



Dr. Robert C. Seamans

DR. SEAMANS NAMED DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Dr. Robert C. Seamans has been named Deputy Director for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

A native of Salem, Massachusetts, Dr. Seamans has been active in the aerospace field for nearly a quarter of a century, and had served as Associate NASA Administrator prior to his new appointment.

He has been, through the years, a frequent visitor to the Kennedy Space Center,

(See DR., Page 4)

Sky Full Of Astronauts When Gemini 6 Joined 7

One of the toughest obstacles in man's efforts to conquer space—rendezvous of two objects in orbit—was successfully hurdled yesterday afternoon in spectacular fashion as Gemini 6 pilots Wally Schirra and Tom Stafford maneuvered their spacecraft within a few feet of their fellow astronauts, Frank Borman and James Lovell, in Gemini 7.

The historic reunion came about six hours after Gemini 6 was launched into space, on the third try, at 8:37 Wednesday morning, following a trouble-free countdown.

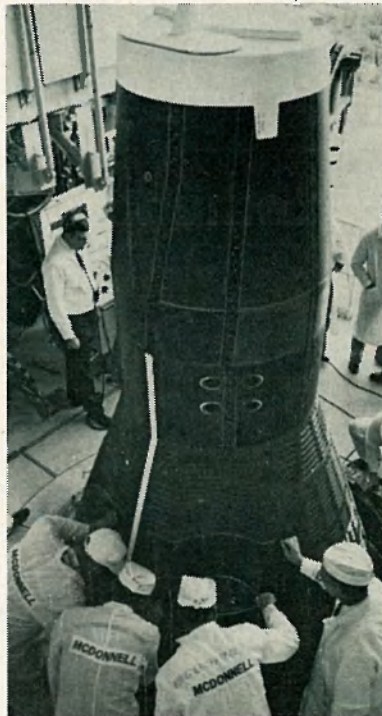
The flight plan called for Stafford and Schirra to land several hours after rendezvous, and arrive at the Kennedy Space Center a day later for medical debriefing.

Borman and Lovell are to splashdown Saturday after completing a record-shattering two weeks in space. They, too, will arrive at the Kennedy Space Center a day later.

Following the medical checkups at KSC, the four astronauts will return to the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston for technical debriefings.

The launch of Schirra and Stafford yesterday resulted after a combined NASA-Air-Force-industry team worked

(See GEMINI, Page 4)



NASA and McDonnell personnel make last minute adjustments to the Gemini 6 spacecraft in the White Room atop Launch Complex 19 prior to the Wednesday morning flight of astronauts Wally Schirra and Tom Stafford.



FRAMED by a coil of wire, the Pioneer spacecraft stood ready for flight at Launch Complex 17.

Pioneer Spacecraft To Study Sun's Role

While worldwide attention has been focused on the Gemini 7 and 6 missions, Kennedy Space Center Unmanned Launch Operations personnel have been busy the past few weeks helping ready Pioneer A for flight at Launch Complex 17.

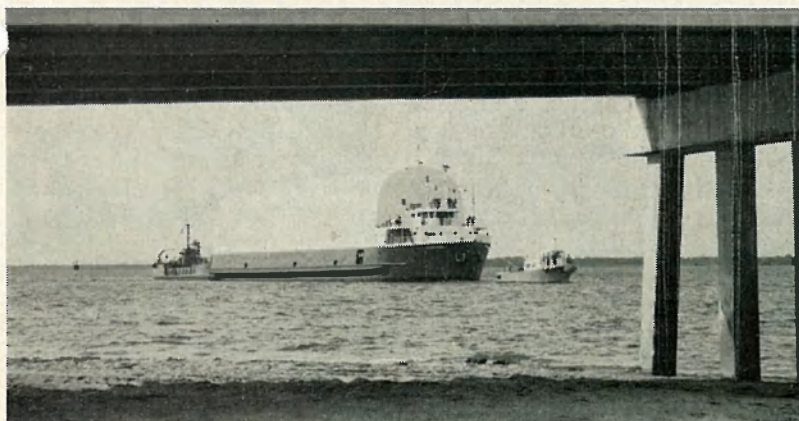
It was scheduled for launch early this morning.

The Delta-powered Pioneer, in conjunction with data back from earlier Mariner missions, will provide information to help scientists understand some of the complexities concerning the sun's role in interplanetary space exploration.

The launch is under the supervision of Robert H. Gray, Assistant KSC Director for Unmanned Launch Operations. John J. Neilon and Hugh A. Weston are assistant launch directors.

Fred J. Stevens is test controller and R. L. Norman, Jr., assistant test controller, J. W. Johnson is spacecraft launch conductor and H. D. Matthews is assistant spacecraft launch conductor.

Launch vehicle is a Thrust-Augmented Improved Delta, built by Douglas Aircraft.



PROCEEDING up the Banana River, the NASA barge Poseidon this week delivered an S-IC weight simulator to the Vehicle Assembly Building. The 300,000-pound unit will be used to checkout overhead cranes that will handle Saturn V stages during future space flight operations.

Luau Luncheon

Kennedy Space Center workers in the Launch Control Center area were treated to a luau type luncheon yesterday in the LCC cafeteria.

In an effort to "spice up" the presentation of foods, the Macke Company offered this menu: sweet sour island spare-ribs, shrimp tempura, leilani ham, chicken coconut isle and teriyaki steak, with lanai salad and kona ice cream.



BOARD of directors for the NASA Exchange's Activities Association was elected last week. Left to right, seated, are: Dorothy Parker, chairman, arts, crafts and clubs; Tom Davis, president; Larry Bell, vice president; Vernon Jansen, chairman, fiscal committee; J. T. Campbell, chairman, competitive sports committee; and Lois Stanley, corresponding secretary. Standing, left to right, are: James Russo, chairman, ladies and children's committee; Jim Loy, chairman, publicity and promotion; and Bill Martin, chairman, Center social activities. Not shown is Rube Wilkinson, chairman, facilities committee.

Appropriate Remarks

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following excerpts were taken from a recent letter to a Marine in Viet Nam written by FBI Director, J. Edgar Hoover. In view of the protest demonstrations that have been staged, it was felt Mr. Hoover's remarks were most appropriate at this time.

"Dear Lieutenant: I sincerely hope that you and the brave men with whom you serve understand that those who protest, degrade and shame the excellent representation you are making for us do not speak for patriotic Americans.

"The small, but highly vocal, minority which is staging these anti-Viet Nam protest demonstrations is, for the most part, composed of halfway citizens who are neither morally, mentally or emotionally mature. Do not become discouraged over their actions, however, for they are not in the saddle and never have been.

"I also hope you realize that civil disobedience is not an accepted norm of behavior in the U.S. I doubt it ever will be. It is a seditious slogan of gross irresponsibility which has absolutely no place in a nation whose foundation is respect for law. Those who advocate such hysterical attacks upon our system of law and order are very likely so devoid of real standards that, placed in your position, they would turn and run in the face of battle.

"All of us pray you can return home very soon and resume your normal life."

J. Edgar Hoover



Spaceport's Birds To Be Counted

Permission has been granted to allow four ornithological experts onto the Kennedy Space Center later this month to participate in the Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count.

This national census taking of the birds is held each year around Christmas time, and for the past 10 years the Cocoa team of counters has led the nation in the number of different species sighted.

Last year the local team set a new record by sighting 204 different species within a 24 hour period. Of this total, 108 species were found on Kennedy Space Center property.

One of the reasons for the wide variety at the Spaceport is the variance in terrain—from seacoast to marshlands to rivers to mainland and wooded areas.



ASSISTANT KSC Director for Information Systems, Karl Sendler, center, briefed two Federal Electric executives on coming operations during a recent meeting at the Center. At left is Federal Electric vice president Robert Pittman, and at right is KSC project manager T. V. Cameron.

Rescue Operation Reported

During the Gemini 6 launch attempt on December 12, 1965, an Air Rescue Service helicopter, assigned to the recovery forces, developed engine trouble, apparently the result of a fire in the engine, and was forced to make an emergency landing in the Banana River.

Within minutes, a helicopter occupied by Bill Horner of the KSC Security Office arrived on the scene.

The helicopter hovered near the downed craft, evaluated the situation, and through the use of a portable transmitter/receiver tied into the security communications net, immediately passed on data.

As a result of this prompt action, an ambulance, fire fighting apparatus, and KSC

patrol vehicles were dispatched to the scene to render aid.

The KSC boat used to patrol the Banana River north of the NASA Causeway during Gemini launches, piloted by patrolmen Owen Fike and Gerald McGinnis, immediately left its position at the Causeway and arrived on the scene some minutes later.

Fortunately, none of the crew were injured. The patrol boat, also tied into the security communications net, gave continuous reports on the status of the crew and the helicopter and stood by to render assistance. Shortly thereafter, the patrol boat transported part of the crew to shore bringing to a happy conclusion a rather unusual incident

SPACEPORT



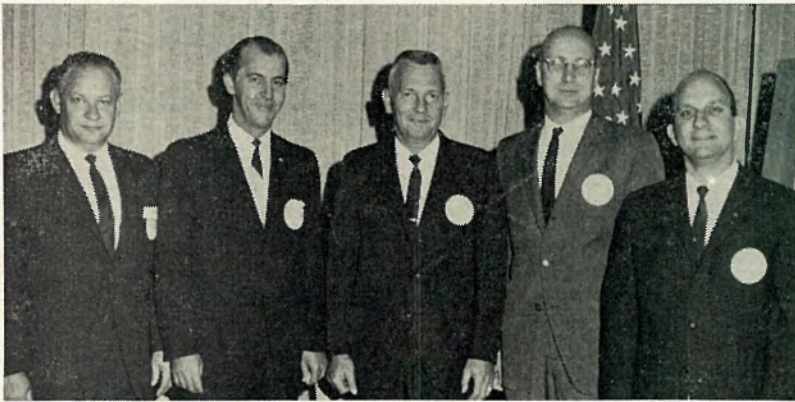
NEWS

Published each week by the John F. Kennedy Space Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Kennedy Space Center, Florida, 32899

John W. King, Chief, Public Information Office

L. B. Taylor, Jr., Editor

Russell F. Hopkins, Staff Photographer



NEW OFFICERS of the Canaveral Federal Management Association are, left to right, Ben Hursey, KSC Personnel Chief, president; C. P. Geiger, first vice president; A. K. Smith, second vice president; J. B. Daniszewski, treasurer; and George Gnann of KSC, executive secretary. At the installation meeting Gnann was presented a special award for bringing into the association the greatest number of new members.

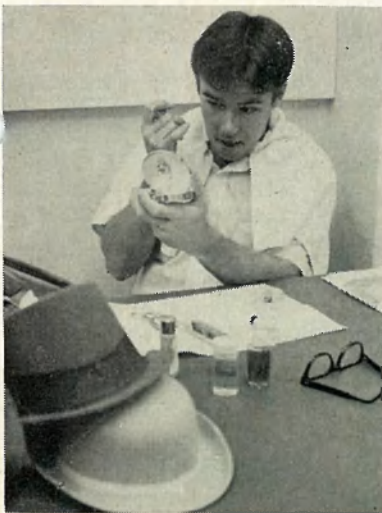
MUSIC MAN ROLE LAUDED

When it comes to musical comedies, 76 trombones invariably blare in John Caverter's ears.

An engineering writer with Ling-Temco-Vought at the Kennedy Space Center, Caverter recently played the role of the blustery mayor of River City in Meredith Wilson's classic. It was produced locally by the Brevard Light Opera Association.

Caverter, an English and speech major in college, modestly shrugs off his performance. "I don't even do any singing," he says.

Critics however, have been more praiseworthy. One local reviewer wrote: "Among the many high points of the show was the performance of John Caverter as the bombastic Mayor Shinn. Enthusiasm



MUSIC MAN actor John Caverter applies makeup as he prepares for another portrayal of the blustery mayor of River City.

was exhibited by him throughout the evening.

"One of the best scenes of the show," the reviewer went on, "was when the lovable blowhard mayor dragged his daughter around the stage while berating her for her choice in a boy friend."

Caverter draws his experience from a long list of acting assignments, including roles as Claudius in "Hamlet," as Colonel Purdy in "Teahouse of the August Moon," and as Mathew Brady in "Inherit the Wind."

It was a lot of fun," Caverter says of his role. "I wore a mammoth stomach and hid behind a lot of makeup and nobody recognized me."

The oversized tummy almost got him in a jam on opening night a couple of weeks ago. He couldn't find any pants (size 42) to fit until someone finally discovered some moments before curtain call.

LARGEST CASH AWARD

Here's a mark for KSC employees to shoot at: the largest cash award for an employee suggestion totalled \$3,060 in fiscal year 1965. It went to Eugene Simpson, a supply officer at the Sierra Army Depot, Herlong, California.

He devised a method for modifying certain types of obsolete cartridge cases to meet new ammunition requirements, thereby saving \$2 million in new procurement costs.

Hester, McGuire Mark 30-Year CS Milestones

Two Kennedy Space Center employees—Joe Hester and Tom McGuire—were honored at the first annual Kennedy Space Center awards ceremonies recently for each having completed 30 years of government service.

Tom McGuire began his federal career in June 1934 when he enlisted in the Army and was assigned to a horse-drawn field artillery outfit in Panama.

He rose through the non-commissioned officer ranks to become a master sergeant and was chief of a communications combat radio operations school in England during the early stages of World War H.

Among those to whom he gave communications instruction was Clark Gable. He also flew with Curtis LeMay when he was only a light colonel.

McGuire later transferred, and flew combat missions as a radio operator on B-17 crews. After the war he taught communications and navigation to pilots and navigators.

Following his military retirement he joined the Army Ballistic Missile Agency in Huntsville, when KSC Director, Dr. Kurt H. Debus, was then chief of the Missile

Firing Laboratory.

Today, McGuire is chief of the Administrative Support Branch of Information Systems' Planning and Technical Support Office.

He lives at 875 Church Street in Rockledge with his wife, Margaret, and their daughter, Betty Jane.

Hester's Career

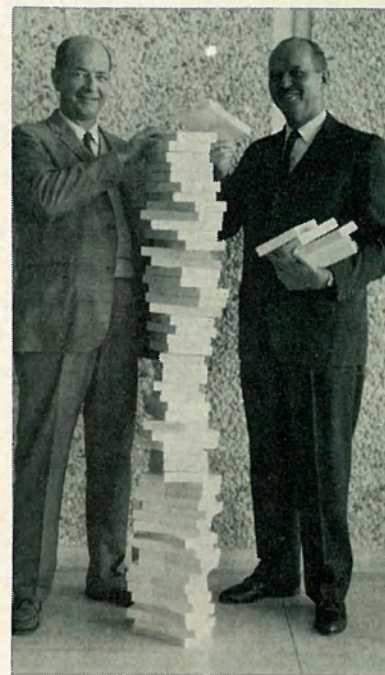
Joe Hester's civil service career started in July 1935 when he joined the Army. He retired from military service nearly 21 years later as a chief warrant officer.

In that time he traveled around the world, putting in two separate tours of duty in Germany, one during the second world war, and one several years later. He also served in Panama and in Korea during the conflict there.

After retirement from military life, Hester served as a construction programmer with the Second Army at Ft. Meade, Maryland until January 1962 when he joined the Kennedy Space Center.

Today, Hester is chief of the Real Property Office. He is the KSC representative concerned with the acquisition of the 87,000 acres of the Spaceport. Also, as construction at the Center is completed, his office accepts it from the contractors on KSC accountability records.

Hester lives at 360 Belair Drive, Merritt Island with his wife, Mary and their three sons, Joe, 18; Tim, 17; and Jeff, 8.

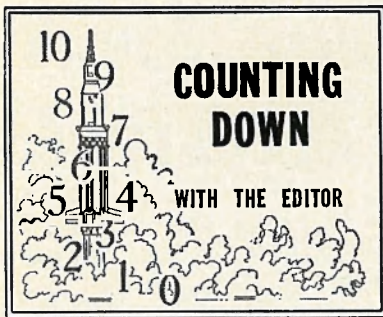


WHEN it comes to stacking calendars—one for each year of government service, Joe Hester, left and Tom McGuire, together, can make a man-sized column. They have 60 years service between them.

Litter Launched

Gemini, the expectant momma cat at Complex 19, couldn't wait for the delayed launch of astronauts Wally Schirra and Tom Stafford. She had her kittens last Friday.

How many? To commemorate the flight of Borman and Lovell, Gemini naturally had seven.



With this issue Spaceport News celebrates its third anniversary as the Kennedy Space Center's employee publication.

Since its initial issue on December 13, 1962, the paper has been made up and published at Kirstein Printers in Orlando.

Employees there have often "gone the second mile" to meet challenging deadlines. When important launches fall on or near the publication date, the presses have been held until news was flashed on progress of the flight.

From an initial run of 4,100 copies weekly, Spaceport News circulation has leaped, over the 36-month period, to 10,800 issues each Thursday.

Copy is sent over to be set on linotype, and photos are sent to the Florida Engraving Company in the Orlando Sentinel Building. The type and finished photos are then made up, proof read, corrections set, and then sent to the pressmen for publication by early afternoon on Wednesdays.

The papers are then delivered to the Kennedy Space Center Thursday mornings

Gemini 6 Joins 7

(Continued from Page 1)

around the clock to ready the pad area, and checkout the Gemini 6 spacecraft and launch vehicle.

Associate NASA Administrator for Manned Space Flight, Dr. George E. Mueller, praised the tremendous efforts of NASA Air Force and contractor personnel at Launch Complex 19 for their work in readying both the pad and space vehicle.

G. Merritt Preston, Deputy KSC Director for Launch Operations, said, "if at first you don't succeed try again. That's what we did, and we were successful. Everyone involved is to be highly commended."

Hawaiian Youngsters Send Future Spacecraft Plans

Should NASA ever run out of futuristic launch vehicle and spacecraft designs, the sixth grade class of the Hi-Land elementary school in Pearl City, Hawaii, has some suggestions.

The entire class there, under Mrs. Higashi, forwarded to the Kennedy Space Center a batch of creative and imaginative designs for every conceivable (and inconceivable) type of rocket and space ship.

The detailed drawings, which have been exhibited in the KSC Headquarters Building lobby, vary from Jules Verne-type artwork to complete abstracts. Some have definite merit and indicate pint-sized engineers in the making.

KSC Director, Dr. Kurt H. Debus, in a letter to the teacher, said, "please convey to your class my deep appreciation for the designs forwarded to me. I particularly liked the originality they reflected and the students' insight into the compartmentalization which characterizes the type spacecraft employed by NASA."

Along with the letter, the youthful designers were sent brochures and information on NASA and the Kennedy Space Center.

These letters and others processed at KSC were the subject last week of a network television interview. A team from the American Broadcasting Company interviewed Education Officer Hal Mehrens on the amount and content of "fan mail" that is received here from youngsters all over the world.

The interview was scheduled to be aired coast to coast by ABC sometime during the Gemini 7-6 missions.



MAJOR JOHN T. PURDY, who came to the Canaveral District of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers as a captain in the fall of 1963, was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster, as he departed for new duties in Alaska. Assigned initially to the field office at the Vehicle Assembly Building, Major Purdy was project engineer on three contracts at the Kennedy Space Center's Apollo-Saturn V moon launch complex.



LUCIUS A. PERRY, Colonel (retired), USAF, has been appointed Bendix Manager, Launch Operations Branch. He will direct the operations of Launch Complex 39 and the Industrial Complex, and the activities associated with Systems Safety.

LTV CHRISTMAS PARTY

Ling-Temco-Vought employees will have their Christmas party Saturday night at the Eden House Motel in Cocoa Beach. Cocktails, dinner, dancing and door prizes will be on tap.

KSG SAFETY LISTS TRAINING COURSES FOR HAZARDOUS JOBS

Changes in the KSC Safety Training Program have recently been announced by Paul King, Chief of the Safety Division.

The changes include: Bendix field engineering will conduct formal training (classroom lectures and demonstrations) for all NASA and contractor personnel involved in potentially hazardous operations.

Formal instruction will be followed by on-the-job training where the trainee performs his operations under direct guidance of a previously trained and certified operator. Training will consist of a minimum of 32 hours of actual use and handling of the hazardous materials or conditions involved.

The job description of each employee will permit an evaluation and a determination as to what type of training each employee engaged in a potentially hazardous area may be required to receive.

Personnel may be scheduled for this training by completing KSC form CT-167 (March 1965). This form is then forwarded to KSC Training.

Hazardous Operations Training in one or more of the courses is expected to be given to NASA and contractor personnel involved in operations on Complexes 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 34, 36, 37, 39, area 60-A, propellants, ordnance, high pressure gas storage, handling, sampling and disposal areas.

Certification of proficiency will be mandatory for all NASA and contractor personnel engaged in the hazardous areas listed.

Dr. Seamans Named

(Continued from Page 1)

and has personally witnessed many important launches here.

He earned his PhD degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and held a number of executive positions in the missile industry prior to joining NASA's predecessor organization, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, in 1948.