

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: John M. "Mike" Lounge

ORAL HISTORY: 7 February 2008

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Physics and Mathematics, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD, 1969

M.S. in Astrogeophysics, University of Colorado-Boulder, Boulder, CO, 1970

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

United States Navy (1969-1978)

- Naval Flight Officer Training, Pensacola, FL (date unknown)
- Fighter Squadron 142, Naval Air Station, Miramar, CA (dates unknown)
- *USS Enterprise* (CVN-65), Southeast Asia (dates unknown)
- *USS America* (CV-66), Mediterranean, (dates unknown)
- Instructor, Department of Physics, US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD (1974-1976)
- Staff Project Officer, Navy Space Project Office, Washington, DC (1976-1978)
- Resigned Regular Commission (1978)

United States Navy Reserve (1978 – date unknown)

- Reserve Fighter Squadron 201, Dallas Naval and Air Station, TX (dates unknown)

United States Air Reserve (dates unknown)

- 147th Fighter Interceptor Group, Ellington Air National Guard Base, Houston, TX

Texas Air National Guard (dates unknown)

- Texas Air National Guard Headquarters, Ellington Air National Guard Base, Houston, TX (dates unknown)

NASA EXPERIENCE:

NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1978-1991)

- Member Skylab Reentry Flight Control Team, Payload Operations Division (dates unknown)
- Lead Engineer, Space Shuttle Launched Satellites, Payload Operations Division (dates unknown)
- Astronaut, Astronaut Office, Flight Crew Operations Directorate (1980-1991)
- Chief of the Space Station Support Office, Flight Crew Operations Directorate (1989-1991)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

SPACEHAB, Inc., Houston TX (1991- date unknown)

- Director, Houston Operations, (1991- 1993)
- Shuttle-Mir Program Manager, (1994 - 1995)
- Vice-President for Flight Systems Development, (1996-1999)

- Executive Vice-President, (2000 – date unknown)
- Boeing Corporation (dates unknown)
- Director, Space Shuttle and Space Station Program Development – NASA Systems, Houston, TX (date unknown - present)

MISSIONS:STS 51-I (*Discovery*)

- Crew: Commander Joseph H. Engle, Pilot Richard O. Covey, Mission Specialist 1 James D. A. van Hoften, Mission Specialist 2 John M. Lounge, Mission Specialist 3 William F. Fisher
- Launched: 27 August 1985 at 6:58:01 A.M. EDT from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 7 days, 2 hours, 17 minutes, 42 seconds
- Landed: 3 September 1985 at 6:15:43 A.M. PDT, Edwards AFB, California
- Mission Highlights: Deployment of the ASC-1 satellite owned by the American Satellite Company proceeded as planned. When the sunshield of the AUSSAT-1, owned by Australia, caught on the Remote Manipulator System (RMS) arm, Lounge deployed that satellite early. On Day Three, the crew deployed the SYNCOM IV-4 (also known as LEASAT-4) owned by Hughes Communications Services and leased to the United States Navy. On Day Five, the *Discovery* rendezvoused with the malfunctioning SYNCOM IV-3 satellite, which had been deployed by STS 51-D. Van Hoften and Fisher conducted the second on-orbit repair of a satellite during two spacewalks, while Lounge operated the RMS arm. The repairs involved the first manual grapple and deployment of a satellite by a spacewalking crewman. The crew also performed a materials processing mid-deck experiment, the Physical Vapor Transport of Organic Solids (PVTOS).

STS-26 (*Discovery*)

- Crew: Commander Frederick H. Hauck, Pilot Richard O. Covey, Mission Specialist 1 John M. Lounge, Mission Specialist 2 George D. Nelson, Mission Specialist 3 David C. Hilmers
- Launched: 29 September 1988 at 11:37:00 A.M. EDT from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 4 days, 1 hour, 0 minutes, 11 seconds
- Landed: 3 October 1988 at 9:37:11 A.M. PDT, Edwards AFB, California
- Mission Highlights: STS-26 marked the return-to-flight mission after the STS 51-L tragedy. Lounge deployed the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS), and the crew conducted various experiments, including a Protein Crystal Growth experiment, two Shuttle Student Involvement Projects (SSIP), Infrared Communications Flight Experiment (IRCFE), Aggregation of Red Blood Cells (ARC), Isoelectric Focusing Experiment (IFE), Mesoscale Lightning Experiment (MLE), Phase Partitioning Experiment (PPE), and an Earth-Limb Radiance Experiment (MLE). The crew deployed a Ku-band antenna in the payload bay, but its telemetry was faulty. The crew tested new partial-pressure flights suits and assessed the new crew escape system. When the Flash Evaporator system iced up after ascent, the crew cabin temperature reached 87 degrees Fahrenheit.

STS-35 (Columbia)

- Crew: Commander Vance D. Brand, Pilot Guy S. Gardner, Mission Specialist 1 Jeffrey A. Hoffman, Mission Specialist 2 John M. Lounge, Mission Specialist 3 Robert A. Parker, Payload Specialist 1 Samuel T. Durrance, Payload Specialist 2 Ronald A. Parise
- Launched: 2 December 1990 at 1:49:01 A.M. EST from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 8 days, 23 hours, 5 minutes, 8 seconds
- Landed: 10 December 1990 at 9:54:08 P.M. PST, Edwards AFB, California
- Mission Highlights: As a dedicated astronomy mission, STS-35 made 24-hour observations from four astronomical instruments, the Hopkins Ultraviolet Telescope (HUT), the Wisconsin Ultraviolet Photo-Polarimeter Experiment (WUPPE), the Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (UIT), and the Broad Band X-Ray Telescope (BBXRT), mounted in the cargo bay. Lounge led the Blue Shift in operating the equipment. Ground teams at the Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) assisted the crew in positioning the telescopes when both data display units malfunctioned. The Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) operated the BBXRT from the ground. Other activities conducted by the crew included the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment-2 (SAREX-2) and the calibration of electro-optical sensors at the Air Force Maui Optical Site (AMOS). The crew also participated in Space Classroom Program: Assignment: The Stars with eighth and ninth grade students from schools around the MSFC and GSFC. A clogged drain forced the crew to use spare containers instead of dumping waste water. Approaching inclement weather at Edwards AFB caused the orbiter to land one day early. Lounge served as flight engineer for the mission.

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Navy Air Medal (6), Dates Unknown
- Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"(3), Dates Unknown
- National Defense Service Medal, Date Unknown
- Vietnam Service Medal, Date Unknown
- JSC Superior Achievement Award, Date Unknown (1979?)
- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Haley Space Flight Award, 1988
- NASA Exceptional Service Medals (3), 1988, 1992 (Other Date Unknown)
- Haley Space Flight Award, 1989
- NASA Spaceflight Medals (3), 1992 (Other Dates Unknown)

SELECT PUBLICATIONS & PATENTS:

Vance D. Brand, J. Michael Lounge, and David M. Walker, "Assembling a Space Station in Orbit," (Dresden, Federal Republic of Germany: International Astronautical Congress, 1990).

Kamlesh P. Lulla, Cynthia A. Evans, Michael R. Helfert, Vance D. Brand, Guy S. Gardner, John M. Lounge, Jeffrey A. Hoffman, Robert A. Parker, Samuel T. Durrance, and Ronadl

A. Parise, "Earth Observations During Space Shuttle Flight STS-35 – Columbia's Mission to Planet Earth, December 2-10, 1990," *Geocarto International* 6:4 (December 1991) : 71-80.

Vance D. Brand, J.M. Lounge, and David M. Walker, "Assembling a Space Station in Orbit," *Acta Astronautica* 29:4 (April 1993) : 317-323.

REFERENCES:

Vance D. Brand, interview by Rebecca Wright, 12 April 2002, transcript, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, Houston, TX.

Michael Cassutt, *Who's Who in Space: The International Space Station Edition* (New York: Macmillan Library Reference USA, 1999).

Haley Space Flight Award Homepage, Online <http://www.nasm.edu/nasm/aero/trophy/haley.htm> (Last Updated 2 May 1997; Accessed 11 June 2003).

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

John M. Lounge Biographical Data Sheet (September 1989), John M. Lounge Key Personnel File, Awards Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

John M. Lounge Biographical Data Sheet (March 2003), Johnson Space Center Homepage, Online, <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/lounge-jm.html> (Last Updated n.d.; Accessed 8 May 2003).

Johnson Space Center News Release, "Astronaut Lounge to Leave NASA," 91-047, (30 May 1991), Public Affairs Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Johnson Space Center News Release, "Space Shuttle Mission 51-I Press Kit," 85-118, (August 1985), Public Affairs Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

"Mission Summary, STS-26," NASA Spacelink Homepage, Online, <http://spacelink.nasa.gov/NASA.Projects/Human/Exploration.and.Development.of.Space/Human.Space.Flight/Shuttle/Shuttle.Missions/Flight.026.STS-26/Mission.Summary> (Last Updated n.d.; Accessed 24 May 2002).

"Mission Summary, STS-35," NASA Spacelink Homepage, Online, <http://spacelink.nasa.gov/NASA.Projects/Human.Exploration.and.Development.of.Space/Human.Space.Flight/Shuttle/Shuttle.Missions/Flight.038.STS-35/Mission.Highlights> (Last Updated, N.d; Accessed 11 June 2003).

"Mission Summary, STS 51-I," NASA Spacelink Homepage, Online, <http://spacelink.nasa.gov/NASA.Projects/Human/Exploration.and.Development.of.Space/Human.Space.Flight/Shuttle>

e/Shuttle.Missions/Flight.021.STS-51-J/STS-51-I/Mission.Summary (Last Updated n.d.; Accessed 31 May 2002).

“Myers, Truly to Present NASA Honor Awards,” *Space News Roundup* (Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 8 April 1988.

“NASA Recognizes 150 from JSC with Honor Awards,” *Space News Roundup* (Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 17 April 1992.

Nova Southeastern University News Release, “Vice President of Spacehab, John Michael Lounge, and Florida Teacher of the Year, Hentry Brown, Address NSU Graduates on June 23,” (12 June 2002), Office of Public Affairs, Nova Southeastern University Homepage, Online, <http://www.nova.edu/cwis/ia/pubaffairs/news/archive/april-june2002/commencement-june23.html> (Last Updated 12 June 2002; Accessed 10 June 2003).

“Spacehab Appoints Enterprise Program Leader,” SpaceRef.com Homepage, Online <http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.html?pid=971> (Last updated n.d; Accessed 23 June 2003).

“STS-26,” Kennedy Space Center Homepage, Online, <http://science.ksc.nasa.gov/shuttle/missions/sts-26/mission-sts-26.html> (Last Updated 29 June 2001; Accessed 24 May 2002).

“STS-35,” Kennedy Space Center Homepage, Online, <http://science.ksc.nasa.gov/shuttle/missions/sts-35/mission-sts-35.html> (Last Updated 29 June 2001; Accessed 29 May 2003).

“STS 51-I,” Kennedy Space Center Homepage, Online, <http://science.ksc.nasa.gov/shuttle/missions/51-i.html> (Last Updated 29 June 2001; Accessed 12 June 2002).

University of Colorado-Boulder News Release, “Nine CU Astronaut-Alums To Receive Honorary Degrees at Commencement,” 28 April 2000, University of Colorado-Boulder Homepage, Online, <http://www.colorado.edu/news/releases/2000/201.html> (Last Updated n.d; Accessed 29 May 2003).

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