Willis Shapley, former NASA Associate Deputy Administrator; Philip E. Culbertson, former NASA General Manager; Rip Bulkeley, author of *The Sputniks Crisis and Early United States Space Policy*; Glen P. Wilson, former Senate Staffer; Ken Hechler, former Congressman; John Pike, Director of Space Policy, Federation of American Scientists; and Mark J. Albrecht, former Director of the National Aeronautics and Space Council.

Many of the papers presented reinterpretations of the history of the civil space program. The symposium represented, furthermore, a unique opportunity to discuss issues of concern in the delineation of public policy affecting the space program. The overall quality

of the presentations, as well as the wide divergence of opinions expressed at the meeting, fostered unusually stimulating sessions. The dialogue that took place was an especially important result of this meeting, as individuals with widely differing and sometimes conflicting perspectives wrestled with the historical evolution of the U.S. space program. Certainly, everyone in attendance learned a great deal from the formal and informal comments made at the sessions. We are working toward publication of the major presentations in the next year.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The History Office has available the *Aeronautics and Space Report of the President, FY 1992 Activities* for any who might be interested. Organized by subject, this report presents an encapsulation of air and space activities within the government between 1 October 1991 and 30 September 1992.

The History Office has also released the 1993 version of *NASA Pocket Statistics*, a handy reference on the agency's organization and activities. A few extra copies of both reports are available and can be obtained by calling the office.

### NEW NASA HISTORICAL BOOKS TO APPEAR SOON

Near the end of 1993, the NASA History Office will release three new works about the U.S. civil space program. In October *The Birth of NASA: The Diary of T. Keith Glennan* will be published as NASA SP-4105. Edited by J.D. Hunley, with an introduction by Roger D. Launius, this book makes widely available for the first time the diary of Eisenhower's NASA administrator. Glennan's reasoned approach to heading NASA and his reflective nature offer an insightful glimpse into the U.S. response to Sputnik and the building of NASA as an institution.

Henry C. Dethloff's *"Suddenly, Tomorrow Came . . .": A History of the Johnson Space Center, 1957-1990* is in the final stages of publication and will appear as NASA SP-4307 in time for the 25th anniversary of the Apollo 8 circumlunar flight in December 1968.

*NASA Historical Data Book, Vol. IV: NASA Resources, 1969-1978* (NASA SP-4012), will appear in February 1994. Compiled by Ihor Y. Gawdiak of the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress, this book will continue the series of three volumes already published, serving as a reference tool of largely

statistical information that documents the resources allocated to NASA in the 1969-1978 era.

All three of these books will be available in the NASA History Series, and once published may be purchased from the Government Printing Office.

### 1993-1994 FELLOW IN AEROSPACE HISTORY NAMED

Chris Hables Gray is the eighth annual recipient of the Fellowship in Aerospace History. The fellowship, sponsored by the NASA History Office and administered by the American Historical Association in cooperation with the Economic History Association, the History of Science Society, and the Society for the History of Technology, is awarded in an annual competition by a joint committee of representatives from each organization. Dr. Alfred Hurley, University of North Texas, is chair of this committee.

Dr. Gray is a fellow at Oregon State University's Center for the Humanities. He received his doctorate in the History of Consciousness from the University of California at Santa Cruz in 1991. His book, *Postmodern War: Computers as Weapons and Metaphors*, is forthcoming. As a companion to this work, he is also researching a book-length study of the influence of military funding priorities on U.S. computer science, especially artificial intelligence research.

During the fellowship term, Dr. Gray will continue research on this larger topic with a special emphasis on "Cyborgs in Space: Space Research and the Spread of Cybernetic Organisms." He suggests that the study of cybernetics is "perhaps the most useful concept we have to help us explore exactly how the extraordinary powers of today's technoscience are transforming, some say transcending, the human." Dr. Gray believed that research into the history of cybernetics will help illustrate the importance of space exploration to the conceptions of the human being and how, as a result, humans are changed physically and culturally. He would welcome any suggestions about this research project, and can be reached in care of the NASA History Office, Code ICH, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546.

### CALLS FOR PAPERS OF INTEREST TO AEROSPACE HISTORIANS

To mark its 50th anniversary the Institut de Recherche Scientifique en Cooperation pour le Develop-

ment, in association with UNESCO, will hold a conference in Paris on 19-22 September 1994 on the theme, "20th Century Science: Beyond the Metropolis." Paper proposals are due by 1 October 1993 to Mme Laurence PORGES, Colloque du Cinquantenaire, ORSTOM, 213, rue La Fayette, 75010 Paris, telephone: 33-1-48-03-79-02, fax: 33-1-40-36-24-55.

The Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society at the Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, DE, has issued a call for papers for a conference on "His and Hers: Gender, Technology, and Markets," to be held on 8 April 1994. Prospective participants should submit by 17 October 1993 a 1-2 page abstract and a curriculum vitae to: Dr. Julie Johnson, Associate Director, CHBTS, Hagley Museum and Library, P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington, DE 19807. Participants will receive lodging, travel reimbursement, and an honorarium.

Trevelyan College of the University of Durham, England, invites papers for a conference on "Constructing the Social Origins, Achievements and Problems in Social Constructionism," on 7-8 April 1994. Further details are available from Joan Trowbridge, History of the Human Sciences, University of Durham, Elvet Riverside II, New Elvet, Durham City, England DH1 3JT, Tele: (091) 374 2305.

#### UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The International Symposium on Technology and Society is holding a meeting in Washington, D.C., on 22-23 October 1993. Those interested in attending should contact Dr. William J. Kelly, IEEE, MITRE Corporation.

The Conference of Historic Aviation Writers will meet in Dayton, OH, on 29-31 October 1993. For further information contact Robin Higham, Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma (Box 1009), Manhattan, KS 66502-4228.

The History of Science Society will meet 11-14 November 1993 in Santa Fe, NM. Information about the meeting can be obtained from Paul Lawrence Farber, Department of History, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-5104.

The American Historical Association will hold its annual meeting in San Francisco, CA, on 6-9 January 1994. Details about the meeting can be obtained from the American Historical Association, 400 A. St., S.E., Washington, DC, 20003.

#### NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST TO AEROSPACE HISTORIANS

A few new books on aerospace history have come to our attention. We thought they might be of interest to you.

Grace Corrigan, *A Journal for Christa: Christa McAuliffe, Teacher in Space* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1993).

Frank Drake and Dava Sobel, *Is Anyone Out There? The Scientific Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence* (New York: Delacorte Press, 1993).

Phillip K. Tompkins, *Organizational Communication Imperatives: Lessons of the Space Program* (Los Angeles: Roxbury Press, 1993).

Don E. Wilhelms, *To a Rocky Moon: A Geologist's History of Lunar Exploration* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1993).