

NASA HISTORY NEWSLETTER

March 1, 1966

(EPH)

Number 5

THE NASA Administrator, James E. Webb, has designated the membership of the Historical Advisory Committee for the year 1966 as follows: Melvin Kranzberg (Case Institute of Technology, and Secretary of the Society for the History of Technology), Chairman; Lloyd V. Berkner (Former Chairman of the N.A.S. Space Science Board, now Director of the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest); James L. Cate (University of Chicago); A. Hunter Dupree (Univ. of California, Berkeley); Wood Gray (George Washington Univ.); Laurence Kavanau (North American Aviation); Marvin W. McFarland (Science and Technology, Library of Congress); Paul A. Van Riper (Cornell University); and Alan T. Waterman (Former Director of the National Science Foundation). Professor Wood Gray, also a member of the A.H.A. Committee on History in the Federal Government, served as Chairman of the Committee for the past two years.

Planning proceeds for a meeting in May.

MR. Webb also prepared a Foreword for early publication of Robert Rosholt's Administrative History of NASA, 1958-63, which will be published as SP-4101. The Administrator's remarks are a contribution to history in their own right and will make this the first documented history published in our historical series. It should be in print in early summer.

THIS NEW OCEAN: A History of Project Mercury (SP-4201) by Loyd Swenson, Charles Alexander, and James Grimwood is also going to press and hopefully will be out in September of this year. Our first full-fledged program history in print, the volume will contain a Foreword by the Chairman of the NASA Historical Advisory Committee and will be amply illustrated.

ASTRONAUTICS and Aeronautics, 1965 (SP-4006) is also going to press for summer issuance.

NASA Comsat Development by G. Raynor Thompson, now back with the Strategic Communication Command, is going through its final comment stages. NASA is indebted to the Army and Dr. Thompson for this productive six-month contribution.

PLANNING for the Summer Seminar on "Social Science, History, and Space" awaits definite assignment of positions. Eleven well-qualified graduate students have made applications.

GODDARD Historical Prize Essay for 1965 was on "Danish Rocketry in the 19th Century" by Airman 2/C John Winter assigned to SAC in Spain. The essay will be published in The Aerospace Historian (July 1966). The 1964 Goddard Historical Prize Essay by J. Tascher of Case on the Cleveland Rocket Society appeared in Technology and Culture (Winter 1966). Rules for the annual contest sponsored by the National Space Club remain the same for 1967 for all interested authors.

AIAA Committee on the History of Aeronautics and Astronautics met in NYC in January. It recommended to AIAA the establishment of the Hugh L. Dryden Historical Monograph Prize of \$1500. Other developments include definition of a bibliography and chronology project.

THE Center for History and Philosophy of Physics of the American Institute of Physics has available two excellent brochures upon request:

- . "Notebooks, Correspondence, Manuscripts: Sources for the Fuller Documentation of the History of Physics"
- . "Scientific Instruments and Apparatus: Sources for the Fuller Documentation of the History of Physics."

We made distribution of this several years ago. They provide excellent guidance for aerospace historians. Copies can be procured from AIP, 335 East 45th Street, NYC.

RECENT Reviews of NASA works include:

- . Astronautics and Aeronautics, 1963: Technology and Culture (Fall 1965), pp. 669-11; Astronautics and Aeronautics (Nov. 1965), p.18; and Isis (Fall 1965), p. 397.
- . History of Rocket Technology: B.I.S. Journal (November 1965), Technology and Culture (Fall 1965), pp. 668-70; and Astronautics and Aeronautics (November 1965), p.18.

MEN OF SPACE, with Foreword of Volume 7 by the NASA Historian, contains biographies of J.V. Charyk, R.F. Freitag, H. Friedman, H. Goett, V.I. Grissom, D.L. Putt, and E.G. Welsh. Shirley Thomas' next volume will be on international figures.

MSFC Space Orientation Center, managed by David Akens, MSFC Historian, received a feature story in the front page New York Times Travel Section on October 25, 1965.

RECENT Bibliography for Historians:

- . Raymond Bisplinghoff, "Hugh L. Dryden," Applied Mechanics Review (January 1966), pp. 1-5.
- . Walter T. Bonney, "Hugh L. Dryden, 1898-1965" Air Force/Space Digest (January 1966), p.74.
- . R.E.G. Davies, A History of the World's Airlines. London: Oxford Univ., 1964.
A thorough coverage making useful reference on commercial application of aeronautics.
- . James H. Doolittle, "Hugh Latimer Dryden--A Tribute," Astronautics & Aeronautics (March 1966), pp. 46-49.
- . Bruno Kisch, Scales and Weights: A Historical Outline. New Haven: Yale Univ., 1965. Reviewed in Physics Today (February 1966), pp. 686.
- . John F. Loosbrock, "Randy Lovelace, 1907-1965" Air Force/Space Digest (January 1966), p. 75.
- . H.W. Pittenger, "Ernst Mach: Biographical Notes," Science, Vol. 150 (November 26, 1965), pp. 1120-22.
- . L.J. Silver, Profiles in Success. New York: Fountainhead, 1965.
Contains popular biographies of Jerrie Cobb, Wm. K. Douglas, Eugene B. Konecci, George H. Ludwig (GSFC), and Nancy Roman (Hq.).
- . Donald L. Woods, A History of Tactical Communications Techniques Orlando: Martin-Marietta, 1965.
A general treatment spanning the centuries.