I. Personnel Changes

In the summer of 1973, Gene Emme was able to start on a long-deferred project: a history of NASA's first years. To allow him to give full time to writing, Monte D. Wright, formerly of the Department of History, USAF Academy, was hired as Director of the NASA Historical Office. Emme remains NASA Historian, with mail code ADA-2. Emme's research assistant is Alex Roland, a new Duke Ph.D.

After the reorganization of NASA Headquarters and the retirement of Dr. Homer Newell, the Historical Office reports to the Associate Administrator for Center Operations, Dr. George M. Low (Acting). Dr. Low is the Deputy Administrator and is therefore temporarily wearing two hats.

There have also been changes in the composition of the NASA Historical Advisory Committee. The new chairman is Walter Rundell of Maryland. Other members are Eugene Ferguson, Delaware; I. B. Holley, Duke; Thomas Hughes, Pennsylvania; Melvin Kranzberg, Georgia Tech; and Robert Multhauf, the Smithsonian Institution.

II. The following is a status report on the projects in the NASA historical program as of April 1, 1974:

BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 1973:

Patricia Davis and Carmen Brock-Smith, Astronautics and Aeronautics, 1970 (SP-4015)

Patricia Davis and Carmen Brock-Smith, Astronautics and Aeronautics, 1971 (SP-4016)
Mary Morse and Jean Bays, *The Apollo Spacecraft Chronology, Vol. 2*, (SP-4009)

Roland Newkirk, *Skylab: Preliminary Chronology* (HHN-130)

**BOOKS IN OR ON THEIR WAY TO PRESS:**

Patricia Davis and Carmen Brock-Smith, *Astronautics and Aeronautics, 1972*


Helen Wells, *Origins of NASA Names*

Courtney Brooks and Ivan Ertel, *The Apollo Spacecraft Chronology, Vol. 3*


**BOOKS IN COMMENT CYCLE:**

Barton Hacker and James Grimwood, *On the Shoulders of Titans: A History of Project Gemini*

**BOOKS IN RESEARCH AND WRITING:**

David Balderston, *History of NASA Technology Utilization*  
Completion Date: 1974

Roger Bilstein and Mitchell Sharpe, *History of the Saturn Vehicle*  
Completion Date: 1974

Walter Bonney, *History of NACA*  
Completion Date: 1976

Completion Date: 1976

Patricia Davis and Nancy Brun, *Astronautics and Aeronautics, 1974*  
Completion Date: 1975

Completion Date: 1976

Ivan Ertel, *The Apollo Spacecraft Chronology, Vol. 4*  
Completion Date: 1975
Ivan Ertel, Courtney Brooks, and Roland Newkirk, *The Skylab Chronology* 1975

Charles Ezell, *History of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project* 1976


Frank Jarrett, *History of Kennedy Space Center* 1975

Clayton Koppes, *A History of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory* 1977

Thomas Ray, *History of Apollo Management* 1975

John Sloop, *History of Liquid Hydrogen as a Rocket Propellant* 1975

Loyd Swenson, Courtney Brooks, and James Grimwood, *Apollo's Chariots: A History of the Apollo Spacecraft Program* 1975

**BOOKS IN REDEFINITION:**

History of Johnson Space Center

History of NASA Life Sciences

History of NASA Tracking Networks

History of Wallops Station

History of Lunar Orbiter

**BOOKS IN DEFINITION:**

History of Lunar Exploration

History of Skylab

Impact of Space Exploration on Man's Ideas

Development History of Centaur
For some time publications distribution has been a heavy if occasional workload for our small staff. In an effort to reduce this workload and to avoid possible duplicate mailings we have folded our mailing list in with NASA's larger computer operated mailing list for all scientific and technical publications. There are bound to be some names that fall through the cracks in this process. If any of you who have been on our distribution list in the past and would like to continue receiving our publications suddenly find yourselves in limbo this year, please let us know. We'll scold the computer and it will coldly tell us it was all our fumble-fingered fault at the input stage. But then, we trust, it will relent and restore you to your accustomed state of grace.

III. NASA Summer History Seminar, 1973

Our 11th NASA Summer History Seminar was conducted in 1973. There were two returnees from previous summers: Jerry Van Voorhis (Johns Hopkins) and Professor Larry Zigler from Eastern Baptist College, Pennsylvania. Van Voorhis continued his work on "Technology, Policy, and the Aircraft Industry." Zigler continued his "History of the Mississippi Test Facility and Michoud". Other members and their research subject: Richard Le Baron (George Washington University), the origins of the Apollo-Soyuz project; Nickolaus Leggett (Johns Hopkins University), a study of selected NASA projects and how they were originated and moved through the organization to the status of approved projects; Steven Selss (City College, New York), earth resources program and urban planning; and Daniel Masten (Vanderbilt University), the evolution of the space rescue and return treaty in the U.N. Professor Melvin Kranzberg (Georgia Tech), long a member of the NASA Historical Advisory Committee, spent a day with the seminar.

Some 30 applications for this summer's seminar had been received by the 15 March deadline. Selections will be made soon.

IV. Archives:

Over 100 persons researched in the Headquarters Historical Archives during the past year, and several hundred historical queries were answered. Some of the more outstanding research topics were: 1) a history of the
communications satellite by Dr. Del Smith; 2) Skylab chronology by Courtney Brooks and Roland Newkirk; 3) history of NACA by Walt Bonney; 4) History of liquid hydrogen propulsion by John Sloop; 5) lifting body research by Richard Hallion; 6) Soviet space research by Jim Oberg. Oral history interviews continue to be accessioned by the Archives, most of these deriving from ongoing research for NASA histories.

The process of assimilation and screening of archival material continues. 53 boxes of record material pertaining to Apollo and the Life Sciences were retired to the Federal Records Center, Suitland Md., for permanent retention. A considerable number of cabinets of material inherited from retired NASA staff members was screened for historically important documentation, and the rest destroyed. This isn't considered record material according to the definition in the Records Management Retirement Schedules—i.e., chronological reading files, newspaper clippings, transcripts, photographs, etc. This screening is continuous.

The catalog of the Papers of Dr. Hugh L. Dryden to be published by the Milton Eisenhower Library of Johns Hopkins University is in press and will be available this spring. These papers, collected, collated, and cataloged by Dr. Richard K. Smith under a NASA grant, will be open to qualified researchers following the ceremonial opening on 15 May 1974.

A concerted effort is being made to declassify as much of the Archives as is possible under the revised declassification procedures outlined in Executive Order 11652 of 8 March 1972.

The NASA Historical Advisory Committee recommended that we consider publishing a selected group of historically significant documents in the form of a source data book that would be of particular use in courses such as historiography, public policy history of technology, etc. At the end of the year a call went out to all hands for their nominations for inclusion in this volume. Work toward publication of this book will continue during 1974.
V. Professional Notes:

The National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution is rapidly taking shape on the Mall. Almost all the structural steel has been emplaced, and the stone facing on three of the modules of the museum has been completed. Thus far they are hoping to meet the officially set opening date of 4 July 1976. Planning for exhibits in the new halls is continuing.


The 7th International History of Astronautics Symposium met in Baku, U.S.S.R. 7-13 October 1973. Organizing Chairmen were Dr. Eugene Emme of NASA and V. N. Sokolsky of the U.S.S.R. The First Session was composed of the following: Thurs. 11 October 1973.

From Hermes to the International Geophysical Year, by R. W. Porter, U.S.

From Back Fire to Explorer I, by K. Debus, Director, Kennedy Space Center, U.S.

From the History of Rocketry in Austria, by E. Dolezal, Austria

R. H. Goddard: Accomplishments of the Roswell Years (1930-1941), by F. C. Durant, U.S.

The Development of Space Transportation Within A Historical Frame of Reference, by H. H. Koelle, West Berlin

Professional Notes (continued):


Second Session: Friday, Oct. 12, 1973

High Energy Propulsion at NACA Lewis Engine Research Laboratory, by J. Sloop, U.S.

The Analysis of Multi-Stage Rockets, described in the works of the XVI-XVII Centuries, by M. Subotowicz, Poland


Early Photography from Rockets, by F. Winter, U.S.


It is anticipated that these papers will be published.

Dr. Fritz Zwick died of a heart attack 10 February 1974. He was one of the pioneers in early propulsion work at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California. He founded the Aerojet-General Corporation of which he became research director. Recently he had been studying exploding stars.

On 27 April Dr. Emme participated in the annual history symposium held at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland. On 21 November he discussed the early history of NASA at the Lunch Box Symposium at the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.
1973 saw several highly favorable reviews of the book *Most Probably Position* (The University Press of Kansas, 1972, 280 pp), by the Director of the NASA Historical Office, Dr. Monte D. Wright.

Dr. Gerard P. Kuiper died 24 December 1973. He was a pioneer in solar astronomy. His research led to the application of infrared techniques to planetary research, the discovery of two planetary satellites, and numerous other astronomical "firsts."

For some years the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) has functioned as the official international sanctioner of aeronautical and manned space flight records. At the 1972 meeting of national representatives a proposal by the U.S.S.R. to include unmanned space records was approved. The first step of course was to catch up on previous accomplishments in unmanned space flights from 1957 to the present. Each nation with an active space program was asked to submit for evaluation a list of nominations for space "firsts" in its program. The U.S. member organization in FAI, the National Aeronautic Association, asked its representatives—Sigurd A. Sjoberg and Carl W. Hess of Johnson Space Center—to draft the U.S. list and coordinate it with participating agencies. The NASA Historical Office assisted with the verification of the nominations—over 50 in number. The revised list has been submitted to the FAI. One of the interesting sidebars to this experience was to note how much prestige and significance European nations attach to this kind of record reckoning.

A somewhat analogous experience in data collection was the request from V. N. Sokolsky of the U.S.S.R., on behalf of the International Academy of Astronautics, for a report on space-related historical research performed in the U.S. in 1972 and 1973. This was implementation of a resolution for such an international compilation passed at the Baku meeting in October 1973. Cargill Hall, our intrepid JPL historian and for several years the U.S. compiler for the IAA's annual chronology of international space events, undertook this additional assignment with the assistance of our office and others. In the process of compilation he and we became painfully aware that (a) historical research in the U.S. is the epitome of democratic decentralization and (b) unlike some of the long-established fields of history, the infant space-related history field had no mechanism which consolidated reporting of on-going space-related
historical research. Since we can expect that the IAA request will be repeated annually, we have a self-protective reason for wanting such a mechanism to exist. But it is safe to assume that, as in other fields of history, there are many persons to whom such information would be useful. We will be soliciting advice as to the best vehicle for such information. As an interim measure, and with no illusions as to its adequacy we offer the services of this modest Newsletter. A form is appended; we hope all recipients who have knowledge of space-related research projects aside from those in the NASA program will take a moment to fill in the form and return it to us. In turn we will consolidate these and publish the list.

On 24 September 1973 at a meeting in Boston the following were named to head the AIAA History Committee:

Chairman  Ralph B. Oakley
            Space Division Historian
            Rockwell International
            Downey, California 90241

Vice-Chairman  David W. H. Godfrey
                Ryerson Polytechnical Institute
                Ontario, Canada

The Robert H. Goddard Historical Essay Award for 1974 is now open for competitive entries. Any U.S. citizen may submit an essay on any significant aspect of the historical development of rocketry and astronautics in the U.S. They will be judged on their originality and scholarship. Entries, not to exceed 5000 words, should be submitted by 1 November 1974 to the Goddard Historical Essay Contest, c/o National Space Club, 1629 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. The winner, to be announced at the Awards Ceremony early in 1975, will receive the Goddard Historical Essay Trophy, Certificate, and a $500 prize. Competition rules may be obtained from the National Space Club.

VI. Readings of Note:


11.


Fletcher, James C. "Are Skylab and the Space Shuttle Worth the Investment?" Government Executive, Vol. 6, No. 1 (January 1974), pp. 38-42. NASA's Administrator predicts effects of Skylab results on America's future in space and foresees many uses of the shuttle with multiple and reusable payloads, concluding shuttle benefits should be much greater than Apollo's over a longer time.

"ERTS-1: Toward Global Monitoring," Astronautics and Aeronautics, Vol. 11, No. 9 (September 1973), pp. 32-35. Following a year of experience with Earth Resources Technology Satellite 1, the NASA Administrator discusses new investigations for the future, giving attention to pollution monitoring, geological studies, heat-balance surveys, and storm damage analysis.

Francis, Devon. Mr. Piper and His Cubs. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1973, 256 pp., illus., $7.95. The story of the lightplane industry before World War II.


combining a focus on ideas and people with an understanding of the technology.


James, Peter N. Soviet Conquest from Space. New Rochelle, N.Y.: Arlington House, 1974, 256 pp. A former space analyst with Pratt & Whitney Division, United Aircraft Corp., makes predictions or Soviet space achievements, including a space shuttle, and criticizes U.S. space and defense planners for leaving the new frontier "to the Russians."


ories and support of exploratory research and instrument development, with prospects of European cooperation.


Pogue, Forrest C. George C. Marshall: Organizer of Victory, 1943-1945. New York: Viking Press, 1973, 683 pp., $15.00. The third, generally heralded as the best, volume of Pogue's biography of General Marshall. Pogue says, "I have been forced to conclude that biography is not the same as history and that one may sometimes better grasp the nature of one's subject by subordinating the details of historical narrative to the impact of the individual on a given influence or on a precise event."


Documentary of the 21 Pugwash Conferences since 1957.


Finally, we could not leave off our bibliography without a note from the department of intellectual curiosities: the sudden spate of more and less respectable books reinterpreting the history of civilization in terms of the visitations to Earth by outer-space astronauts in prehistoric times or by a series of catastrophic cosmic near misses. Whatever the degree of reserve with which these sweeping claims have been received in professional circles—anthropological, historical, theological, and others—there is no doubt of the wide public interest which has propelled several of the books into movie and TV versions and made a number of the authors hot items
on the lecture circuit. In the certain knowledge that this list will be obsolescent by the time you next glance at a drugstore newstand, herewith is a representation sampling of titles:


Kolosimo, Peter. Not of This World (Bantam, 1971) 248 pp, $1.25.

Landsburg, Alan & Sally. In Search of Ancient Mysteries (Bantam, 1974) 197 pp, $1.50.

Tomas, Andrew. We Are Not the First (Bantam, 1971) 176 pp, $1.25.

Velikovsky, Immanuel, Earth in Upheaval (Dell, 1972) [first printed in 1950] 290 pp, $1.95.


NASA Historical Office  
NASA Headquarters (ACH)  
Washington, D.C. 20546

Gentlemen:

As requested in your recent Newsletter, I submit the following list of projects in space-related historical research:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of researcher(s)</th>
<th>Affiliation/ Location</th>
<th>Topic/ Title</th>
<th>Purpose (Dissertation book, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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(Date)

(Signature)