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Langley Management Changes Hands

Hearth Announces Departure as Director; Petersen Will Succeed

Dr. Donald P. Hearth has announced his departure from the Langley Research Center. He will leave NASA February 1, 1985. Hearth became Langley's fourth director in September 1975.

Deputy Director Richard H. Petersen will succeed Hearth as Langley Director February 2, 1985.

"This is not easy for me to say, but I've decided to leave NASA," Hearth told a stunned group of Langley supervisors at a hastily called meeting November 21 in the Activities Center.

"I have been at Langley for nine years, and this seems like a good time to move on. I knew I couldn't break Henry Reid's record," he joked, referring to Langley's first Director, who headed the center for more than 34 years.

Hearth has been asked to assist the NASA Administrator during the next two months, and Petersen will act for Hearth during December and January.

Hearth has not yet announced his future plans, except to say that they probably will involve working in a university "outside Virginia."

Donald P. Hearth

Administrator James M. Beggs said of the departure , "I regret Don Hearth's decision to leave NASA, but I am confident that Pete Petersen will provide the same caliber of leadership as his predecessors have at Langley. Upon his departure, I have asked Dr. Hearth to assist me for 60 days during this critical period in the establishment of the Space Station program, expansion of private sector involvement in civil space activities and the development of new markets for the Space Transportation System."

Hearth has led three special activities for NASA Administrators: head of a one-year study of NASA's "Outlook for Space," 1974-75; chairman of NASA's Equal Opportunity Council, 1974-75; and head of a study on the effectiveness of NASA Project Management, 1980.

Hearth was Deputy Director at the Goddard Space Flight Center from 1970 until he came to Langley. He was Director of Planetary Programs at NASA Headquarters from 1967 to 1970, responsible for managing NASA's planetary exploration programs and initiating programs to explore Mercury, Venus, Mars and Jupiter.

He was Manager of Advanced Programs for Lunar and Planetary Programs at Headquarters from 1962 to 1967. He worked for the Marquardt Corporation from 1957 to 1962 as manager of hypersonic propulsion research projects and manager of the Hypersonic Research Projects Department.

He began his career in July 1951 as an aeronautical engineer at the NACA Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory, Cleveland, Ohio, He did analytical and experimental research on air inductions and exhaust systems for supersonic turbojet and ramjet applications.

Hearth is a native of Fall River, Mass., and earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Northeastern University in 1951. He has done post-graduate work at the University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Southern California, and he is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute.

Richard H. Petersen

He was awarded the Rank of Meritorious Executive by President Carter in 1980, and the Rank of Distinguished Executive by President Reagan in 1981.

He has been awarded two honorary doctoral degrees: Doctor of Science from George Washington University in 1978 and Doctor of Engineering from Northeastern University in 1982. He received the Outstanding Alumni Award in the field of science and technology from Northeastern University in October of this year.

Hearth's NASA awards include: the agency's highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal, 1975; the Exceptional Service Medal, 1969, the Executive Performance Award, 1975; and the Equal Opportunity Medal, 1981.

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NASA Holds Large Space Antenna Systems Conference

The Langley Research Center will host the second NASA conference on Large Space Antenna Systems Technology December 4 - 6. The conference is being sponsored by the NASA Office of Aeronautics and Space Technology and Langley.

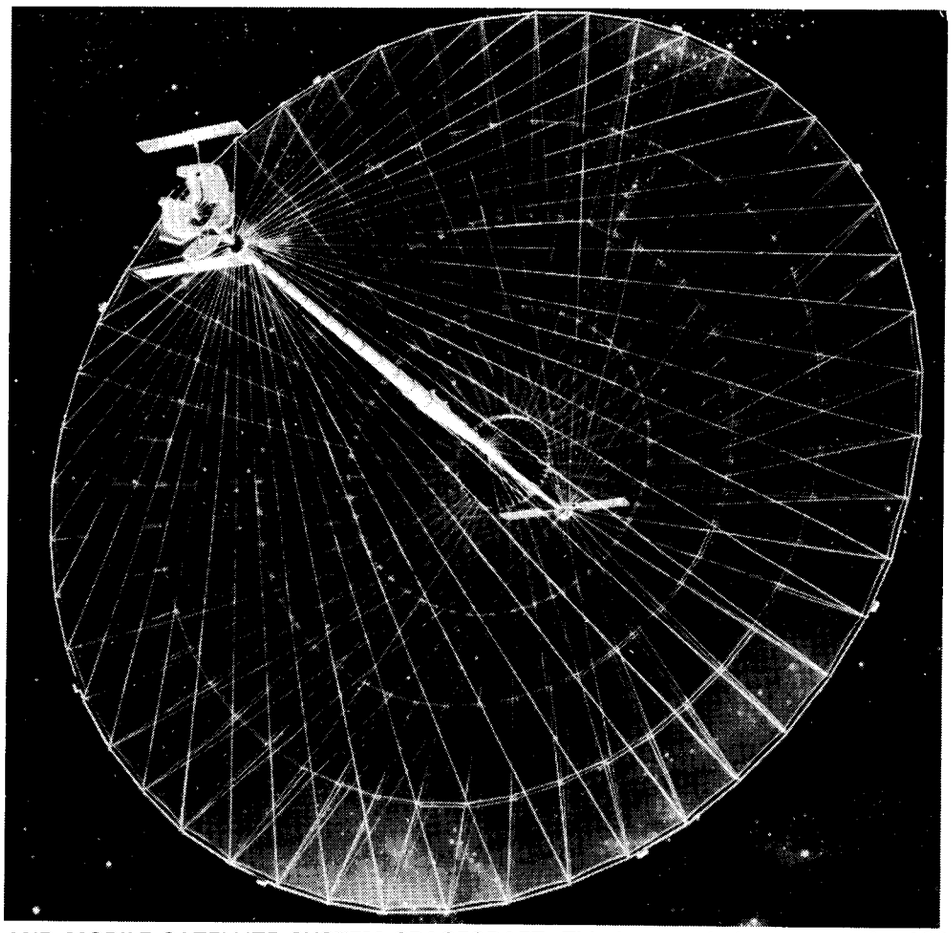
Several hundred representatives from government, industry and universities are expected for the three-day meeting. Over 50 technical papers (including 21 from Langley) will be presented in sessions on Mission Applications for Large Space Antenna Systems, Large Space Antenna Structural Systems, Materials and Structures Technology, Structural Dynamics and Control Technology, Electromagnetics Technology, Large Space Antenna Systems and the Space Station, and Flight Test and Evaluation.

Langley Director Dr. Donald P. Hearth said that this year the conference brings several new and exciting topics to the agenda. Several authors will address potential new applications of large space antenna systems. Several papers will provide the first glimpse of data obtained on the recent Solar Array Flight Experiment, the first test of a large flexible structure in space.

Maturing of the flight experiments program will be evident in papers on the erectable structures flight experiments: Assembly Concept for Construction of Erectable Space Structures (ACCESS) and Experimental Assembly of Structures in EVA (EASE), the Space Technology Experiment Program (STEP), and the Control of Flexible Structures (COFS) experiment series. An entire session will examine early thoughts on the potential impact of the Space Station on the technology for large space antenna systems.

Dr. Leonard A. Harris, OAST Director for Space, and Paul F. Holloway, Langley Director for Space, are general chairmen. Dr. Earle K. Huckins III, who heads the Langley Large Space Antenna Systems Technology Office, and William J. Boyer, who heads Langley's Office of Space Flight Experiment Definition and Integration, are conference technical program chairmen. Carol A. Lightner is the administrative chairperson.

Additional information concerning the conference may be obtained by calling Lightner, ext. 3661.



LAND MOBILE SATELLITE SYSTEM SPACECRAFT. This is an artist's concept of a 120-meter quad aperture Hoop-Column reflector spacecraft. It is one of many spacecraft that will be discussed at the NASA conference on Large Space Antenna Systems Technology at Langley. It would be capable of relaying radio messages to land mobile units such as ambulances, police cars and taxis from its position in geosynchronous orbit. The spacecraft is sized for a single Shuttle launch and a 10-year life beginning in the mid 1990s.

Thank You for Considering Others

At the beginning of the Combined Federal Campaign, I set a tough goal of $225,000 for Langley. We far surpassed that goal, reaching $230,672.

The 1984-85 campaign has ended but your contributions will go on to help those less fortunate for a long time.

Thank you for considering the needs of others when you made your pledge. A special thank you goes to the retirees who contributed $16,377 this year. They, too, continue to generously support the campaign.

Donald P. Hearth
Director

Hearth Departs NASA

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He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and is on the Institute's Committee of International Activities; a Fellow of the American Astronautical Society; and a member of the Board of Governors of the National Space Club.

Governor Charles Robb appointed him to the Board of Directors for Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) in May 1984. Hearth was previously on the Governor's Task Force on Science and Technology, and chaired the committee that developed the CIT concept.

He is a member of the Industrial Advisory Committees of both the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Virginia; a Director-at-Large for the National Council and a member of the Corporation of Northeastern University, and an Adjunct Professor at George Washington University. He is a member of the Board of Directors of public television station WHRO-TV and the Board of Directors of the United Virginia Bank.