

SPACEPORT



NEWS

Vol. 9, No. 1

Kennedy Space Center, Florida

January 1, 1970

1970 Spaceport News Summary

Followup From the 1969 Spaceport News Summary

Of note, the 1963, 1964 and 1965 Spaceport News were issued weekly. Starting with the July 7, 1966, issue, the Spaceport News went to an every two week format. The Spaceport News kept the two week format until the last issue on February 24, 2014. Spaceport Magazine superseded the Spaceport News in April 2014. Spaceport Magazine was a monthly issue, until the last and final issue, Jan./Feb. 2020.

The first issue of Spaceport News was December 13, 1962. The two 1962 issues and the issues from 1996 forward are at [this website](#), including the Spaceport Magazine.

Black font is original Spaceport News, blue font is something I or someone else provided and purple font is a hot link.

All links were working at the time I completed this Spaceport News Summary.

Following up from the 1969 Spaeport News Sumamry, Al Sofge provided a clarification, as follows: "Reference Larry Clark's comment about meetings in Jim Harrington's office with the airplanes hanging from the ceiling, Jim Hazelton's office had the airplanes, not Harrington. Haz's office was on the LCC 4th floor across from the NASA Flow Director's offices." **Thanks a bunch Al!!!!**

Not directly related to the Spaceport News Summary, John Tribe provided a really neat writeup of his personal experience with Apollo 4, titled "Apollo 4 – The Big Test", attached to this Spaceport News Summary email. John's writeup is signed "John Tribe, Nov 1967, Written for the "Old Nortonian", my English grammar school magazine." John's English grammar school was in the United Kingdom. **Thanks a bunch John!!!!**

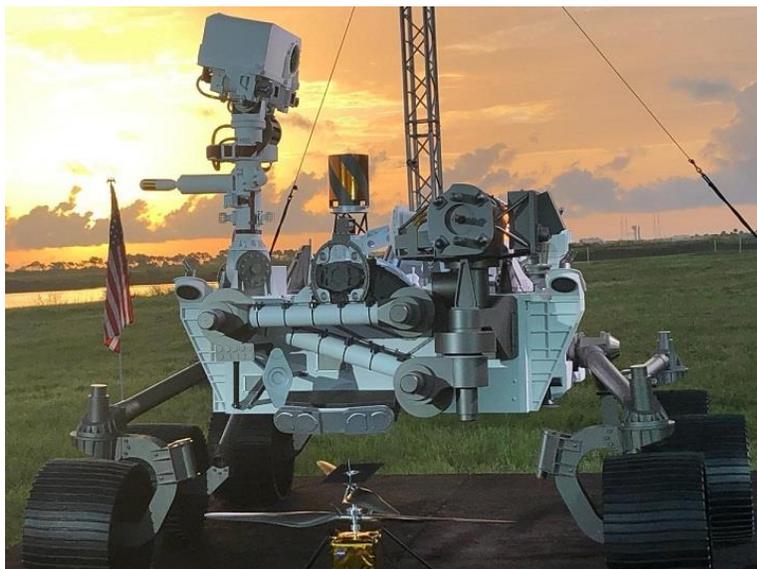
Another not directly related to the Spaceport News Summary, Tom Moss sent me the following in quotes, via an employee at Marshall Space Flight Center: “This is the window sticker that was on the windshield of my 1956 Chevy Bel Air when I bought it. The original owner of the car worked on the arsenal in the travel office. She even made travel arrangements for Wernher von Braun on occasion.

I cut the original windshield of the 56 chevy (which was broken anyway) so I had the 1956 Redstone windshield sticker on a small section of glass. I donated that to the Space and Rocket Museum. They were very pleased to get it. All they had at that point was a photocopy of a 1957 Redstone Arsenal windshield sticker.”



Very neat! Thanks a bunch Tom!!!!

And lastly, the following is a photo of a model of Mars 2020, Perseverance, with Ingenuity in the middle foreground, at the KSC Press Site, the morning of launch day, July 30, 2020. LC41, the launch site, is on the middle right, between Perseverance and the edge of the photo. Thanks a bunch James Best!!!!



From The January 3, 1970, Spaceport News

The headline is "**Holiday Season Renews Hope for Peace**". A portion of the article reads "In the annual Christmas Tree lighting ceremony, KSC Director Dr. Kurt Debus reflected on the spirit of Christmas and the hope of mankind for peace in the world. Dr. Debus said the new Christmas Tree in front of the Headquarters Building was replanted there to serve annually... The Director said in KSC's manned and unmanned programs, "we are closing out a most successful year. I think it is appropriate at this season, to recall the words which Neil Armstrong read when he unveiled the plaque on the first lunar lander.

The legend on the plaque states:

HERE MEN FROM THE PLANET EARTH

FIRST SET FOOT ON THE MOON

JULY 1969 A.D.

WE CAME IN PEACE FOR ALL MANKIND

..."All of us who inhabit this Earth are brothers in that 'grand oasis'. Our common interests far exceed our differences. We take great pride in knowing that in the New Year as in the past, our space program will continue to the cause of peace."



"AT THE CHRISTMAS Tree lighting ceremony, KSC Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus expressed season's greetings and spoke of hope for world peace. Dugald O. Black, seated left, President of the NASA Exchange Council, threw the switch that lit the tree and the Rev. Frank M. Butler, Rector, St. David's by the Sea Episcopal Church, Cocoa Beach, gave the invocation. At right is Gordon L. Harris, Chief of Public Affairs."

The above headline article and photo got my curiosity going; i.e., with the article stating "...the new Christmas Tree in front of the Headquarters Building was replanted there to serve annually...". So what the heck; a replanted Christmas tree in front of HQ; news to

me. Kristin Dean found the following 1973 photo, with the subject tree circled in green. And a full HQ parking lot! **Thanks a bunch Kristin!!!!**

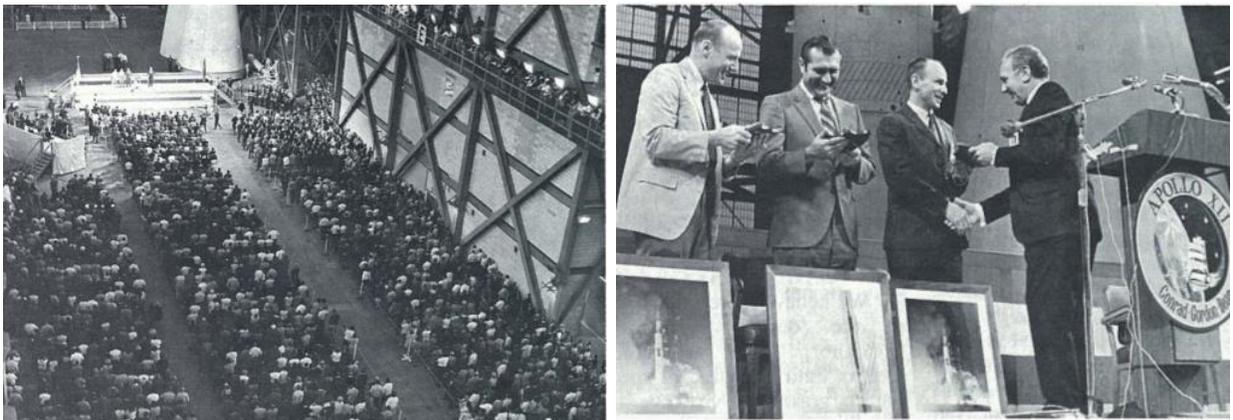


And from a 1995 satellite image below, the tree is no longer there. **Does anyone know the story?**



Also on page 1, "**Apollo 12 Crew Comes Back To Thank Spaceport Workers**". In part, the article reads "The Apollo 12 crew came back to the Spaceport recently to thank the KSC workers who launched them on their epochal Moon-landing mission in November. Astronauts Charles Conrad, Richard Gordon and Alan Bean told 7,500 persons in the VAB that KSC is a second home to them. Each crew member was presented with a pair of gifts by Dr. Kurt H. Debus, KSC Director. He gave them enlarged color photos of the Apollo 12 launch and plaques containing a small rock from the bed of the crawlerway, the path each Apollo/ Saturn V and its mobile launcher takes to the launch pad... On behalf of the KSC Government/Industry team, Dr. Debus said: "I want to thank you for coming back to see your colleagues whose painstaking preparation helped to carry you from Complex 39 to the Ocean of Storms and back."

Photos on page 5.



On the left, "MORE THAN 7,500 KSC employees in the VAB greeted the Apollo 12 crew - Commander Charles Conrad, Command Module Pilot Richard Gordon and Lunar Module Pilot Alan Bean - on the trio's return to the Spaceport." Note the people on the upper right of the photo, on a catwalk; the balcony seats! On the right, "KSC DIRECTOR Dr. Kurt H. Debus, right, presents gifts to the crew."



"IN THE TRAINING Auditorium, Conrad speaks to a NASA contingent before giving a film and slide presentation on the Apollo 12 lunar landing mission."

From The January 15, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Dale Myers Succeeds Dr. Mueller**". Part of the article reads "Dale D. Myers, former North American Rockwell (NR) official, has been appointed NASA Associate Administrator for Manned Space Flight, succeeding Dr. George E. Mueller... Prior to June 1969, he had been General Manager of the NR Apollo Command and Service Module work... Myers was graduated from the University of Washington in 1943 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering..."



DALE D. MYERS

On page 3, "**Ti-Co Air Service Starts**". In part, the article states "The inaugural flight of Eastern Airlines to Ti-Co opened a new air passenger service that promises to be of great benefit to NASA and contractors at the Spaceport. Miles Ross, Deputy Director, Center Operations, spoke at the inaugural breakfast held in a hangar at Ti-Co and attended by about 300 Government and business officials... NASA is seeking as rapid and efficient air travel as possible for its personnel between KSC and other NASA facilities... Six flights daily will be handled at Ti-Co by Eastern..."



"KSC DEPUTY Director, Center Operations Miles Ross speaks at a breakfast following the arrival of the inaugural flight of Eastern Airlines to Ti-Co Airport near the Spaceport."

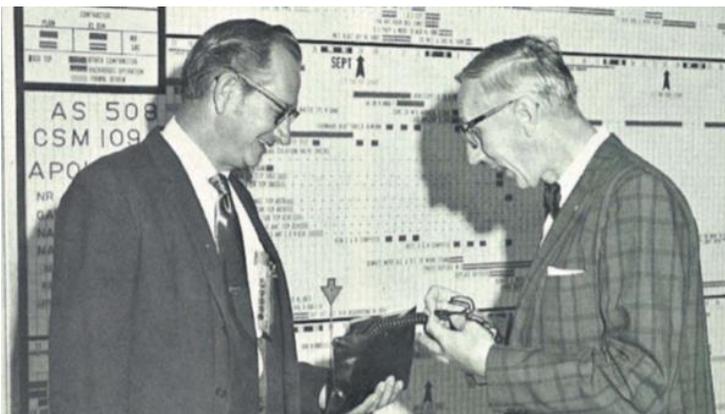
On page 7, "**O'Malley Succeeds Hello**". A portion of the article reads "T. J. "Tom" O'Malley has been named Vice President and General Manager of North American Rockwell's (NR) Launch Operations at KSC... O'Malley, former manager of Apollo /CSM Test Operations for NR/LO, replaces Bastian "Buz" Hello..."

O'Malley came to the Cape area in 1958, and was the test conductor for early Gemini two man flights, and for the unmanned Ranger flights... He joined North American Rockwell in 1967 as manager of the command and service module activities for North American Rockwell in the Apollo Moon missions.



TOM O'MALLEY

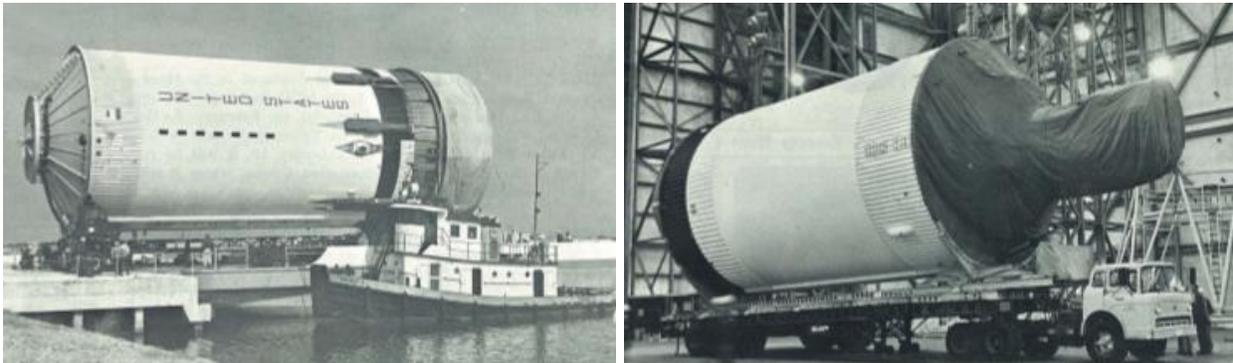
On page 8, "**Wendt Gets Old Headset**". The article states "'I couldn't figure out how I lost track of it and I was wondering how they got it.'" This was the reaction of Gunter Wendt, North American Rockwell Pad Closeout leader for Apollo spacecraft, when he was presented with an old headset he used in the Mercury and Gemini programs while helping astronauts get settled into their spacecraft. The presentation was made by Mance Clayton, an Information Systems OIS and Telecommunications employee and a friend of Wendt since the early Mercury days. The old headset had turned up in a supply store at Cape Kennedy and had Wendt's initials on it. Clayton took it, rebuilt it and had it certified for use in the Apollo program. "I put it into service right off hand," Wendt said, "and it comes in real handy."



From The January 30, 1970, Spaceport News

From page 1, **“Dr. von Braun Heads NASA Planning Post”**. A portion of the article reads “NASA Administrator Dr. Thomas O. Paine has announced the appointment of Dr. Wernher von Braun, Director of the Marshall Space Flight Center, as Deputy Associate Administrator for Planning in Washington, D.C. In his new NASA Headquarters position, Dr. von Braun, a leader in space rocket development for a quarter of a century, will head NASA's planning effort for future U.S. space missions. Dr. von Braun will be replaced by his long-time Deputy Director, Dr. Eberhard Rees...”.

On page 2, **“Apollo 14 Hardware Here for Assembly, Checks”**.



On the left, “...second stage is being unloaded from a barge in the turn basin.” On the right, “third stage is brought into the VAB on a flat-bed truck...”.

On page 3, **“Science of Flight Mechanics Tops with Judith Anderson”**. Part of the article reads “As a Guidance System Engineer at the Spaceport, Judith Anderson has chosen a career which allows her' to pursue a favorite interest - the science of flight mechanics. "It's the type of work I have wanted to do since I was very young," said Judy, an engineer in the Flight Computer Section of Launch Vehicle Operations...”.



“JUDITH ANDERSON”

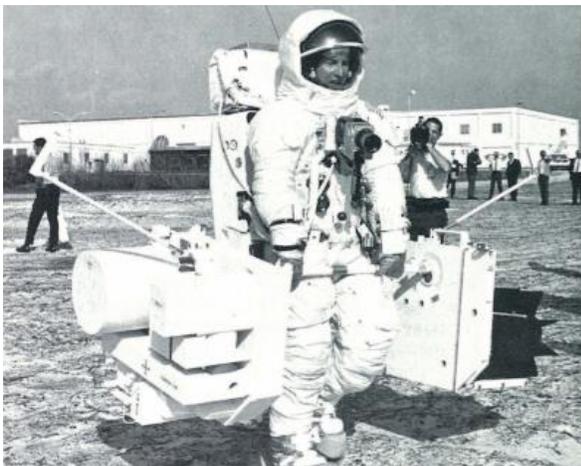
From The February 12, 1970, Spaceport News

The headline is, "**Low Outlines KSC, NASA Budget Plans**". . In part, the article reads "The impact on KSC of a proposed \$3.3 billion budget for Fiscal Year 1971 was outlined by George M. Low, NASA Deputy Administrator, in meetings with community leaders and NASA/industry managers here on February 2... Low described the proposed budget as "most austere" and "the lowest NASA budget since Fiscal 1962" but emphasized that most local manpower cuts have already been made... On a national basis, the NASA/industry employment peak reached 420,000 for the Project Apollo buildup. This level will have fallen to 167,000 by the end of FY 1970 and to 145,000 by the end of FY 1971..."

On page 2.



"APOLLO 13 Commander James Lovell, Command Module Pilot Ken Mattingly and Lunar Module Pilot Fred Haise display their mission insignia, center, an octant, left, used in 1790 to determine the altitude of celestial bodies from aboard ship, and a Hindu astrolabe in Sanskrit, right, used to predict the position of celestial bodies before the invention of the octant and sextant."

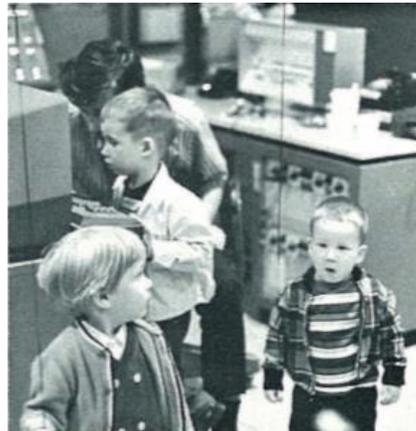


"IN AN OUTSIDE EVA timeline walk-through, Lovell carries the ALSEP away from the Lunar Module for deployment."

In the previous photo, the Flight Crew Training Building, now the Engineering Development Lab, is in the background. The ALSEP, Apollo Lunar Surface Experiments Package, powered by a Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator, was an experiment package left on the moon by the Apollo lunar landing missions.

From page 1, **“44,000 Attend Open House”**. Part of the article reads “KSC Open House officials estimated that about 44,000 NASA contractor and Air Force employees and their families toured the Center and Cape Kennedy February 7 to get a first-hand view of facilities, displays and offices... In the MSO Building, the High Bay was open, where the Apollo 14 spacecraft was undergoing test operations. Guests were able to see a full- scale working model of a lunar module in the Flight Crew Training Building... The highlight in the VAB was a display of a lunar rock sample. There were several other space exhibits in the transfer aisle, also. In the LCC, a closed circuit television display enabled visitors to see themselves on monitors. Also open were the Communications Center, Complex Control Center and Firing Rooms 3 and 4.

On page 5, **“Facilities, Exhibits Fascinate Open House- Visitors”**.



From The February 26, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Planning Directorate**". Part of the article reads "KSC Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus has announced management changes at the Spaceport which result in creation of a Center planning directorate and restructuring of the Design Engineering Directorate. G. Merritt Preston, former Director of Design Engineering, has been named Director of Center Planning and Future Programs, subject to final approval by the NASA Administrator. Grady F. Williams, former Deputy Director of Design Engineering, has been selected to succeed Preston as Director of Design Engineering, also subject to the Administrator's approval.

In announcing the planning directorate, KSC Director Kurt H. Debus said, "The need for long range planning became paramount with the formulation of the President's Space Task Group Report which has defined a national space program covering the next 20 years... "We are in a posture today not unlike that of 1961 at the advent of the Apollo program. So we must coordinate our planning for such future requirements as the Earth orbital shuttle, the space station, nuclear shuttle and other building blocks of the 1970's and 1980's."...

Also on page 1, "**Apollo 13 Moves Into Home Stretch**". In part, the article reads "Preparations for the launch of Apollo 13 moved into the home stretch as the Flight Readiness Test got underway this week... The astronaut crew of James A. Lovell, Thomas K. (Ken) Mattingly, and Fred W. Haise, Jr. participated in the test this week which included simulated portions of the countdown, powered flight, and lunar landing mission...

The next major overall test of the vehicle will be the countdown demonstration test late next month. During the CDDT the entire countdown is conducted, including the fueling of the liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen in the Saturn V. The astronaut crew will participate in the test, going through their launch day countdown as a windup to the CDDT...

Scheduled for launch at 2:13 p.m. on April 11, Apollo 13 will carry astronauts Lovell and Haise to the Fra Mauro area of the Moon where they will conduct two Moon walks while command module pilot Mattingly circles overhead."

And one more on page 1, "**Prince Has Keen Interest**". Part of the article reads "His Royal Highness Prince Philip displayed a keen interest in the U.S. space program as he was escorted through KSC and Air Force facilities February 14... Highlights of the Prince's tour were an inspection of airplanes at Patrick Air Force Base..., a short stop at the Air Force Museum, a view of Titan facilities, a briefing and Apollo film showing at a KSC luncheon, a simulated flight in a lunar module simulator, a walk-through of the LCC and VAB, a first-hand look at the crawler... and a trip up the mobile launcher elevator to the Apollo 13 spacecraft.

After the tour, Dr. Debus presented to Prince Philip a color photograph showing facilities at a Launch Complex 39 and an Apollo/Saturn V space vehicle and a model of the vehicle.”



From The March 12, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, **“Center Is Working Hard For Shuttle, Says Debus”**. In part, the article reads “Dr. Kurt H. Debus, Director of KSC, reports the Center is working very hard to assure that the proposed space shuttle is launched from here in the late 1970’s and to help devise means and ways of bringing flight hardware onto the line to fill a gap after 1974. The Director said, however, that other states are placing their claims as the best shuttle launch site...”.

On page 4, **“AAP Is Now Called Skylab”**. A portion of the article states “The familiar “Apollo Applications Program” has been changed to “Skylab Program”. The change in name is the result of a lengthy search for a new designation with the final decision announced by NASA Administrator Thomas O. Paine...”

NASA contemplates the launch from KSC in late 1972 of a 10,000 cubic-foot manned workshop into a 235 mile high Earth orbit. The first Skylab flight of a Saturn V and the S-IV-B laboratory stage will be designated SL1 and the Saturn IB space vehicles and Apollo command service modules carrying the three 3-man astronaut teams, who will man the laboratory in a 28 and two 56-day periods, will be designated SL-2, SL-3 and SL-4...”.

From The March 26, 1970, Spaceport News

The headline is "**KSC Preparing for Countdown To Apollo 13 Launch April 11**". Part of the article reads "Following completion of the Countdown Demonstration Test, the KSC Launch Operations team headed by Walter J. Kapryan begins analyzing data from the dress rehearsal in preparation for the actual countdown on Apollo 13 about April 5..."

In regard to the lightning occurrence on Apollo 12, Chester Lee, Apollo Mission Director, said that has now been determined that non-thunderstorm clouds produced by cold fronts, and 10,000 foot high or higher in development, middle-layer clouds more than 6,000 feet in vertical development, or cumulus clouds, with tops above 10,000 feet altitude, may sufficiently be electrified to produce a triggered lightning strike in the presence of a space vehicle. "We have," he said, "incorporated those considerations into our new mission rules."



"BERT GRENVILLE is Test Supervisor, Apollo 13"

From page 5.



"BRITISH ASTRONOMER Sir Bernard Lovell and Lady Lovell were guests of KSC Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus recently and were given a tour of the Spaceport and a series of briefings. Sir Bernard is head of Radio Telescope Astronomy in England. From left in Dr. Debus' office are Miles Ross, Deputy Director, Center Operations; Lady Lovell, Dr. Debus, and Sir Bernard."

On page 7, “**High Crew Work Challenge**”. In part, the article reads “Members of the TWA “High Crew” are eligible to bid for work on the ground, but none have exercised this right. These men who wear High Crew decals on their hard hats signifying their role in the upkeep of the Spaceport keep the steel structure of the 525-foot tall VAB clean.

Also, they are responsible for placing work platforms and nets on the mobile service structure and the mobile launcher at heights up to 380 feet. “I don't know how to explain it,” says TWA Foreman Jay Jacobs. “I think everybody's afraid at first, to an extent. But not for long, because it becomes a challenge.”... Jacobs said cleaning in the VAB high bays where Saturn V's are put together is an important job because dust and debris left behind by workmen doing modification or repairs can cause problems...

The men use the buddy system in high places. When one moves about he connects to his buddy's safety belt. The man not moving is clamped to the beam... A rope rig called a “sky genie” is used to lower a fellow worker to rescue anyone who might fall. But, in the 36-month history of the crew, no one has fallen yet....”.



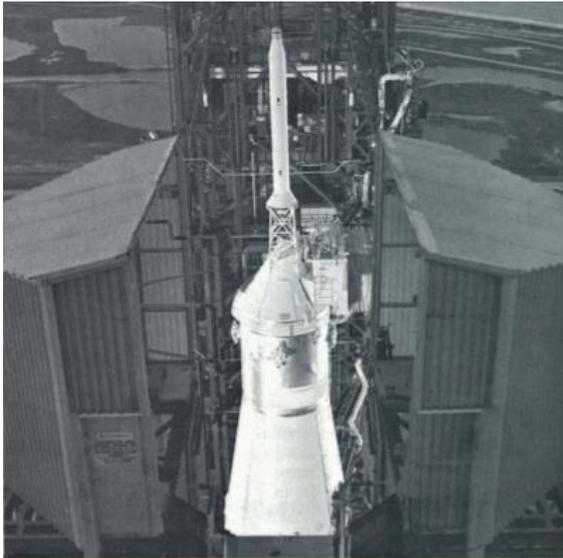
May be Jay Jacobs in the white shirt and tie? There is still a High Crew at the Kennedy Space Center.

From the April 9, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Apollo 13 Countdown Aims for Saturday Liftoff of Third Moon Landing Mission**”. Part of the article reads “The intricate countdown for Apollo 13 began at 10 p.m. Sunday and on schedule to culminate in liftoff from KSC's Launch Complex 39A Saturday at 2:13 p.m. EST... A problem associated with the supercritical helium supply for the lunar module's descent engines arose Sunday but was resolved early Monday

morning when project officials determined that tests had verified that the heat rate loss in the helium tank was within parameters and acceptable for launch...”.

(As the Spaceport News went to press, NASA learned that the Apollo 13 crew had been exposed to the German measles. This raised the possibility that the April 11 launch may be delayed until the May launch window).”...



“APOLLO 13 AWAITS LAUNCH”; as viewed from the Mobile Service Structure.

On page 3.



“THESE TEST Supervisors and Test Conductors for Apollo 13 play vital roles in getting the space vehicle off the pad. From left are Norman Carlson, Jack Battar, John Copeland, Bert Grenville and G. I. Turner.”

On page 1, “**Explorer 1 Reenters, Takes Place in History of Space**”. A portion of the article states “Following reentry of the first United States satellite, KSC Director Kurt H. Debus said, “Explorer 1 will take its place in the annals of space exploration. The probe, which discovered the Van Allen radiation belt, reentered the earth’s atmosphere March 31 after more than 12 years and approximately 58,360 revolutions in earth orbit...”

Explorer 1 was launched atop a 70-foot-tall Jupiter C rocket on January 31, 1958, under the direction of Dr. Debus, then head of the Army Ballistic Missile site Agency’s Missile Firing Laboratory...”

On page 8, “**Prototype Testing Lab in Operation**”. In part, the article reads “The emphasis is on creativity at Support Operation’s new Prototype Testing Laboratory, a place where ideas take form and thoughts become things. “We look for ways to develop new concepts which are presented to us and to improve existing hardware,” said Donald J. Woods, Chief of the Prototype Testing Branch...”



DONALD WOODS, standing, Chief of Support Operations' new Prototype Testing Laboratory, and two fellow employees, Harry P. Shockey, left, and Jim Foster look over one proposed model of a two-stage shuttle vehicle that could be launched from KSC.”

There is still a Prototype Laboratory at Kennedy Space Center, now called the Prototype Shop.

From The April 23, 1970, Spaceport News

The headline is “**NASA Teamwork, Astronauts' Skill Keys To Successful Recovery After Explosion**”. A portion of the article reads “When an explosion rocked the service module of Apollo 13 and disrupted the vital systems in the command module, NASA teamwork and ingenuity came into play and brought them back safely to earth...The

Mission Control Center Houston was the focal point for coming up with and gathering the ideas, procedures and techniques that were relayed to the astronauts... KSC, other NASA centers and contractor facilities across the country were linked to come up with methods to aid the crew and to test them in simulators before they were relayed...

Charlie Mars, Chief Module (LM) Project Engineer at KSC, said one of the first things Mission Control asked was ways of getting LM power to the command module (CM). "We fed back ways and means for a reverse mode," Mars said, "and they used it later to recharge the CM reentry batteries. "They then asked us to look at a LM minimum power configuration. We told them immediately to turn off the radar heaters and it was done....

Several KSC personnel were called to Houston to aid in the review of the problem. They included Kapryan; Paul Donnelly, Launch Operations Manager; Ted Sasseen, Chief of the Engineering Division, Spacecraft Operations; and Horace Lamberth and Gary Reuterskiold, Fluid Systems Branch, Spacecraft Operations...

In a preliminary report, Apollo Program Director Dr. Rocco Petrone said that telemetry data indicate the rupture of oxygen Tank 2 about 55:54:42 ground elapsed time with the subsequent loss in pressure of Tank 1. "Conditions creating the pressure rise and subsequent rupture are now under intensive review," Dr. Petrone said. "After the countdown demonstration test at KSC, difficulty was encountered in detanking oxygen Tank 2...

Following recovery, NASA Administrator Dr. Thomas O. Paine appointed Edgar Cortright, Director of the Langley Research Center, chairman of the Apollo 13 Review Board... The Office of Manned Space Flight will develop parallel recommendations on corrective measures to be taken prior to the Apollo 14 mission.

[Photos on various pages of the issue.](#)



"THE CHAPLAIN on board the Iwo Jima offers a prayer thanking God for the safe return of Lovell, Swigert and Haise.



“THIS SPECIAL conference was called to decide whether or not to replace Command Module Pilot Ken Mattingly with Jack Swigert due to the German measles problem. Swigert flew. From left are Julian Scheer, Public Affairs; Petrone; Dr. Charles A. Berry; Mission Director Chester Lee and Myers.”



“NASA ADMINISTRATOR Dr. Thomas O. Paine, center, explains the decision to allow Jack Swigert to replace Ken Mattingly as Command Module Pilot and to launch Apollo 13 on April 11. The mission officials at the pre-launch conference were, from left: Dr. Charles Berry, Director, Medical Research and Operations; Donald Slayton, Director, Flight Crew Operations; Chester Lee, Apollo Mission Director; Dale Myers, Associate Administrator for Manned Space Flight; Dr. Paine; Dr. Rocco Petrone, Apollo Program Director; Walter Kapryan, Director of Launch Operations at KSC; Col. James McDivitt, Manager, Apollo Spacecraft Program, MSC; Roy Godfrey, Manager, Saturn Program Office; and Col. Kenneth Mask, Director, Manned Space Flight Support, Department of Defense.”



On the left, “REVIEWING DOCKING procedures for the command module and the lunar module are, from left, Swigert, Lovell and Haise.”. On the right, “ASTRONAUT SECRETARY Martha Caballero says good-bye to Lovell as the three astronauts leave the suiting area of the MSO Building.”

From The May 7, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Apollo 13 Crew Returns, Says ‘Well Done’**”. A portion of the article reads “As estimated 7,500 Civil Service and contractor personnel along with community leaders thronged to the north end of the VAB transfer aisle to give the crew a standing ovation... The crew praised Spaceport personnel for their role in preparing their space vehicle for flight and their part in bringing them home safely...”

The crew presented KSC with a souvenir from Aquarius, the lunar module. "Just before we left Aquarius we removed an article as a memento," said Lovell; presenting a mounted LM arm rest to Ross. Inscribed on the arm rest plaque is this message: "A part of Aquarius, LM-7, returned to KSC personnel in appreciation for a job well done from the Apollo 13 crew." Ross accepted the arm rest on behalf of the center and told the crew it would be put in a place of honor...". **I wonder where the arm rest is?**



“KSC DEPUTY DIRECTOR Miles Ross presented Apollo 13 launch photographs to, left to right, Lunar Module Pilot Fred Haise, Commander James Lovell and Command Module Pilot Jack Swigert.”

Also on page 1, "**King Wins Writers' Award**". In part, the article states "Jack King, Chief of the Public Information Branch of Public Affairs at KSC, has been named winner of the Charles L. Lawrance Award for 1969 by the Aviation/Space Writers Association. The Lawrance Award is presented for outstanding performance to the aviation/space writers group by a Government, non-military public information officer. King was cited for the Public Affairs countdown commentary and service to the news media performed during Apollo missions last year..."



JACK KING

On page 4.

“Message From Director

The following is a message from the Center Director to Spaceport employees:

The Apollo 13 operations were conducted in exemplary manner by all employees of KSC. In addition, I want to give special recognition to personnel in the Directorates of Launch Operations, Spacecraft Operations and Technical Support who provided timely and effective assistance to their colleagues in the Manned Spacecraft Center when the emergency of April 13, 1970 occurred during translunar flight.

Demonstrating that dedicated competence which typifies NASA's manned space flight organization, these men and women maintained communications with Mission Control, providing a steady flow of data and knowledge of the spacecraft acquired during the checkout, assembly and test procedures. They helped evaluate alternate solutions to urgent problems until the crew completed the hazardous return to Earth.

Now that Apollo 13 has returned, I know that you will continue to work the unmanned and manned launch schedules with your best efforts to ensure the success of future missions.

Kurt H. Debus
Director, KSC”

On page 6, **“Editorial, Stop Abusing Vending Machines!”**. A portion of the article states “There’s some dirty business going on at KSC in connection with the use of vending machines. The villains are the employees who jam the machines with shaved, ground or clipped pennies, pieces of plastic, slugs, subway tokens, washers or mutilated coins in hopes of cheating the vendor. Not one in a hundred will go through and trip the machine. They just hang up, require a service call and often damage the machine...”

This type of activity is in violation of both Federal and State laws... We urge all persons involved in this type of activity to stop at once. Also, we ask all honest, law abiding employees to immediately report any such activity to Security if they should observe it.”

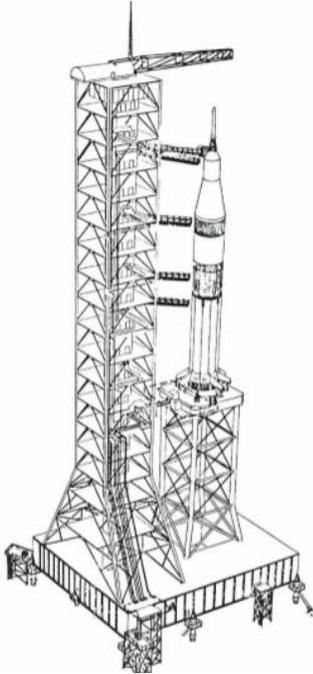


From The May 21, 1970, Spaceport News

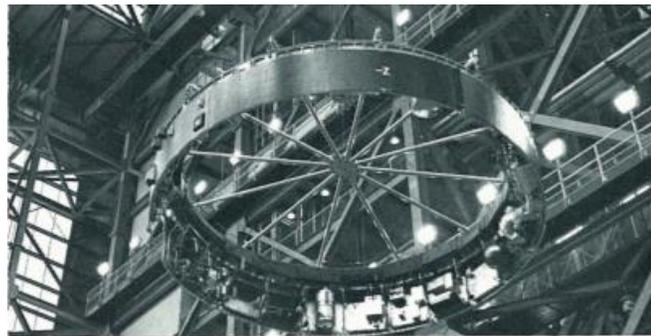
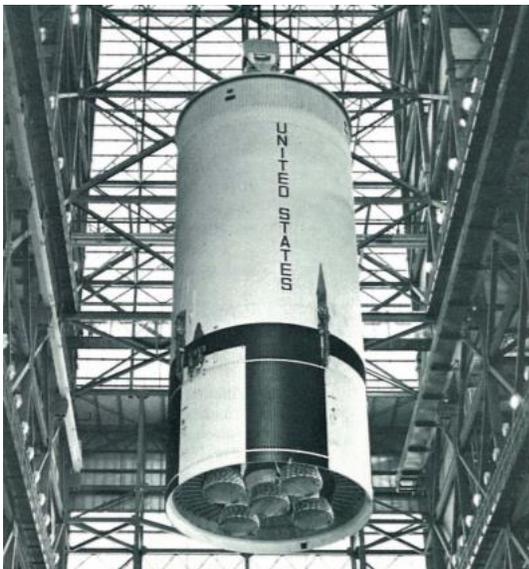
In this issue, on page 1, **“Saturn 1B Pad Change Set”**. In part, the article reads “Saturn 1B vehicle launches scheduled for the 1972-73 Skylab Program will be launched from KSC’s Pad B Launch Complex 39. The decision to conduct Saturn 1B launches at Launch Complex 39, rather than Complex 34, Cape Kennedy, was reached after a comprehensive study of the capabilities and costs of both locations, Skylab officials said. A Vehicle Assembly high bay, a mobile launcher and a firing room have been assigned for the Saturn V and its Skylab payload. Similar action will be taken for the Saturn1B...”

The major change will be the addition of a 128-foot pedestal on the launcher platform. This will allow the present upper swing arms on the launcher to be used with the Saturn 1B and the spacecraft...

William C. Schneider, Skylab Program Director, said the decision to move the Saturn IB launch site to Complex 39 was made to take advantage of the more modern facilities at the site and to save money by consolidating manpower and spacecraft support and checkout' equipment requirements and to reduce transportation costs...”



Also on page 1, “**Apollo 14 Vehicle Erected**”. A portion of the article states “Preparations for the launch of Apollo 14 on its lunar landing mission no earlier than December 3 continue on schedule at the Spaceport. The erection of the second and third stages and Instrument Unit of the Saturn V launch vehicle was completed last week in the VAB and the spacecraft is being prepared for altitude runs at the MSO Building. Apollo 13 and its prime crew of Alan B. Shepard, Commander; Stuart A. Roosa, Command Module Pilot; and Edgar D. Mitchell, Lunar Module Pilot; are targeted for the Moon’s Fra Mauro region, the planned landing site for the aborted Apollo 13 mission...”.



On the left, the Apollo 14 second stage and on the right, the Instrument Unit, above the VAB transfer aisle.

One more article on page 1, **“2 Firms Selected for Shuttle Studies”**. In part, the article reads “NASA has selected two aerospace industrial firms today for final negotiation of parallel 11-month contracts for definition and preliminary design studies of a reusable space shuttle vehicle for possible future space flight missions. Fixed price contracts will be negotiated with McDonnell-Douglas Corp., St. Louis, and North American Rockwell Corp., Space Division, Downey, Calif, valued at approximately \$8 million each... The two-stage, space shuttle vehicle will transport crew, passengers and cargo from Earth to near space and back... The vertical take-off, horizontal-landing shuttle could be in operation by 1977 or 1978...”.

On page 2, **“VIPs, Public Relations Part Of Shirley Ferguson's Duties”**. A portion of the article reads “Being secretary to the Spaceport's Director is a mixture of public relations, close association with VIPs and an "endless variety of secretarial duties." So says Shirley Ferguson, who has been secretary to Dr. Kurt H. Debus for the past eleven years. Despite the personal pressures she feels by the nature of her duties, Shirley claims she has "the best job in the world and the perfect boss." The public relations aspect of her job is related to the volume of mail, telephone calls and visitors she tactfully screens every day for the Director.

"Dr. Debus' time is limited, so it is vitally important that his schedule include only those people and matters that require his personal attention. Many times I can refer a query or a person to another office which is capable of supplying required information," says Shirley. Rubbing elbows with VIPs is an almost daily occurrence for Shirley, but especially so during periods of Apollo launch activity...

A native of Hurley, New Mexico, Shirley started working for the Government in 1954 at the nearby White Sands Proving Grounds. Except for a one year stint at the Air Force Academy in Colorado, she was employed at White Sands until 1959 when she came to the Cape to work for the Army Ballistic Missile Agency. Several months after her arrival, she was assigned as Dr. Debus' secretary, a position she has held ever since...”.



“SHIRLEY FERGERSON”

On page 8, "**Firm Institutes Bus Service Between Orlando, KSC-Cape**". Part of the article reads "Hartman Transportation, Inc. of Orlando has instituted a bus service between KSC-Cape Kennedy Air Force Station and Orlando. Rates for using the 49 passenger bus with air conditioning, lavatory, stereo tapes and a public address system are: (1) \$10 for a book of five round-trip tickets (2) \$2.50 for one round trip ticket and (3) \$1.40 for a one-way ticket. Tickets may be purchased on the bus or at the firm's office at the Beason Truck Terminal on West Colonial Drive in Orlando. Service to the VAB will be announced at a later date as three stops are now being made in the Industrial Area. Flag stops will be made on request. The service shall operate Monday through Friday..."

From The June 4, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 2, "**Success of Apollo Program Big Thrill to Don Phillips**". Part of the article reads "'My greatest thrill has been the overall success of the Apollo Program and the first manned landing on the moon.'" These words come from Don Phillips, who at 38 is a 10-year veteran in the space business... As Chief Test Supervisor, Phillips is in charge of the overall operational management of Launch Complex 39... When more than one vehicle is in flow, I establish priorities when required. For instance, if both flows need a piece of equipment and only one is available, I decide which flow gets that piece of equipment."...

"My biggest emotional peak," Phillips said, "came on Apollo 7. We were over at Pad 34 and the launch team had a feeling of real closeness due to the proximity of the support building, launch control center and the launch pad. "We had set our day for launch six months in advance, and although we missed our exact T-0 time due to an egress elevator failure, we launched on the scheduled day for the first time in the Apollo series."... One sidelight of his job that Phillips enjoys is briefing and escorting on tours important visitors to KSC..."



"DON PHILLIPS"

On page 4, "**Tank Wiring, Insulation Damage Suspected**". A portion of the article reads "Prior to release of the official Apollo 13' Review Board report , on June 8, Board Chairman Edgar M. Cortright has given an interim statement regarding the cause of the explosion in the No.2 oxygen tank of the service module. Cortright, Director of the Langley Research: Center; said a special detanking procedure which was 'applied to the tank "probably resulted in major damage to wiring insulation in the tank."...

The detanking, a partial draining of liquid oxygen in the tank, occurred during pre-flight preparations on the pad at KSC before launch in coordination with MSC... Cortright said it now appears that two thermal switches designed to protect heaters in the tank from overheating may have failed. In such 'an' event, other tests have shown the heater tube in the tank could have reached temperatures of about 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit..."

From the June 18, 1970, Spaceport News

The headline is "**Apollo 13 Review Board's Findings Released**". In part, the article reads "Following seven weeks of concentrated study, the Apollo 13 Review Board reported to NASA Administrator Dr. Thompson O. Paine that an electrically initiated fire in oxygen tank No. 2 of the service module was the cause of the accident that aborted the April, 1970 mission... Dr. Paine said it was too early to tell whether the changes recommended by the board will affect the December 3 launch date for the Apollo 14 mission..."

The Board recommended that: - The cryogenic oxygen storage system in the service module should be modified. - The modified system should be subjected to a rigorous requalification program. - Warning systems on board the Apollo spacecraft and in Mission Control should be modified to give early warning of spacecraft anomalies... - MSC should complete special tests and analyses in order to understand more completely the details of the Apollo 13 accident... - If significant anomalies occur in critical subsystems during launch preparations procedures should require presentation of all prior difficulties with the particular item. Expert advice should be available for critical decisions in such matters..."

On page 1, "**Dr. Gray Named LO Deputy**". A portion of the article reads "Dr. Robert H. Gray, KSC's Director of Unmanned Launch Operations, has been appointed Deputy to Walter J. Kapryan, Director of Launch Operations... Dr. Gray was among the first group of engineers to join NASA in 1958 when the Naval Research Laboratory's Vanguard Program personnel were transferred to NASA... He has directed 145 launches of unmanned space vehicles... In his new capacity he will assist Kapryan in the management and direction of pre-flight operations and integration, test, checkout, and launch of all NASA space vehicles..."

Also on page 1, "**Ross Now KSC Deputy Director**". Part of the article states "Miles Ross, Deputy Director, Center Operations at KSC, has been named Deputy Center Director at the Spaceport... The announcement follows a decision to consolidate the two deputy positions formerly held by Ross and by Albert F. Siefert, Deputy Director, Center Management. Siefert resigned in March to take a position with the University of Michigan... Ross had held the position of Deputy Director, Center Operations, since September, 1967... Prior to his assignment at KSC, he was a Project Manager of the Air Force Thor and Minuteman missile systems with TRW, Inc..."



DR. ROBERT H. GRAY



MILES ROSS

On page 2, "**Moon Mission Launch Challenging to Henschel**". In part, the article reads "Shooting for the Moon" is a glib phrase for most people. For Charles F. Henschel it's a challenging fact of life. For "Chuck" Henschel, a 35-year old Wisconsin native, is Lead Vehicle Test Supervisor for Apollo 14... A 1959 graduate of the University of Wisconsin with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, Chuck's first job was with North American Aviation's Columbus, Ohio, Division where he was a flight test instrumentation engineer.

The lure of space exceeded that of aviation and Henschel joined KSC in January, 1964, as a Launch Vehicle Test Conductor working under Robert E. Moser on the Saturn I program at Cape Kennedy... He came over to Complex 39 at the Spaceport as Lead Test Supervisor on SA-501 (Apollo 4)... "We put in 70 and 80 hour work weeks getting ready for 501," said Henschel. "It was pretty much of a challenge... Henschel remembers the Apollo 4 flight as one of the highlights of his space career. Another came with the launch of Apollo 8 on which he served as Pad Test Supervisor...

The launch pace has slackened now and Chuck has time for hobbies and pastimes which were impossible during the high rate of activity as Apollo reached its peak in 1969... Among his projects is a dune buggy which he built from scratch. He converted a 1962 Volkswagen frame into a dune buggy in which he tools around Ocala National Forest's boondocks where he owns a lot... Henschel's office is located on the fourth floor of the Launch Control Center with a commanding view of Complex 39. Test supervisors are a rare breed and Henschel is one of eight men specializing in the test supervision of space vehicles..."



“CHUCK HENSCHEL works on Dune Buggy”

From The July 2, 1970 Spaceport News

The headline is “**Apollo 14 Flight Now Jan. 31, 1971**”. In part, the article reads “Changes to be made in Apollo spacecraft procedures before the Apollo 14 mission will require postponing launch until no earlier than January 31, 1971... The Kennedy Space Center’s Launch Operations Directorate are developing new work schedules to accommodate the spacecraft changes and rescheduled Apollo 14 launch date... The command/service module system will be modified to eliminate potential combustion hazards in high pressure oxygen of the type revealed by the Apollo 13 accident. In addition, a third oxygen tank will be added to the service module...”.

On page 1, “**10 Years Pass Since LOD Start**”. Part of the article reads “On July 1 ten years ago, NASA’s Launch Operations Directorate (LOD) came into being, eventually to evolve into what is now KSC. Under the leadership of Dr. Kurt H. Debus, now KSC Director, the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Agency (ABMA) Missile Firing Laboratory became LOD. Formerly, LOD became operational when the Development Operations Division of ABMA was transferred to NASA as the Marshall Space Flight Center...”

LOD, with 314 personnel, functioned as the central NASA group at the Atlantic and Pacific Missile Ranges for all matters pertaining to overall vehicle launch operations... At the time he became Director of LOD, Dr. Debus had been responsible for the research and development launches of the Redstone, Jupiter and Pershing Missiles, including the first U.S. space satellite, Explorer I... On March 7, 1962, NASA announced the establishment of the Launch Operations Center to become effective on July 1. Dr. Debus was named Director, and LOD personnel formed the nucleus of the new center, separate from MSFC. Following the assassination of President Kennedy, President Johnson announced on November 28, 1963, that this area would be named "John F. Kennedy Space Center."

On page 8, "**Fritz Widick Space Days Set In Atchison, Kan.**". A portion of the article reads "Atchison, Kansas will roll out the red carpet for one of its native sons with "Fritz Widick Space Days" on July 10, 11 and 12. Widick is the Chief Test Conductor for the lunar module at KSC, working in the Operations Division of Spacecraft Operations. U.S. Congressman Chester L. Mize of Atchison, who has known Widick since he was a boy, will serve as Master of Ceremonies at a dinner July 11 honoring the Test Conductor..."

At the age of 39, he is a 14-year veteran in space work and has had an active part in the two successful lunar landings. The first lunar landing by the Apollo 11 crew has been the high point in Widick's career... Widick has served as Chief Lunar Module Test Conductor for Apollos 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, and is now involved in the checkout of the lunar lander for Apollo 14...

At the University of Kansas, he prepared himself for his present job by earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Physics... As for the future, Widick is looking forward to working in the Skylab Program..."



FRITZ WIDICK

From The July 16, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**67 Youths Here Learning About Space First Hand**". In part, this article reads "Sixty-seven young men from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and nine foreign countries are attending a week-long Space Seminar at KSC... The seminar is sponsored by the Pepsi Cola Company and Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation in cooperation with the Exploring Division of the Boy Scouts of America and KSC. O'Brien participated in the week-long session... NASA Administrator Dr. Thomas O. Paine addressed the youths at the opening of the seminar Monday in Firing Room 4..."

Special emphasis was given to an on-the-scene explanation of the assembly, checkout and testing of the Apollo 14 Saturn V in preparation for flight... Astronaut Walter Cunningham, who flew on the Apollo 7 mission, met with the youngsters Monday afternoon...”.



“NASA ADMINISTRATOR Dr. Thomas A. Paine, right, U.S. Sen. Charles H. Percy (R-ILL), center, and Actor Hugh O’Brien, left, listen intently at a “bull session” to participants in the youth Space Seminar at KSC sponsored by Pepsi Cola and the Hugh O’Brien Youth Foundation in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America and NASA.”

On page 5, “**KSC Planning for Role as Shuttle Launch Site**”. A portion of the article reads “Planners at KSC are carefully studying the Spaceport’s potential as the operational site for the Space Shuttle while studies are underway across the country concerning the design and critical elements of the space vehicle of the future...”

Sam Beddingfield, Space Shuttle Task Group Manager for the Center Planning and Future Programs Directorate at KSC, said the operational aspects of the Space Shuttle system are a combination of large aircraft operations, space vehicle launch operations and spacecraft mission operations. The shuttle vehicle, he said, will be launched as a space vehicle, operated as an orbiting spacecraft, and landed as a large, high-performance aircraft...

After landing, the orbiter will be taxied or towed to a deservicing and safing facility adjacent to the runway, where the crew and any passengers will egress... It will then be towed to a maintenance and checkout facility, a large hangar type building designed to accommodate boosters and orbiters positioned on their landing gear... Present indications are that the shuttle vehicle would be capable of delivering up to 50,000 pounds of cargo to low earth orbit and/or returning like amount to earth. The shuttle system would be capable of 50 to 150 flights per year...”.



“PROPOSED SHUTTLE OPERATIONS AT KSC”

In the illustration, notice one Shuttle landing at what will become the Shuttle Landing Facility and one launching from LC39A in the background. There is even a runway number on the illustration, may be thirty, which actually became runway 33.

From The July 30, 1970, Spaceport News

On the first page, **“Dr. Paine Leaving NASA, Returns to Industry”**. Part of the article reads “The Western White House announced Thursday afternoon that Dr. Thomas O. Paine, NASA’s Administrator for the past two years, has resigned effective September 15, 1970...”. From a letter Dr. Paine wrote, included in the issue, “...I will miss you. I hate to leave. My heart will always be with NASA. At the same time, I have been offered and wish to accept a challenging opportunity in my old company, General Electric, which also involves important national problems and technical opportunities outside of the aerospace area...”.

On page 2, **“KSC Active in Apollo 11 Anniversary Festivities”**. In part, the article states “On July 16, KSC officials and personnel celebrated the first anniversary of the launch of Apollo 11 and followed with participation in Brevard County’s Moonwalk Festival. At 9:32 a.m. on July 16 -- precisely one year after the launch of the historical first manned flight to the surface of the Moon -- KSC Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus unveiled a plaque at the Launch Control Center commemorating the launch of Apollo 11.

Concurrently, seven other plaques on the wall of the LCC Lobby were unveiled representing the other Apollo/Saturn V launches from Launch Complex 39. Speaking at the unveiling ceremony, Dr. Debus said: "One year ago we started mankind on its race,

leaving its planet and visiting and setting foot on the first body in the heavens. This is the beginning as it was when Columbus left Spain and set sail...”.



“KSC DIRECTOR Dr. Kurt H. Debus unveils plaque at LCC commemorating the first anniversary of the launch of Apollo 11, the United States’ first manned lunar landing mission. Concurrently seven other plaques were unveiled inside the LCC representing other Apollo/Saturn V launches.”

It would be interesting to know what happened to these plaques. I did some initial checking with several folks on the Spaceport News Summary distribution and the answer is unknown. Do these plaques ring a bell with anyone and if so, do you know what happened to them?

On page 4.



“ACTOR HUGH O'BRIAN, center, and five youths attending the Space Seminar recently at KSC observed Apollo 14 Commander Alan Shepard and Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell performing a lunar surface activities exercise near the Flight Crew Training Building.”

From page 8.



“ASTRONAUT JOE ENGLE, fourth from right, recently presented Silver Snoopy Awards in Design Engineering as part of the Manned Flight Awareness Program. From left are John Jamison, Robert Sykes, Wayne Graham, Anthony Ehret, Paul Gauger Jr., David Springer, Engel, Floyd Lundy Jr., Frankie Barron and Grace Rebisz.”

From The August 13, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Delta Opens Second Decade Wednesday**”. A part of the article reads “When Delta 80 hurls Skynet-B into orbit next Wednesday, it will mark the beginning of a new decade of service for one of NASA’s most dependable launch vehicles. The first successful Delta vehicle was launched Aug. 12, 1960. It boosted Echo 1 communications satellite into orbit. Since then, Delta has achieved a 92 percent record of successful launches...”.



“DELTA I/ECHO”

Remember Echo?

The first successful launch to orbit by a Delta rocket came 10 years ago this week —4:40 a.m. EST August 12, 1960 to be exact — when the Echo I passive communications satellite made its first appearance in the sky.

The 100-foot sphere was the first satellite that could be seen easily with the naked eye. The news media carried sighting forecasts on a daily basis so everyone could see the first “real” satellite crossing the night sky like a bright star.

Echo I reentered the atmosphere and burned up May 24, 1968 after almost eight years in orbit.

Also on page 2, **“NASA Films Scheduled At Lunchtime”**. Part of the article states “Noontime showings of NASA films are scheduled in the Training Auditorium during August. Seeds of Discovery,” a 1970 release narrated by James Franciscus, is scheduled for showing Thursday, August 13... “Manned Space Flight, New Goals and Challenges,” a 1970 release that briefly reviews progress in manned space flight and looks forward to the future, is scheduled for showing Tuesday and Thursday, August 18 and 20. “Within This Decade: America in Space,” a 1969 release that reviews progress in manned space flight through Apollo 10, is scheduled for showing Tuesday and Wednesday, August 25 and 26. Showings are scheduled at 11:30 a.m., 12 noon and 12:30 p.m. each day. Employees are invited.”

From The August 27, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, **“Apollo 14 Tests Continue, Flight Changes Pondered”**. A portion of the article reads “KSC personnel continue to checkout the Apollo 14 space vehicle... An unmanned altitude chamber run was scheduled August 27 for the Apollo 14 command module, to be followed by a manned run with the prime crew aboard on September 1 and with the backup crew on September 3...”

In regards to alternative Apollo mission plans, NASA has asked two scientific advisory boards for their views... Alternative No. 1 is to fly the remaining six Apollo missions as presently planned. Alternative No.2 would delete two of these missions. The Apollo schedule now calls for Apollo 14 to be launched January 31, 1971, with Apollo 15, 16 and 17 following at approximate six-month intervals. The Skylab workshop and "three astronaut revisits would be flown late in 1972 and 1973 and then Apollo 18 and 19 would be launched in 1974. The second alternative would delete two Apollo flights. The four remaining Apollo missions would be scheduled at approximate six-month intervals before Skylab.

In fact, the second alternative was chosen and implemented.

On page 4, "**Delta 80 Orbits Skynet-B, British Military Satellite**". Part of the article reads "The successful launch of Delta 80, at 8:11 a.m., August 19, from Cape Kennedy hurled United Kingdom's Skynet-B into orbit. This launch ushered in a new decade for the versatile space vehicle. It was 10 years ago on August 12 that a Delta vehicle successfully orbited Echo 1 from KSC. Since that time KSC's Unmanned Launch Operations Directorate has successfully launched 74 Delta vehicles..."

From The September 10, 1970, Spaceport News

From page 1, "**Apollo 14 Passes 2 Big Tests**". A portion of the article reads "The KSC spacecraft team and the Apollo 14 flight crew passed two more major milestones in their mission preparation last week with the successful completion of manned altitude runs in the command-service modules. Both tests, at altitudes above 200,000 feet, ran smoothly, with no problems encountered..."

Work is continuing on schedule on the spacecraft modifications planned for Apollo 14. Certain electrical work has already been completed for the oxygen system, which will carry three tanks instead of two. The replacement tanks are expected to be delivered to KSC late next month. A 400 amp hour battery also will be added to the service module as an alternate power source in case the spacecraft's main power supply fails, as it did on the Apollo 13 flight. An additional 20 pounds of potable water also will be stored separately in the command module for contingency purposes..."

From The September 24, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**KSC Team, Crews Busy on Apollo 14**". Part of the article reads "The KSC launch team continues preparation on the Apollo 14 space vehicle for a January 31 launch... The Apollo 14 crews—Commander Alan Shepard, Command Module Pilot Stuart Rosa and Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell and backup Commander Eugene Cernan, Command Module Pilot Ron Evans and Lunar Module Pilot Joe Engle—have been at KSC doing exercises in the simulators and performing extravehicular activity..."



"APOLLO 14 backup Commander Eugene Cernan, right, and backup Lunar Module Pilot Joe Engle go through lunar surface exercises at KSC. Engle, deploying box-like four-barrel devices which will be left behind to hurl explosive charges at ranges up to 5,000 feet while Cernan is at the central recording and relay station which will transmit the seismic data back to Earth."



"STACKING OF the Saturn V launch vehicle for Apollo 15, to be launched next summer, was recently completed in the VAB. The second stage, lower left, was erected atop the first stage, and the third stage, upper left, and lower right, was then placed on the second stage. This was followed by placing the instrument unit on top of the third stage, upper right."

From The October 22, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 5, "**Vast Grass Acreage Requires Big Mowing Effort**". A portion of the article reads "'Mowing KSC's 2,400 acres of grass is a full time job and from June through September we never quite get caught up,'" said Harrell Cunningham, Chief of KSC's Roads and Grounds Section. About 22 men are assigned to mowing highway median strips, road side slopes and ditches, lawns of the Industrial and VAB areas, launch pads, crawlerways, and under power lines. Areas where personnel work are mowed twice a month...

The Visitor Information Center (VIC), KSC's horticultural "show place," is given special treatment. In addition to the many trees, shrubs and special plantings, it has 14,000 square feet of hybrid Bermuda grass which require different treatment from any other grasses in the area..."



"NASA AND TWA personnel display some of the varied equipment used to keep the grounds at the Spaceport mowed and edged. Standing at front left are Harrell Cunningham, Chief of Heavy Equipment and Roads and Grounds for KSC, right, and Sam Shell, TWA Foreman for Maintenance Area 1. Others shown with equipment are, left to right, Ron Knighton, George Hutchison, Charles McDermott, Lewis Boggs, Les Hill and Chuck Gross."

From the November 5, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, is "**Apollo 14 Rollout to Pad A Set Monday**". In part, the article reads "The KSC launch team will pass a major milestone next Monday when the space vehicle makes its 3 1/2 mile trip from the Vehicle Assembly Building to the launch pad... The rollout of the ninth Saturn V comes on the third anniversary of the historic first Saturn V launch at the Kennedy Space Center, Apollo 4... Apollo 14, the fourth Apollo mission with a lunar landing objective, will be the most comprehensive flight yet, with

the astronauts spending as much as 10 hours outside on the lunar surface on two excursions into the hilly uplands region near the crater Frau Mauro...”.

Also on page 1, **“Donnelly Gets LO Promotion”**. In part, the article reads “Paul C. Donnelly has been named Associate Director of Operations, Launch Operations Directorate, at KSC. In this capacity he will be responsible for overall planning and execution of all KSC launch operations at the Eastern and Western Test Ranges and for Apollo-Skylab programs. Donnelly has served as KSC's Launch Operations Manager since 1965...”

Before joining NASA, Donnelly directed the carrier-based Anti-submarine Aircraft Evaluation Section of the Electronics Test Division at the Patuxent Naval Air Station, Maryland... Donnelly was an aviation electronics technician in the U.S. Navy... He attended Grove City College in Pennsylvania, the University of Virginia and the Navy's electronics and guided missile technical schools...”.



PAUL C. DONNELLY

And also on page 1, **“Neilon Named ULO Director”**. Part of the article states “John J. Neilon has been named Director, Unmanned Launch Operations, Launch Operations Directorate of the John F. Kennedy Space Center (KSC). Neilon will direct the Government-contractor team responsible for KSC's Unmanned Launch Operations at both the Eastern Test Range at Cape Kennedy and the Western Test Range, California... Since 1965 Neilon has served as Deputy Director of Unmanned Launch Operations. He succeeds Robert H. Gray, who is now Deputy Director of Center Launch Operations...”

Neilon served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and later graduated from St. Anselm's College, Manchester, New Hampshire receiving a Bachelor's degree in mathematics summa cum laude, from that institution in 1949... In 1955 he became associated with the Navy's Vanguard satellite project and in 1957 transferred to Cape Canaveral as a member of the launch team...

Shortly after the formation of NASA, he joined the Goddard Space Flight Center and served as project officer at the Air Force Eastern Test Range for NASA's Delta project...”.



JOHN J. NEILON

Finally, on page 1, “[Open House Exhibits, Flight Hardware Impressive](#)”. Part of the article states “I knew the Spaceport was a special place, but I had no idea it would be this impressive behind the scenes, related one of the 15,000 persons attending Open House Oct. 24... Government and contractor personnel manned more than 25 exhibits and displays in the Vehicle Assembly Building’s large transfer aisle... Exhibits in the VAB included a full-scale Lunar Rover, an astronaut rescue vehicle, an Air Force lifting body, and Skylab and Shuttle artwork and models...”.

Mentioned in the article, other Open House areas included the LCC, the Flight Crew Training Building, the Manned Spacecraft Operations Building, and the Central Instrumentation Facility.

Open House photos from page 5.



On the lower left in the photo is the [X-24A lifting body](#).



From The November 19, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, “**Apollo 14 Systems Test, Tank Checks Underway**”. In part, the article reads “The Apollo 14 spacecraft integrated systems test is underway today following installation of oxygen tanks 2 and 3 in Sector IV of the service module earlier this week... The crews and flight controllers conducted two combined simulations. Shepard and Mitchell were at the Fra Mauro lunar site near Flagstaff, Arizona and Roosa was in a simulator at KSC. Mission Control at the Manned Spacecraft Center also was tied into the loop... On November 9, the Apollo 14 space vehicle was rolled out to Pad A from the VAB without a hitch.



“COMMANDER Alan Shepard, center, Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell, left, and Command Module Pilot Stuart Roosa, right, are shown with their Apollo 14 emblem.”

From page 6, "**Apollo 14 Vehicle Rolls Out of VAB to Pad**"; photos.



MITCHELL SHEPARD ROOSA

From page 3, "**Parsons Combines Flying, Country Living and Work**". A portion of the article reads "Often, fish are jumping in the lake as he walks from his front door to the aircraft parked a few hundred yards away. In a few moments Walt Parsons is airborne, commuting to KSC over Central Florida terrain he describes as "extremely beautiful."... "To me flying is an exhilarating influence," said Parsons, head of the Systems Engineering Division in Design Engineering. "I use the aircraft to come to work as often as I can."...

Parsons combines a love of flying with a preference for country living. Five years ago this led to the purchase of 20 acres and a home on the shore of Lake Tohopekaliga, near Kissimmee. He smiles and remembers that a neighbor "happened to maintain a landing strip 1,000 feet from the house." There Parsons parks his four-place single engine aircraft. It is about 15 minutes "flying time" from the home landing strip to TICO Airport, a few miles west of the Spaceport. From the airport, Parsons travels to his office by car...

He saves 30 minutes when he flies, providing he has arranged transportation from the TICO Airport. By car, the trip from Kissimmee to KSC takes slightly more than an hour. But it is not just the saving of time or the lack of traffic that draws Parsons to flying. "There is a feeling about flying," he says...Pilot Parsons bought his first plane in 1963. He purchased his present larger aircraft in 1966..."



WALT PARSONS

From The December 3, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, **“Crew Health Plans Detailed At Spaceport”**. Part of the article reads “To help reduce the risk of exposure to infection or contagious diseases and illness, 176 personnel at KSC have been designated primary contacts for the Apollo 14 prime and backup crews during the 21-day period preceding the January 31 launch date. Primary contacts are those individuals required to have direct contact with the astronauts to perform mission essential functions...”

On leaving the MSO Building, the crews will use a designated stairwell from the third floor and exit through the nearest door. They will use their private automobiles for transportation. At the Flight Crew Training Building, no one will be allowed in the lobby at the front door while the crew is entering or exiting. Primary contacts must be immunized against nine diseases and report any family illness to the Medical Surveillance Manager... From T-21 days, the Medical Surveillance Manager will have a 24-hour operational command post using three shifts on the third floor of the MSO Building...”

On page 8, **“Story of ‘Raining’ in VAB Originated from 2 Sources”**. In part, the article reads “Have you heard a story about it “raining” in the VAB? Well, apparently this act of nature has never occurred since the VAB was enclosed, but the rain stories originated from two sources, said W. A. Macey, Manager of the Mechanical Utilities Section of TWA...”

At one time it was commonly believed the VAB would be totally air conditioned. With a large air mass within the building maintained at a 70 to 75 degree temperature, rain would likely have occurred if the large bay doors were opened and moist 90 degree outside air rushed in and mixed with the cooler mass... However, the assumption that

the entire building was air conditioned was false. Only the interior tower spaces and small areas around the Apollo space vehicle in work platforms are air conditioned... Recorded readings of dry bulb, wet bulb and specific humidity conditions within the VAB at different levels - with or without roof louvers open or doors open - have never shown any combination of conditions that would have produced rain.

The second story of rain in the VAB is attributed to the construction men who worked on the building when ground fog and mist were prevalent in the area, particularly when the top of the building was visible only after 9 a.m. Construction workers assigned to work at various elevations in the heavy mist did get wet from condensation dripping from the overhead steel structure...".

From The December 17, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 4, "**Second Stage Is Modified To Cut Out Pogo Effect**". In part, the article reads "The second stage of the Apollo 14 space vehicle has been modified at KSC to prevent recurrence of unusually high oscillations recorded during the Apollo 13 flight. Although the oscillations, or pogo effect, caused an early shutdown of the center engine, the launch vehicle performed satisfactorily and met all mandatory and desirable flight objectives.

An accumulator designed to suppress oscillation buildup during flight has been installed in the liquid oxygen line of the second stage's center J-2 engine. Also, three accelerometer devices mounted on the second stage center crossbeam structure will act as backups to cut off the center engine if excessive oscillations in the beam structure occur...".

On page 8.



"ASTRONAUT RON EVANS, third from right, recently presented Snoopy Awards to the following personnel in Administration: left to right, Wes Dean, Procurement; Ken Steel, Management Systems; Harriett Springer, Personnel; Evelyn Walsh, Fiscal Review; and Otis Leming, Resources." The entire issue was tinted green for the holiday season.

From The December 17, 1970, Spaceport News

On page 1, "**Apollo Countdown Test January 13-19**". [A portion of the article states](#) "The KSC launch team is gearing operations to begin the Apollo 14 Countdown Demonstration Test (CDDT) on January 13. This is a dress rehearsal for the actual countdown leading to launch at 3:23 p.m. January 31... The CDDT will be under the guidance of Launch Director Walter Kapryan and Associate Director for Operations Paul Donnelly. Chuck Henschel is Test Supervisor for Apollo 14..."

[On page 7.](#)



"THE APOLLO 14 prime crew recently received an oversized Christmas card signed by 400 members of the KSC team that is making preparations for their scheduled launch to the Moon January 31. Jim Loy, right, a Public Affairs representative, presented the card to, left to right, Command Module Pilot Stuart A. Roosa, Lunar Module Pilot Edgar Mitchell and Commander Alan Shepard."

[On page 8.](#)

CONTRACTOR NOTES

"**IBM Hosts Apollo Dinners**". [Part of the article states](#) "IBM's Federal Systems Division hosted some 500 employees at two Apollo 14 awareness dinners. With the theme "Rendezvous in Space," the dinners dealt with IBM's past, present and future roles in America's space effort. IBM Facility Manager Robert E. Ehrhardt, Jr., asked employees for their "continued support for Apollo 14..."

The Apollo 14 prime and backup crews spoke briefly at the dinners. The backup crew Eugene Cernan, Ronald Evans and Joe Engle - attended the first evening and prime crewmen Alan Shepard, Edgar Mitchell and Stuart Roosa were on hand the second

night. Shepard was presented with a birthday cake, made in the shape of an Apollo spacecraft, and the backup crew presented a short skit spoofing the "oldest astronaut."



"APOLLO 14 Backup Commander Eugene Cernan, center, Chats with IBM Cape Kennedy Facility officials and their wives at one of two awareness dinners conducted with the theme of "Rendezvous in Space."

On page 1, "**Debus Speaks at Ceremony**". In part, the article reads "After wishing employees a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year at the annual KSC Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, KSC Director Dr. Kurt H. Debus emphasized the continued need for dedicated effort in assuring success of programs of the future. Dr. Debus said that the KSC team would be launching the Skylab missions and that the Spaceport should become the operational launch site for the Space Shuttle. An estimated 250 civil service and contractor employees assembled near the tree in front of the Headquarters Building... The 79-voice Cocoa High School Concert Chorale provided musical selections for the occasion."



"KSC DIRECTOR Dr. Kurt H. Debus addresses employees during the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Seated behind Dr. Debus are, left to right, the Rev. P. Molloy, Pastor of the Divine Mercy Catholic Church, Merritt Island; Miles Ross, KSC Deputy Director; and Dugald O Black, Chairman of the NASA/KSC Exchange Council."