

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: John M. Fabian

ORAL HISTORY: 10 February 2006

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, 1962

M.S. in Aerospace Engineering, Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), Dayton, Ohio, 1964

Ph.D. in Aeronautics and Astronautics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1974

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

United States Air Force (1962-1987)

- Attended, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio (1962-1964)
- Aeronautics Engineer, Service Engineering Division, San Antonio Air Material Area, Kelley Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas (1964-1965)
- Pilot Training, Williams Air Force Base, Mesa, Arizona (1966)
- KC-135 Co-pilot, Pilot, and Instructor Pilot, Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Oscoda, Michigan (1966-1971) [includes combat duty in Southeast Asia]
- Faculty member, Aeronautics Department, United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado (1974-1978)
- Retired as Colonel (1987)

NASA INVOLVEMENT:

NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas (1978-1986)

- Astronaut, Astronaut Office

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

Director of Space, Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Operations, United States Air Force, Headquarters (1986-1987)

Mission Planning & Operations Investigator, Presidential Commission on the Space Shuttle *Challenger* Accident, Investigative Staff (1986)

President & CEO, Analytic Services, Inc., (ANSER), Arlington, Virginia (1987-1994)

Member, Presidential Commission on the Redesign of the Space Station (1993)

MISSIONS:

STS-7 (Challenger)

- Crew: Commander Robert L. Crippen, Pilot Fredrick H. Hauck, Mission Specialist John M. Fabian, Mission Specialist Sally K. Ride, Mission Specialist Norman E. Thagard
- Launched: 18 June 1983 at 07:33:00 A.M. EST from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 6 days, 2 hours, 23 minutes, 59 seconds
- Landed: 24 June 1983 at 06:56:59 A.M. PDT, Edwards AFB, CA
- Mission Highlights: STS-7 carried the largest crew to fly in a single spacecraft at the time and Sally Ride became the first American woman to fly in space. Astronauts deployed two communications satellites, ANIK C-2 for TELESAT Canada and PALAPA-B1 for Indonesia. The mission also carried seven Get Away Special canisters that contained various experiments. Included in that was a small colony of ants. STS-7 also carried the first Shuttle Pallet Satellite (SPAS-01).

STS-51G (Discovery)

- Crew: Commander Daniel C. Brandenstein, Pilot John O. Creighton, Mission Specialist Shannon W. Lucid, Mission Specialist John M. Fabian, Mission Specialist Steven R. Nagel, Payload Specialist Patrick Baudry, Payload Specialist Sultan Salman Al-Saud
- Launched: 17 June 1985 at 07:33:00 A.M. EST from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 7 days, 1 hour, 38 minutes, 52 seconds
- Landed: 24 June 1985 at 06:11:52 A.M. EST, Runway 23, Edwards AFB, Edwards, CA
- Mission Highlights: The mission deployed communication satellites MORELOS-A, ARABSAT-A, and TELSTAR-3D for Mexico, Arab Satellite Communications Organization, and AT&T respectively.

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Fellow, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Fellow, American Astronautical Society
- Vice President, Association of Space Explorers (1988, 1994)
- President, Association of Space Explorers (1989-1992)
- Member, International Astronautical Federation
- Member, International Academy of Astronautics
- Member, User Panel of the National Space Biology Research Institute
- Phi Sigma Kappa
- Tau Beta Pi
- Sigma Tau
- The Order of the Daedalians
- Boy Scouts of America

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Air Force Astronaut Wings
- NASA Space Flight Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster
- Federation Aeronautique Internationale – Komarov Diploma
- Air Force Meritorious Service Medal
- Defense Superior Service Medal Legion of Merit
- Defense Meritorious Service Medal
- French Legion of Honor
- Distinguished Flying Cross
- Saudi Arabian King Abdul Aziz Medal
- Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters
- Air Force Commendation Medal
- Washington State University Sloan Engineering Award, 1961
- Air Training Command Academic Training Award, 1966
- Squadron Officer School Commandant's Trophy, 1968
- Squadron Officer School Chief of Staff Award, 1968
- Washington State University Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1983
- Washington State Service to Humanity Award, 1983
- Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1985
- Medallion of Merit, 1987
- Who's Who in Space, 1993

SOURCES:

“4/1/93 Space Station Redesign Advisory Members Named” (93-04-01D), NASA News Releases Homepage, Online, <http://www.spacelink.nasa.gov/NASA.News/NASA.News.Releases/Previous.News.Releases/93.News.Releases/93-04.News.Releases/93-04-01D> (Last Updated n.d.; Accessed 7/17/01).

“Astronaut Bio: John M. Fabian,” Johnson Space Center Homepage, Online, <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/Fabian-jm.html> (Last Updated December 1993; Accessed 16 July 2001).

“John M. Fabian,” Association of Space-Explorers Homepage, Online, <http://www.space-explorers.org/bios/fabian.html> (Last Updated n.d.; Accessed 17 July 2001).

Michael Cassutt, Who's Who in Space: The International Space Year Edition, s.v. “Fabian, John McCreary.”

“Volume 2: Appendix J – NASA Mission Planning and Operations Team Report,” Report of the PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION on the Space Shuttle Challenger Accident Homepage, Online, <http://history.nasa.gov/rogersrep/v2appj.htm> (Last Updated 18 May 2001; Accessed 30 August 2001).