

DON L. LIND
NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Don L. Lind

ORAL HISTORY: 27 May 2005

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

- B.S. in Physics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1953
- Ph.D. in High Energy Nuclear Physics, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, California, 1964
- Postdoctoral work at the University of Alaska's Geophysical Institute, Fairbanks, Alaska, 1975-1976

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

(Military)

United States Navy (1954-1957)

- Naval Aviator, VF-143, Miramar Naval Air Station, San Diego, California
- Naval Aviator, CV-19, aboard carrier *USS Hancock*

United States Naval Reserve (1957-1969)

- Pilot, Naval Air Station Alameda, California
- Retired as a Commander

(Civilian)

Lawrence Radiation Laboratory (1957-1964)

- Researcher, Berkeley, California

NASA EXPERIENCE:

NASA Goddard Spaceflight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland (1964-1966)

- Space Physicist

NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas (1966-1986)

- Astronaut, Astronaut Office, Flight Crew Operations Directorate (1966-1974; 1976-1986)
- Astronaut, Astronaut Office, Science and Applications Directorate (1974-1976)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

Utah State University, Logan, Utah (1986-1995)

- Professor of Physics

MISSIONS:

STS 51-B (*Challenger*)

- Crew: Commander Robert F. Overmyer, Pilot Frederick D. Gregory, Mission Specialist 1 Don L. Lind, Mission Specialist 2 Norman E. Thagard, Mission Specialist 3 William E. Thornton, Payload Specialist 1 Lodewijk van den Berg, and Payload Specialist 2 Taylor G. Wang
- Launched: 29 April 1985 at 12:02:18 p.m. EDT from Kennedy Space Center, Florida
- Duration: Seven days, zero hours, eight minutes, and forty-six seconds
- Landed: 6 May 1985 at 9:11:04 a.m. PDT at Edwards Air Force Base, California
- Mission Highlights: *Challenger* carried Spacelab 3 in the first operational flight of the European Space Agency-developed laboratory. The flight crew split into gold and silver shift working twelve-hour days during the mission. The experiments conducted during the mission represented a total of five different disciplines: materials processing in space, environmental observations, life science, astrophysics, and technology experiments. Of the fifteen experiments scheduled aboard Spacelab, the flight crew viewed fourteen of them successful. The space flight marked the first instance in which animals were flown with a flight crew. The crew members observed two monkeys and twenty-four rodents to determine the effects of weightlessness upon animals. Lind assisted in the mission's primary objective, which was to conduct materials processing and fluid experiments in a microgravity environment. Additionally, Lind developed one of the experiments on board, a means of making three-dimensional recordings of the Earth's aurora. The mission also included two Getaway Specials (GAS). The two Getaway Special experiments required the flight crew to deploy them from their canisters, a first in this program. These were Northern Utah Satellite (NUSAT) and Global Low Orbiting Message Relay Satellite (GLOMOR). During the mission, the flight crew successfully deployed NUSAT, but the GLOMOR did not deploy and had to be returned to Earth.

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- NASA Goddard Spaceflight Center Certificate of Award, 1966
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1974

References:

Don Leslie Lind Biographical Data Sheet (January 1987), NASA Johnson Space Center Homepage, Online, <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/lind-dl.html> (Last Updated: n.d.; Accessed: 8 May 2003).

Don L. Lind Profile," Astro Info Service Homepage, Online, <http://www.astroinfoservice.co.uk/biogs/lind.html> (Last Updated: 8 January 2001; Accessed 13 June 2003).

Douglas B. Hawthorne, Men and Women of Space (San Diego: Univelt, 1992), 426-428.

Don L. Lind Profile," Astro Info Service Homepage, Online, <http://www.astroinfoservice.co.uk/biogs/lind.html> (Last Updated: 8 January 2001; Accessed 13 June 2003).

Johnson Space Center Telephone Directory (1974), Organization Files, Center Series, History Collection, Scientific and Technical Information Center, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Johnson Space Center Telephone Directory (1976), Organization Files, Center Series, History Collection, Scientific and Technical Information Center, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

“Shuttle Mission Archive STS 51-B,” Kennedy Space Center Homepage, Online, <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/shuttle/missions/51-b/mission-51-b.html> (Last Updated: 12 November 2002; Accessed: 13 June 2003).

“STS-51-B,” Encyclopedia Astronautica Homepage, Online, <http://www.astronautix.com/details/stsb3308.htm> (Last Updated: 26 June 2002, Accessed: 13 June 2003).

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