
NASA HISTORY: NEWS AND NOTES

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NASA CO-SPONSORING SYMPOSIUM ON PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP, CONGRESS, AND THE SPACE PROGRAM

The Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at the American University and the NASA History Division are co-sponsoring a symposium on "Presidential Leadership, Congress, and the U.S. Space Program," at The American University in Washington, DC, on 25-26 March 1993.

The purpose of this symposium is to explore the degree to which modern presidents have been able to set priorities and execute policy with respect to the space program. It will involve an analysis of presidential leadership and an investigation of the complex interrelationships of the President with the many agencies of the Executive Branch, the Congress and its staff, special groups outside of the government, and the larger American public.

The primary papers of this symposium will be given by senior scholars of the American presidency who have not before focused specifically on the space program's development. Among the people presenting major papers at the symposium will be Fred I. Greenstein, Princeton University; Robert Dallek, UCLA; Joan Hoff, Indiana University; Michael R. Beschloss, Washington, D.C.; and Robert H. Ferrell, Indiana University. There will be separate panels on the administrations of Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, and the 1970s, as well as on Congressional relations and the international cooperation and competition involved in the U.S. space program. The major sessions topics include:

- (1) Eisenhower and the Beginnings of the U.S. Space Program.
- (2) Kennedy and the Decision to Go to the Moon.
- (3) Johnson, Project Apollo, and the Politics of Space Program Planning.

(4) The Presidency, Congress, and the Deceleration of the U.S. Space Program in the 1970s.

(5) Presidential and Congressional Leadership and International Aspects of the Space Program.

In addition, the symposium will involve both thoughtful scholars who study space program policy as their primary area of interest and former senior government officials. Mark your calendars to attend this symposium. Registration is free but seating will be limited. For additional information contact Roger D. Launius, NASA History Division, Code ADA-2, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546, 202-358-0384.

NEW NASA HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR NAMED



William H. Becker, Professor of History and Chair of his department at the George Washington University, Washington, DC, assumed responsibilities as the new chair of the NASA History Advisory Committee in August 1992. An historian

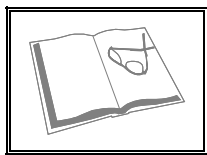
specializing in the study of American business, Becker is the author of many works, including *The Making of Corporate America: A History of Business and Management in the Twentieth Century* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988) and *The Dynamics of Business-Government Relations: Industry and Exports, 1893-1921* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1982). He is also general editor of the projected fifty-volume *Encyclopedia of American Business History and Biography* (New York: Bruccoli-Clark-Layman and Facts on File, 1987-present). He has received a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, a Johns Hopkins University Fellowship, and an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Grant. Becker is a past member of the NASA History

Advisory Committee. We welcome him as chair of this critical advisory body.

William Becker succeeds outgoing committee chair, Arthur H. Norberg, Director of the Charles Babbage Institute and Professor of History at the University of Minnesota. Norberg's scholarly interests revolve around the management of information technology and he has recently completed a detailed book on the history of the research and development activities of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). Norberg has served as chair of the NASA History Advisory Committee since 1986, and under his leadership it took a strong position as an advocate for history within both NASA and the scholarly community. He also took a leading role in developing a comprehensive strategic plan for the future of the NASA historical function. We are profoundly thankful for his service as chair of the committee and wish him well in all future endeavors.

The other members of the NASA History Advisory Committee, along with the dates that their terms on the committee expire, include the following: Daniel P. Byrnes, Los Angeles, California (1993); Tom D. Crouch, National Air and Space Museum, Washington, DC (1993); Karl Hufbauer, Chair, Department of History, University of California, Irvine (1994); Richard H. Kohn, Department of History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (1993); and Elizabeth A. Muenger, Department of History, United States Air Force Academy (1993).

NASA ENGINEERS AND THE AGE OF APOLLO



Since the last newsletter one new book has appeared in the NASA History Series. *NASA Engineers and the Age of Apollo*, written by the former NASA Chief Historian, Sylvia D. Fries, reconstructs the socio-cultural roots of the space agency and analyzes the manner in which different personalities, perspectives, backgrounds, and priorities came together to inform the direction of NASA during the 1960s. Fries makes extensive use of oral history, providing both a significant appraisal of NASA during its "golden age" and important documentary material for future historical explorations. Melvin Kranzberg, of the Georgia Institute of Technology, observed that this book "provides unique insights into the minds and feelings of a generation of dedicated and talented

engineers who provided the groundwork (in more ways than one) for what should be considered one of mankind's most memorable...technological achievements." The book is NASA Special Publication (SP)-4104. It can be ordered in paperback for \$9.50 from the Government Printing Office, using stock number 033-000-01111-3.

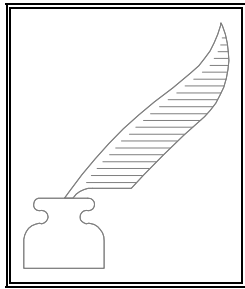
NASA HISTORIES IN THE PIPELINE

Howard E. McCurdy's study, *Inside NASA: The Changing Culture of the American Space Program*, published in the NEW SERIES IN NASA HISTORY by Johns Hopkins University Press will be released late in 1992. Using extensive interviews and detailed management analyses, *Inside NASA* seeks to identify and trace the evolution of the organizational culture of NASA from its founding and expansion during the Apollo era through the changes in the 1970s and 1980s. It can be ordered from The Johns Hopkins University Press, 701 West 40th Street, Suite 275, Baltimore, MD, 21211, telephone 800-537-5487.

Toward a History of the Space Shuttle: An Annotated Bibliography will appear late in 1992 as a NASA Historical Report. Compiled by Roger D. Launius and Aaron K. Gillette, this lengthy bibliography presents publication information and brief descriptions of a large number of books, reports, studies, and articles written by both private and government researchers on the historical aspects of the development and operations of the Space Shuttle. This reference tool will be available at no cost from the NASA History Division.

Henry C. Dethloff's institutional history, *"Suddenly, Tomorrow Came . . .": The First Steps in Human Space Flight, Johnson Space Center, 1957-1990*, is nearing the printing stage and will appear as NASA SP-4307 in mid-1993. It is a comprehensive history of the center that managed Project Apollo and other human spaceflight initiatives undertaken by NASA from the 1960s until the present. Created in Houston, Texas, in 1961 as the Manned Spacecraft Center, the facility was renamed in 1973 for former president Lyndon B. Johnson, a Texas native and proponent of the Apollo lunar landing program. As the home base for NASA astronauts and the site of mission control for human spaceflight, it has experienced a dramatic history over the last thirty years.

NEW NASA HISTORY PROJECT BEGINS



Dr. Andrew J. Butrica has recently been selected to write *American Planetary Radar Astronomy, 1946-1991: A History*. This book will analyze the development of this discipline since its origins near the end of World War II and chart the role of it in NASA over the years. It will be partly policy history,

describing the political and budgetary aspects of the program; the interplay of various governmental and private organizations; and the debates among scientists, engineers, and managers. It will, in addition, focus on the technological aspects of this specialized scientific research.

Butrica's approach to this study asks a challenging set of questions, seeking to use planetary radar astronomy as a vehicle for understanding larger issues relative to the planning and execution of "big science" by the Federal Government. His application to planetary radar astronomy of the theory of the "social construction of technology" first developed by Thomas P. Hughes and the "systems" paradigm posited by Thomas S. Kuhn promises a sophisticated analysis of this subject.

Butrica is well qualified to carry out this research project. He completed a Ph.D. in the history of technology and science at Iowa State University in 1984, writing his dissertation on "From *inspecteur* to *ingenieur*: Telegraphy and the Genesis of Electrical Engineering in France, 1845-1881." Since that time he has been a research fellow at the Center for Research in the History of Science and Technology in Paris, a National Science Foundation research fellow, and a recipient of a history fellowship from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He was an editorial assistant on *The Papers of Thomas Edison: Vol. I, The Making of an Inventor, 1847-1873* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989). He also wrote a contract history, *Out of Thin Air: A History of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., 1940-1990* (New York: Praeger, 1990). Butrica would like to hear from anyone who might have information on the history of planetary radar astronomy. He can be reached at 368D Hamilton St., Somerset, NJ 08873-2189.

AHA AEROSPACE HISTORY FELLOWSHIP AWARDED

Suzanne Kolm is the seventh annual recipient of the Fellowship in Aerospace History of the American Historical Association (AHA). The fellowship, sponsored by the NASA History Division and administered by the AHA 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. Joseph P. Harahan, chief historian for the Department of Defense's On-site Inspection Agency, is chair of this committee.

Kolm is presently a Ph.D. candidate in history at Brown University. She previously earned a B.A. with an interdisciplinary concentration from the Fairhaven College, Western Washington University, and a Master's degree from Brown. She has served as an interpreter at the Slater Mill Historic Site and as a writer and producer for a Smithsonian Institution multimedia project, "Toward Gender Equity in Exhibitions." Kolm has also been a fellow at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum and at the Center for the Advancement of College Teaching at Brown University. She was the editor of *Teaching at Brown: A Guide for Teaching Assistants and Fellows* published in 1990.

During her fellowship term, Kolm will continue research on her dissertation, entitled "The Cultural History of Flight Attendants in the United States, 1930-1978," a study that centers on questions about culture, gender, and flight. It also explores the sometimes difficult tensions between the attendants and the other members of flight crews, the industry, and the larger American society. This research effort is the first of what Kolm plans as a series of related projects leading toward her career ambition to become a specialist in the issue of gender, culture, and flight.

The application deadline for the 1993-94 Aerospace History fellowship is 15 February 1993. The fellowship is offered for either pre- or post-doctoral research in any area of NASA-related history. For information, write to the Administrative Assistant, American Historical Association, 400 A Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003.

NASA HISTORY SOLICITATIONS STATUS

During this past summer the History Division solicited proposals for two projects. The first involves

an analysis of the history of planetary astronomy, emphasizing the ground- and space-based equipment designed to obtain scientific data about the planets and their satellites in the universe. Since the closure of the research announcement a review panel has been evaluating the proposals and NASA Procurement officials are beginning to negotiate for the contract history.

The second solicitation deals with the popular culture associated with space flight in America. "Space and the American Imagination," as the project is currently titled, broadly considers the promise of space travel in popular culture and how expectation and reality have interacted. The large number of proposals coming in response to this solicitation has slowed the evaluation process, but by 30 November 1992 NASA should be able to determine who the awardee for the contract.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH IN NASA HISTORY

During 1993 we anticipate requesting proposals for three historical projects; all, of course, subject to securing adequate funding. The first is for a study of the evolution of NASA/industry relations, emphasizing the competition and cooperation between NASA and its contractors in large-scale engineering activities. The intent of this solicitation is to analyze the broad characteristics of this aspect of NASA's history. It should lead to the publication of a full-length book. Solicitation for this study is dependent on funding.

Second, through the cooperation of the Johnson Space Center we plan to solicit proposals for a "Technological History of the Space Shuttle." It will analyze the design, research, development, and test and evaluation of the system from its earliest years through the first space mission in 1981.

A third anticipated solicitation is for a continuation of the *Astronautics and Aeronautics* reference series, a chronology covering the period between 1986 and 1990. For further information about these historical projects and copies of the NASA Research Announcements please write to Roger D. Launius, Chief Historian, Code ADA-2, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC, 20546.

AERONAUTICS AND SPACE REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT RELEASED

On 16 September 1992, the White House transmitted the *Aeronautics and Space Report of the President, FY 1991 Activities* to the Congress and it became available to the public. Organized by Federal agency, this report presents an encapsulation of air and space activities within the government between 1 October 1990 and 30 September 1991, and this year contains two new features that should make it more useful--a glossary and an index. Also included is a questionnaire to ascertain what features of the report recipients find most and least useful. This will enable us to tailor future reports to users' needs and eliminate portions that no one uses, thereby cutting expenses. Anyone who does use the report should be sure to send the tear-out form to Code ADA-2 so continuing needs can be more fully met in future reports.

A few extra copies of the report are available in the NASA History Division for potential users not on the current distribution list. If you would like a copy or wish to be added to the list for future reports, please contact Dr. J.D. Hunley at 202-358-0385. Please also let him know if you are receiving more copies from distribution than you require.

NASA HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS PAMPHLET DISTRIBUTED

A pamphlet, *NASA Historical Publications, 1992-1993*, has just been released containing a list and order information for all books currently available and forthcoming in 1993 in the NASA History Series and the New Series in NASA History published by The Johns Hopkins University Press. Copies are available from the NASA History Division, Code ADA-2, Washington, DC 20546.

NASA HISTORY DIVISION RELOCATION

During the weekend of 30-31 May 1992 the NASA History Division moved from its old location, where it had been for the last 25+ years, to new facilities at Two Independence Square, the new NASA Headquarters building. This is between 3d and 4th on "E" Street, S.W.; the building takes up the entire block. The headquarters overlooks I-395, the Southwest Freeway in Washington, DC. If you ride the Metro, the closest stop is on the Orange and Blue lines, Federal Center Southwest. After exiting the stop turn right and walk on 3d Street two blocks due south. We are now situated on the Concourse level, room C 072, of the headquarters.

The mailing address remains the same--NASA History Division, Code ADA-2, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546, but our telephone numbers have changed. The office number is 202-358-0384. When you have a chance, please visit our new facilities.

NASA HISTORICAL REFERENCE COLLECTION ACCESSIONS

The NASA History Division has incorporated into its Historical Reference Collection non-record copies of the files and papers of a NASA Administrator and two NASA Deputy Administrators. Several boxes of documentation on James C. Fletcher, Administrator between 1986 and 1989, have been incorporated into the collection. Eight boxes of files from Dale D. Myers, NASA Deputy Administrator between 1986 and 1989, are now available, as are 16 boxes of material dating from the tenure of his successor, James R. Thompson, Jr., 1989-1991. In addition, the Reference Collection has available more than 25 boxes of material relative to the Space Station *Freedom* program. These are currently being processed by Lee D. Saegesser, NASA Archivist.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF MEETINGS

"Science Beyond the Atmosphere: The History of Space Research in Europe" is the title of an international symposium to be held on 5-7 November 1992 in Palermo, Italy. For information and registration materials contact Prof. Arturo Russo, Istituto di Fisica, Via Archirafi 36, I-90123 Palermo, ITALY; telephone, 39-91 6166590; FAX, (39 91) 6165413; E-mail, ARTURO @ CERO2.CERE.PA.CNR.IT.

The History Committee of the American Astronautical Society will meet during the national conference at San Francisco, CA. Anyone wishing more information either about the committee meeting or the larger conference, which has as its theme "Space Opportunities in a Changing World," should contact R. Cargill Hall, 3686 King Street, #145, Alexandria, VA 22302.

The History of Science Society is holding its annual meeting in conjunction with the American Historical Association on 27-30 December 1992 in Washington, DC. Further information can be obtained from the Executive Secretary of the History of Science Society, 35 Dean Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

CALLS FOR PAPERS OF INTEREST TO SPACE HISTORIANS

The Society for the History of Technology has issued a call for papers for its 14-17 October 1993 annual meeting to be held in Washington, DC. One of the areas the program committee is emphasizing is the social ramifications of aviation and space/satellite technologies. This represents an excellent opportunity for historians working in this field to present their findings in a broader forum. Three copies of the paper summary and the presenter's curriculum vita should be sent to Philip Scranton, Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society, Hagley Museum and Library, P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington, DE 19807. The deadline for receipt of proposals is 15 February 1993.

The History of Science Society will meet 11-14 November 1993 in Santa Fe, NM. Paper proposals are due by 1 April 1993 to Paul Lawrence Farber, Department of History, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-5104; or Margaret Osler, Department of History, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4, CANADA.

The New England American Studies Association is planning a conference with the theme, "The Culture of Technology: Science, Media, and the Arts," to be held 30 April-2 May 1993. The deadline for paper proposals is 25 January 1993. Interested persons should contact Lois Rudnick, Director of the American Studies Program, University of Massachusetts/Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125.

PLANNING FOR SPACE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM UNDERWAY

Some interest has recently been expressed, especially from European Space Agency historians, in holding a space history symposium just after the completion of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) annual meeting in Washington, DC, in October 1993. Is there sufficient interest among scholars studying the history of spaceflight, broadly considered, to warrant such a symposium? The proposed meeting would allow a more focused discussion of the space history themes and topics that it is hoped would have already been raised at the SHOT meeting. It would commence after the SHOT meeting on the afternoon of 17 October 1993 and conclude on the afternoon of 18 October. The proposed theme is "Transcending National Boundaries in the History of Spaceflight," and the focus would revolve around the

historiographical and international aspects of the subject. Before a definite decision can be made about the feasibility of this symposium, a rough idea of interest and participation is needed. Please contact as soon as possible Roger D. Launius, NASA History Division, Code ADA-2, Washington, DC 20546, 202-358-0384, either by mail or telephone to register an opinion about the desirability of this meeting. Please also indicate if you might be willing to participate formally in some capacity in the symposium.

HISTORY SESSIONS HELD AT WORLD SPACE CONGRESS

Between 28 August and 4 September 1992 the International Astronautical Federation met in Washington, DC, where two large sessions took place relative to astronautical history. The first session had papers on the following topics:

R. Cargill Hall, "Eisenhower, Open Skies, and Freedom of Space," IAA-92-0184.

Frank H. Winter and Michael Neufeld, "Heylandt's Rocket Cars and the V-2: An Unknown Chapter in the History of Rocket Technology," IAA-92-0185.

Jacques Villain, "France and the Peenemunde Legacy," IAA-92-0186.

Boris V. Rauschenbach, "The 'Burya' Intercontinental Cruise Missile," IAA-92-0187.

H. Mitsuma, "Historical Aspects of Spacecraft Technology and its Diffusion in Society in Japan," IAA-92-0188.

Robert D. Allen, "Early Lunar Basing Concepts of the U.S. Air Force," IAA-92-0189.

T.L. Stroup and Robert D. Allen, "Early Lunar Base Concepts: The Lockheed Experience," IAA-92-0190.

Shirley Thomas, "Theodore von Karman's Caltech Students," IAA-92-0191.

The second session included these papers:

W.C. Walter, "Project Dyna-Soar: The Roots of Shuttle, a Memoir," IAA-92-0193.

P. Jung, "Agate and its Forebears: Early French 'Precious Stones' Rockets," IAA-92-0194.

C. Rothmund, "The Early Days of LOX/LH2 Engines at SEP and MBB," IAA-92-0195.

D.A. Heald, "Liquid Hydrogen Technology was Pioneered on Centaur 30 Years Ago," IAA-92-0196.

M. Mishin, "R7 to Energia," IAA-92-0197.

K. Dougherty, "Going Up from Down Under: Australia's Space History and Heritage," IAA-92-0198.

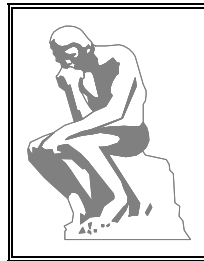
Roger D. Launius, "A Waning of Technocratic Faith: NASA and the Politics of the Space Shuttle Decision, 1967-1973," IAA-92-0199.

S. Fred Singer, "Origins of the Mouse Proposal," IAA-92-0200.

Anyone wishing copies of any of these papers can purchase them from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W., Washington, DC 20024-2518.

GODDARD HISTORICAL ESSAY COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

The National Space Club is soliciting entries for the



1992 Robert H. Goddard Historical Essay Award. Essays may explore any significant aspects of 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 1992. 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.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM FELLOWSHIPS

The National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution is offering several fellowships supporting research in aviation and space history. Twelve-month

fellowships are offered for pre- and post-doctoral research activities. The application deadline is 15 November 1992. Contact Cheryl Bauer, Room 3341, MRC 313, 6th and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20560.

NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST TO SPACE HISTORIANS

Several new books have appeared on space history that were not sponsored by the NASA History Division. We thought these might be interest to you.

William Sims Bainbridge, *Goals in Space: American Values and the Future of Technology* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1991).

David E. DeVorkin, *Science with a Vengeance: The Military Origins of Upper Atmosphere Research in the V-2 Era* (New York: Springer Verlag, 1992).

Michael H. Gorn, *The Universal Man: Theodore von Karman's Life in Aeronautics* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1992).

Stephen E. Doyle, ed., *History of Liquid Rocket Engine Development in the United States, 1955-1990* (San Diego, CA: Univelt, 1992).

Arthur Percy, *X-Plus: History of NACA/NASA Aircraft from 1915 to 1990* (Shrewsbury, England: Airline Publishing, Ltd., 1992).

Milton O. Thompson, *At the Edge of Space: The X-15 Flight Program* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1992).