

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Frank Frederick Borman II ¹

ORAL HISTORY: 13 April 1999

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

BS United States Military Academy, West Point, New York (1950)
MS in Aeronautical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena,
California (1957)
Advanced Management Program, Harvard Business School (1970)

MILITARY CAREER:

Basic flight training, Perrin Air Force Base (AFB), Sherman, Texas (1950-1951)
Basic fighter training, Williams AFB, Chandler, Arizona (1951)
Advanced fighter training, Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, Nevada (1951)
Pilot, 44th Fighter/Bomber Squadron, Clark Field, Manila, Philippines (1952-1953)
Instructor, Instrument Flying, Moody AFB, Valdosta, Georgia (1953-1955)
Instructor, Instrument Flying, Luke AFB, Arizona (1955-1956)
Assistant Professor, Mechanics, United States Military Academy, West Point, New York
(1957-1960)
Student, USAF Experimental Flight Test Pilot School, Edwards AFB, California (1960-
1961)
Instructor, USAF Aerospace Research Pilot School, Edwards AFB, California (1961-
1962)
Retired as Colonel (1970)

NASA CAREER:

Astronaut, NASA Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas (1962-1970)

POST-NASA CAREER:

Eastern Airlines, Miami, Florida
Special Advisor (1969-1970)
Senior Vice President, Operations (1970-1974)
Executive Vice President, General Operations Manager (1974-1975)
President and Chief Operating Officer (1975)
Chief Executive Officer (1975-1986)
Chairman of the Board (1976-1986)

¹ Borman wrote he was named "Frank Frederick Borman II" after his grandfather [source: Frank Borman, *Countdown: An Autobiography*, With Robert J. Serling (New York: Silver Arrow Books, 1988), 13.]. However, he officially goes by simply "Frank Borman."

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Chairman, CEO, and President of Patlex Corporation (1988- date unknown)

MISSIONS:

Gemini VII (GT-7)

- Crew: Commander Frank Borman, Pilot James A. Lovell, Jr.
- Launched: 4 December 1965 at 2:30:03 P.M. EST from Cape Canaveral, FL
- Duration: 13 days, 18 hours, 35 minutes, 1 second
- Landed: 18 December 1965 in the Atlantic Ocean
- Mission Highlights: All primary and secondary objectives were successfully completed. Primary objective-completion of 14-day mission to evaluate the effects of long duration spaceflight on the crew. Secondary objectives-provide rendezvous target for Gemini VI-A; conduct stationkeeping activities with Gemini VI-A and with second stage of Gemini launch vehicle; conduct 20 experiments; evaluate lightweight pressure suit; evaluate spacecraft reentry capability; conduct systems tests.

Apollo 8

- Crew: Commander Frank Borman, Command Module Pilot James A. Lovell, Jr., Lunar Module Pilot William A. Anders
- Launched: 21 December 1968 at 7:51 A.M. EST from Cape Canaveral, FL
- Duration: 6 days, 3 hours, 0 minutes, 42 seconds
- Landed: 27 December 1968 at 10:52 A.M. EST in the Pacific Ocean
- Mission Highlights: First manned lunar orbital mission

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Member, International Aerospace Hall of Fame (1990)
- Member, U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame (1993)

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Congressional Space Medal of Honor
- Harman International Aviation Trophy
- Robert J. Collier Trophy
- Tony Jannus Award
- National Geographic Society Hubbard Medal
- Airport Operators Council International Downes Award

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

Borman, Frank. Countdown: An Autobiography. With Robert J. Serling. New York: Silver Arrow Books, 1988.

BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Frank Borman Biographical Data Sheets (1962-1968), Biographical Files, History Collection, Scientific and Technical Information Center, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Frank Borman Biographical Data Sheet (December 1993), Astronaut Biographies, Public Affairs Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Frank Borman, Countdown: An Autobiography, With Robert J. Serling (New York: Silver Arrow Books, 1988).

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