

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Edward George Gibson

ORAL HISTORY: 1 December 2000

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Engineering, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, 1959

M.S. in Mechanical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, 1960

Ph.D. in Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, 1964

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

Applied Research Laboratories, Philco Corporation, Newport Beach, CA (1964-1965)

- Senior Research Assistant (1964-1965)

NASA EXPERIENCE:

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1965-1980)

- Astronaut (1965-1974)
- Chief of Scientist-Astronaut Candidates, Astronaut Office (1977-1980)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

Aerospace Corporation, El Segundo, CA (1974-1976)

- Senior Staff Scientist (1974-1976)

ENRO Raumfahrttechnik GmbH, Bremen, West Germany (1976-1977)

- Consultant (1976-1977)

TRW Inc., Redondo Beach, CA (1980-Date Unknown)

- Advanced Systems Manager (1980-Date Unknown)

Booz, Allen and Hamilton, Bethesda, MD (Dates Unknown)

- Aerospace Consultant (Dates Unknown)

Gibson International, Naples, FL (1991-Present)

- President (1991-Present)

MISSIONS:

Skylab III (SL-4)

- Prime Crew: Commander Gerald P. Carr, Scientist-Pilot Edward G. Gibson, Ph.D., Pilot William R. Pogue; Backup Crew: Commander Vance D. Brand, Scientist-Pilot William E. Lenoir, Ph.D., Pilot Don L. Lind, Ph.D.
- Launched: 16 November 1973 at 9:01 A.M. EST from Cape Canaveral, FL
- Duration: 84 days, 1 hour, 14 minutes

- Landed: 8 February 1974 in the Pacific Ocean at 11:17 A.M. EDT, 155 miles southwest of San Diego, CA, recovered by the *U.S.S. New Orleans*
- Mission Highlights: The primary objectives for this mission included: gathering information on the Comet Kohoutek, conducting medical experiments to determine the impact of extended space flight on the human body; observing the Sun and its affects on the Earth's atmosphere; and monitoring the Earth's ecological resources to discern changes caused by radiation or other phenomenon.

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Fellow, American Astronautical Society
- Faculty Appointment, Space Scientist, Rice University
- Member, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
- Member, Tau Beta Pi (National Engineering Honor Society)
- Member, Sigma Xi (International Honor Society for Scientific and Engineering Research)
- Member, Theta Chi (Social Fraternity)
- Member, Seniors Track Club
- Member, Solar Physics Subcommittee, NASA
- Member, American Institute of Physics

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- National Science Foundation Fellowship
- R. C. Baker Fellowship, California Institute of Technology
- JSC Certificate of Commendation, 1970
- NASA Distinguished Service Medal, 1974
- City of New York Gold Medal, 1974
- Robert J. Collier Trophy for 1973, 1974
- Dr. Robert H. Goddard Memorial Trophy for 1975, 1975
- Federation Aeronautique Internationale's (FAI) De La Vaulx Medal and V.M. Komarov Diploma for 1974, 1975
- American Astronautical Society's 1975 Flight Achievement Award, 1976
- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Haley Astronautics Award for 1975, 1976
- Senior United States Scientist Award, Alexander Von Humbolt Foundation, 1976
- JSC Special Achievement Award, 1978

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

Gibson, Edward G. "Ionization Phenomena in a Gas-Particle Plasma." Ph.D. diss., California Institute of Technology, 1964.

Gibson, Edward G, T. A. Cool, and E. E. Zukoski. "Experiments Concerning Non-Equilibrium Conductivity in a Seeded Plasma." AIAA Journal 2 no. 8 (August 1964): 1410-1417.

Gibson, Edward G., T. A. Cool, and E. E. Zukoski. "Non-Equilibrium Electrical Conductivity in a Seeded Plasma." Air Force Office Scientific Research Report No. 64-0848. Washington, DC: United States Air Force, 1964.

Gibson, Edward G. "Ionization Phenomena in a Gas-Particle Plasma." Physics of Fluids 9 (December 1966): 2389-2399.

Gibson, Edward G. "Description of Solar Structure and Processes." Reviews of Geophysics and Space Physics 10 (May 1972): 395-461.

Gibson, Edward G. The Quiet Sun. Washington DC: NASA, 1973.

Gibson, Edward G. Reach. New York: Doubleday, 1989.

Gibson, Edward G. In the Wrong Hands. New York: Bantam, 1992.

REFERENCES:

NASA Biographical Data Sheet (April 1979), Edward G. Gibson Key Personnel File (Inactive), Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

"American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics' G. Edward Pendray Award Nomination" (May 1974), Edward G. Gibson Key Personnel File (Inactive), Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Michael Cassutt, Who's Who in Space: The International Space Year Edition, New York: McMillan Publishing Company, 1993.

Who's Who in America, 40th edition, s.v. "Gibson, Edward George."

Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 14th edition, s.v. "Gibson, Edward George."

American Men & Women of Science, 18th edition, s.v. "Gibson, Edward George."

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