1968 was a most busy year for NASA historians. It was one at times prodded by concerns of the decline of monies and public support for the agency, and by the internal responsive thrust to define and to project a viable program for the decade of the seventies. While the priority Apollo program moved toward and achieved its first manned flights, 1968 was the year that witnessed the first flight by man beyond the environs of the Earth as well as an election selecting a fourth "space age" President to take office on January 20, 1969. Lyndon B. Johnson has had an official association with space affairs continuously since Sputnik in October 1957, and President-Elect Nixon experienced the impact of Sputnik as Vice President.

Historical affairs in NASA attained a new perspective on October 1, 1968, with the completion of ten years of institutional life. Efforts were focused upon well-defined projects in varying stages of initiation, research, interviews, writing, editing, and distribution. Yet, as will be reviewed, NASA's most recent history erected some added priority duties. As the NASA Historical Advisory Committee had recommended, this newsletter attempts to summarize major items of interest on a semiannual basis for professional historians and scholars.

1. Advisory Committee:

NASA Administrator James E. Webb reinstituted the NASA Historical Advisory Committee early in 1968, naming the following members (NMI 1156.2): Melvin Kranzberg (Case Western Reserve), Chairman; James L. Cate (Univ. of Chicago); Earl DeLong (American Univ.); A. Hunter Dupree (Brown Univ.); Raymond Bisplinghoff (MIT); Joe B. Frantz (Univ. of Texas); Louis Morton (Dartmouth College); Robert L. Perry (RAND); and, Eugene M. Emme (NASA), Executive Secretary.

Meeting for the first time since 1966, the Advisory Committee convened at the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston on January 22-23, 1968. It reviewed the agency-wide program, dissecting immediate and long-range problems concerning a professional historical venture in a dynamic Federal agency, and made specific recommendations for the attention of NASA management. The Chairman submitted the Fourth Report of the Committee to the Administrator on July 2nd, and information copies were provided all heads of staff and program offices, and Center Directors, by the Executive Secretary.
Per custom, individual members of the Advisory Committee not only serve officially but also provided indispensable assistance to the NASA Historian throughout the year on many historical matters. It is not possible for NASA to thank them enough for their selfless dedication to the historical cause.

By regulation, the membership of the Historical Advisory Committee must be reinstated each year. A new committee will be activated as soon as the new NASA Administrator appointed by President-Elect Nixon may allow. It is also planned to hold a NASA Historians' Workshop, as the Advisory Committee strongly recommended, prior to the next meeting of the Advisory Committee.

2. Johnson Library History:

In June, the White House requested a "history" from 70 major Federal agencies covering the Administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson (Nov. 1963-Nov. 1968). Such "histories," due at the White House on November 1st, are to be placed in the Lyndon B. Johnson Library at Austin, Texas, for reference by "future historians" as a basis to initiate more detailed research and analysis. Document microfilming and oral history activities were separately instituted, Professor Frantz of the Advisory Committee being responsible for the latter effort.

Deputy Administrator T. O. Paine, appointed on March 25, 1968, supervised the White House project with the NASA Historian serving as Project Officer. An outline with extensive supporting documentation (additional to microfilm previously supplied the Johnson Library) was approved, and specialist writers designated to draft documented chapters. These chapter authors were: Jay Holmes, Manning Williams, Assistant NASA Historian William Putnam, William Corliss, Irwin Hersey, Charles Bingman, and Volta Torrey. Bill Lockyer of KSC Historical Office was borrowed to prepare the massive appendices. Because of the impossibility of writing a "history" in 90-days, the entire project was entitled a "preliminary history," and due qualifications were contained in the Deputy Administrator's Preface. Administrator Webb was requested to author a personal Foreword, and, after the first draft was reviewed and reworked, he made personal additives to the text. The final manuscript covering to Nov. 1, 1968, will be submitted to the White House by January 15, 1969.

On October 7, 1968, James E. Webb's resignation as NASA Administrator became effective. The "Supplement" to the "Preliminary History" (covering from November 1, 1968, to January 20, 1969) was drafted by the Historical Staff for Acting Administrator Paine and will also be submitted to the White House on January 15, 1969. In the meantime, Mr. Webb's departure as NASA's second administrator was a major break in NASA's top management, which entailed greater attention to documentation and related historical interviews. Needless to say, the Johnson Library project contributed an overload on the operations of the NASA Historical Staff but the results ultimately will be beneficial.
3. Major Highlights of 1968:

A. Major Publications:

- Alfred Rosenthal, Venture Into Space: Early Years of the Goddard Space Flight Center (SP-4301) was issued in June. This constitutes the first volume in the NASA Center History Series.

B. Forthcoming Publications Processed in 1968:

- Astronautics and Aeronautics, 1967 (SP-4008) with a Foreword by Associate Administrator Homer E. Newell will appear in March 1969.
- Project Gemini: A Chronology (SP-4002) by James M. Grimwood, (MSC Historian), and Barton Hacker (Univ. of Houston) will appear in April 1969.
- Apollo Spacecraft: A Chronology (SP-4009) Volume I, by Ivan Ertel (MSC) and Mary Lou Morse (Univ. of Houston) will appear in May 1969.

C. Major Projects Completed for Publication:

- "Vanguard: A History" by Constance McLaughlin Green and Milton Lomask was submitted in final manuscript, completing a contract which had been initiated in 1964. Publication plans are yet not firm but this appears to be an outstanding manuscript on the origins of NASA via the IGY satellite program, and potentially one of our best volumes in the Program History Series.
- "From Muroc to Apollo: A History of the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory, 1917-1947," by Michael Keller (Univ. of Arizona Contract), was completed in June and revised during the summer.
- "Adventures in Research: A History of the Ames Research Center, 1940-1965," by Edwin Hartman, underwent final revisions. This will be another addition to the Center History Series.
- "Astronautics and Aeronautics, 1968," was produced in monthly comment segments by Charles Thibeault, Mrs. Pat Davis, Mrs. Carmen Brock-Smith, and Mrs. Gay Arnelle of the Library of Congress. The annual volume is in preparation and will be published in 1969.
- "History of Aeronautics and Astronautics: A Preliminary Bibliography," was largely finished by Mrs. Katherine Dickson of the Library of Congress. When additions are made and index is completed, it will be published in multilith form in 1969.
D. Translations of Foreign Historical Works:

Because of the excellent support of the NASA Office of Scientific and Technical Information, the Historical Division has been able to initiate translations of what has become a useful list of foreign works, many of which are not readily available in native editions. It appears best that the complete list be included here. Those marked with an asterisk (*) are offered for sale by the Clearing House for Federal Scientific and Technical Information, Springfield, Virginia 22151 (CFSTTI price is $3.00 on all translations available). Only limited quantities of some have been made available for journal reviews or for archival purposes in the NASA History Division, the Library of Congress, and the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution.


2. K. E. Tsiolkovsky, Works on Rocket Technology (Moscow: 1947) (NASA TT F-243)*


4. T. M. Mel'Kumov (ed.), Pioneers of Rocket Technology (Moscow: 1964) (NASA TT F-9285)* Papers of Kibalchich and Kondratyk only as the papers of Tsiolkovsky and Tsander are otherwise available in more complete form

5. Eugen Saenger, Rocket Flight Engineering (Berlin: 1933) (NASA TT F-223)*


7. V. N. Sokol'skii, Russian Solid-Fuel Rockets (Moscow: 1963) (NASA TT F-415)*

8. V. N. Sokol'skii, A Short Outline of the Development of Rocket Research in the USSR (Moscow: 1960) (TT-67-51340)


12. V. V. Fedynskii (ed.), *The Earth and the Universe* (Moscow: 1964) (NASA TT F-345)*


14. A. A. Blaganravov and Others (ed.), *First Ten Years of Space Activity, 1957-1967* (Moscow: 1968) - in progress


E. NASA Histories in Progress:

**PROGRAM HISTORIES**

- Project Ranger: JPL Historian Cargill Hall continues on history of first lunar flight program history, and is also picking up Mariner, Surveyor, and JPL institutional documentation.
- Project Gemini: A History: James Grimwood (MSC Historian) and Barton Hacker (Univ. of Houston), draft to be completed by June 1969.
- Project Apollo: Launch Facilities and Operations: KSC/Dr. James Covington and Mr. James Frangie (Florida Institute of Technology) now underway.
- Saturn Vehicle History: MSFC/Univ. of Alabama Research Institute at Huntsville has just been initiated to cover development from Saturn I to man-rating of the Saturn V.
- Apollo Spacecraft and Operations: MSC/Univ. of Houston involves a series of monographs.
- NASA Tracking Networks: GSFC/William Corliss. Two monograph histories of the STADAN and MSFN networks are in revision, will be completed in 1969.
CENTER HISTORIES

- Manned Spacecraft Center - Robert Merrifield
- Marshall Space Flight Center - David Akens
- Kennedy Space Center - Frank Jarrett
- Wallops Station - Joe Shortel (volume on first five years completed; volume on second five years to be completed in 1969).

AGENCY HISTORIES

- History of NASA, Volume I, Dawn of the Space Era, drafting will be a major project of NASA Historian in 1969.

F. Major Historical Projects Under Development:

- Administrative History of NASA, 1961-1967
- Center Histories for FRC, ERC, and Lewis
- Internal History of Science in Space

G. Support of Academic Scholars:

- Summer Seminar on "History, Social Science, and Space: for 1968, included graduate students Bruce Byers (Univ. of Maryland - Lunar Orbiter), Richard Dowling (Univ. of Connecticut - Origins of ERC), John Logsdon (Catholic Univ. - LOR Decision of 1962), and Edward M. Walters (Univ. of Georgia - U.S.-Australian Space Relations), Ronald Weitzel (Univ. of Maryland - Origins of ATS).
- Numerous graduate students, NASA contractors and grantees, and others, used the NASA Historical Archives during the year, including Judith Tegger of MIT (French Space Program), John Logsdon of NYU (Decision to Go to the Moon), Robert Sherrod of Life-Time, William E. Davis of Syracuse, Nicholas Daniloff of UPI, Prof. Redfore of Univ. of Texas, Henry Lambricht of Syracuse, Noel Moore of CBC-TV, D. J. Doubleday of Univ. of Pittsburgh, R. K. Sherburne of the Library of Congress, and others.
- Katherine Dickson's "Preliminary Bibliography of the History of Aeronautics and Astronautics" was issued, and a revision will shortly be reissued.
- Close working relations were maintained with the staff of the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

3. NASA Historical Staff Notes:

A word is necessary concerning the steadfast labors of the entire staff. Deputy NASA Historian Frank W. Anderson, Jr., continued to spell the NASA Historian across the board, and particularly to manage the Library of Congress support and the publication program. Mrs. Carrie Karegeannes joined the Staff as Technical Editor in 1967.
Assistant NASA Historian for Manned Space Flight William Putnam monitored the histories previously cited for Gemini and Apollo, and attempted to keep up with the tremendous Apollo accomplishments. He also drafted the "Manned Space Flight" chapter of the White House History Project.

Lee D. Saegesser, Historical Archivist, has served across the board in supporting all Headquarters and Center projects, monitoring current and retirement records programs, reorganizing and augmenting the archives, and numerous other invaluable duties. In addition, he prepared a collection of space cartoons, 1957-1968, segments of which were attached to the White House histories (not available for distribution because of copyright).

Gloria T. Toliaferro served as office secretary, and Rosemary Ferguson as clerk-typist. Without their stalwart service in all areas of the bureaucratic and historical clerical labors, little would have been completed.

5. Bibliographical Notes of Interest:

- Paul Demb1ng and Daniel M. Arons, "The Treaty on Rescue and Return of Astronauts and Space Objects," William and Mary Law Review, Volume 9 Number 3 (Spring 1968), pp. 630-663.


6. List of NASA Historical Publications:

(Attached)

Eugene M. Emme
NASA Historian
NASA HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS

HISTORIES:

MANAGEMENT HISTORY SERIES:

PROGRAM HISTORY SERIES:

CENTER HISTORY SERIES:

HISTORICAL STUDIES:
- Eugene M. Emme (ed.), History of Rocket Technology, special issue of Technology and Culture (Fall 1963); augmented and published by Society for the History of Technology (Detroit: Wayne State University, 1964).
- Mae Mills Link, Space Medicine in Project Mercury, NASA SP-4003, 1965, $1.00.

CHRONOLOGIES:
- Aeronautical and Astronautical Events of 1962, published by the House Committee on Science and Aeronautics, 1963, $1.00.