

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: John William O'Neill

ORAL HISTORY: 12 July 2001
20 July 2001

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, University of Nebraska, NE, 1960

M.S. in Mechanical Engineering, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, 1962

Program for Management Development, Harvard University Business School, 1977

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

United States Air Force (1951-1956)

- Fighter Pilot, Air Force Air Defense Command

Sandia Laboratory, Albuquerque, New Mexico (1960-1963)

- Project Engineer

Bell Aerosystems, Buffalo, New York (1966-1967)

- Chief of Advanced Systems

NASA EXPERIENCE:

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1963-1998)

- Head, Thermo-Mechanical Section, Spacecraft Systems Branch, Flight Crew Support Division (1963-1964)
- Head, Thermo-Mechanical Section, Spacecraft Systems Operations Branch, Flight Crew Support Division (1965-
- Chief, Flight Planning Branch, Crew Procedures Division (1967-1974)
- Assistant Division Chief for Operations, Flight Control Division (1974-1980)
- Chief, Payload Operations Division, Flight Operations Directorate (1980-1981)
- Chief, Operations Division, Mission Operations Directorate (1981-1985)
- Assistant Director for Operations, Mission Operations Directorate (1985-1987)
- Deputy Director, Mission Operations Directorate (1987-1994)
- Director, Mission Operations Directorate (1994-1997)
- Director, Office of the Director, Space Operations (1996-1998)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

University Space Research Associates (USRA) (1998-Present)

- Aerospace Operations Consultant

United Space Alliance (USA) (1998-Present)

- Aerospace Operations Consultant

Wang Government Systems (Dates Unknown)

- Advisory Board Member

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Sigma Xi Science Honor Society
- Sigma Tau Engineering Honor Society
- Registered Professional Engineer in Texas
- Texas and National Societies for Professional Engineers
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers
- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
- National Management Association

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Gemini Program Achievement Award, 1966
- Apollo 11 Lunar Landing Team Award, 1969
- Presidential Medal of Freedom, 1971
- NASA Certificate of Commendation, 1971
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1971
- NASA Certificate of Commendation for Leadership in Development of Skylab Flight Plans and Crew Procedures, n.d.
- Approach and Landing Test Program, 1978
- Special Achievement Award for Management of Shuttle Flight Planning, 1982
- Exceptional Service Medal for Spacelab-1 Customer Accommodation Management and Leadership, 1984
- Federal Engineer of the Year Honorable Mention, National Society of Professional Engineers, 1989
- NASA Engineer of the Year, 1989
- University of Nebraska Alumni Achievement Award, 1991
- Meritorious Executive, Presidential Rank Award, 1992
- Senior Executives Association Professional Development League, Executive Excellence Award for Distinguished Executive Service, 1997

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

O'Neill, John W. "Star Charts for Manned Space Flight." *Navigation* 17 (1971): 432-447

O'Neill, John W., Cotter, J. B., and T.W. Holloway. "Apollo Experience Report: Flight Planning for Manned Space Operations." NASA-TN-D-6973. Washington, DC: NASA, 1972.

O'Neill, John W. "Shuttle and Spacelab Flight Operations." In *The Proceedings of SPIE—The International Society for Optical Engineering Held in Washington D.C. 23-24 April 1981*, Vol. 284 edited by Jesse W. Moore, 33-40. Bellingham, Washington: SPIE—The International Society for Optical Engineering, 1981.

REFERENCES:

Bryan Van Deun to John W. O'Neill, letter, 26 February 1991, John W. O'Neill Key Personnel File, Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Carol A. Bonosaro to Mr. John W. O'Neill, letter, 21 October 1997, John W. O'Neill Key Personnel File, Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Harvey L. Hartman to UNL Alumni Awards Committee, n.d., John W. O'Neill Key Personnel File, Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

John W. O'Neill Biographical Data Sheet (July 1986), John W. O'Neill Key Personnel File, Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

John W. O'Neill Service Record Card, John W. O'Neill Personnel File, Human Resources Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Johnson Space Center Telephone Directories (1973-1996), Organization Files, Center Series, History Collection, Scientific and Technical Information Center, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Manned Spacecraft Center Telephone Directories (1963-1972), Organization Files, Center Series, History Collection, Scientific and Technical Information Center, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

"Presidential Rank Awards Nomination Form," n.d., John W. O'Neill Key Personnel File, Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Robert C. Gibson to John W. O'Neill, letter, 25 January 1989, John W. O'Neill Key Personnel File, Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

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