NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RICHARD NIXON

PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

Yorba Linda, California

National Archives Arrives July 10, 2007

- 46 million pages of textual records
- 350,000 official White House photographs
- 2,000,000 ft. of motion picture film
- 4,082 “off the air” video recordings
- 4,469 audio recordings of the President and administration officials
- 950 reels of White House tapes
- 4,500 audio recordings
- 35,000 artifacts
- Approximately 1,200 researchers visit per year

NHD, *"Frontiers in History: People Places and Ideas"* at the Nixon Library

Craig A. Ellefson

Richard Nixon Achievements

Economy: RN presented a balanced budget for the first time in 10 years. The U.S. went off the Gold Standard in 1971. RN created the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to control government spending.

Energy: Due to a 6-month oil embargo by Arab nations in 1973, the Federal Energy Office was created. RN addressed the nation on November 7, 1973 and stated all federal transportation should be limited to 50mph.

Youth: RN signed the 26th Amendment, which was ratified July 1, 1971, and lowered the voting age from 21 to 18. The Military Draft was ended in 1973 and an all-volunteer armed forces was established.

Women: RN signed The Education Amendments Act of 1972, including Title IX, which opened doors for all female athletes by ending gender-based discrimination in all federally funded education programs

Urban Affairs: He signed the Revenue Sharing bill which made state and local governments active partners with the federal government in fighting unemployment and poverty.

Drugs: RN initiated the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970. To fight the drug trade, RN created the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) which consolidated various federal drug agencies into one.

Health: RN launched the "War on Cancer," appropriating $100 million. The Cancer Act of 1971 initiated a national cancer program. In 1970, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration was created to ensure workplace safety.

Environment: RN created the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Signed the Clean Air Act of 1970, the Clean Water Act 1972, Marine Mammal Protection Act 1972, and Endangered Species Act 1973.

China: RN opened contact with China after 25 years of no communication. He was the first U.S. President to visit China. He formulated the Shanghai Communiqué which announced a desire for open and normalized relations.

USSR: RN personally negotiated with Soviet leader Brezhnev to limit nuclear weapons with ABM (Anti-Ballistic Missiles Treaty) & SALT 1 (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty) in May 1972. RN was the 1st United States President to visit Moscow.

Vietnam: RN met with troops in Vietnam in 1969. He ended United States involvement in the War in 1973. RN negotiated return of the POWs. Servicemen returned from Vietnam in 1974.

Middle East: RN saved Israel with massive aid during the Yom Kippur War of 1973. RN brokered peace between Israel and the Arab coalition. He reestablished relations with Egypt and opened relations with Syria.

Space Program: *All of NASA's manned moon landings were during the Nixon Administration.*

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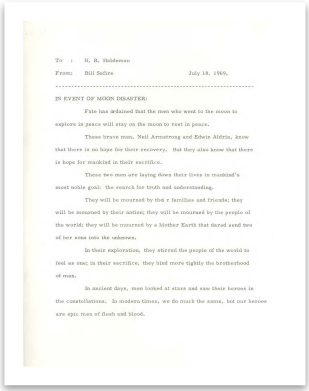
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES

To the Moon and Back

NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

NASA's Apollo Lunar Landings

The “Safire Memo”



To : H. R. Haldeman
From: Bill Safire July 18, 1969.

IN EVENT OF MOON DISASTER:

Fate has ordained that the men who went to the moon to explore in peace will stay on the moon to rest in peace.

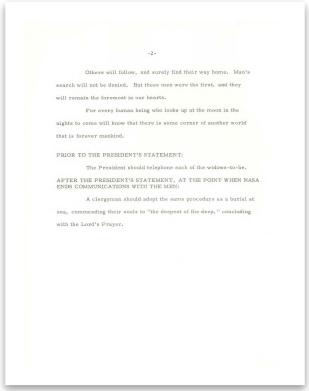
These brave men, Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, know that there is no hope for their recovery. But they also know that there is hope for mankind in their sacrifice.

These two men are laying down their lives in mankind's most noble goal: the search for truth and understanding.

They will be mourned by thir families and friends; they will be mourned by their nation; they will be mourned by the people of the world; they will be mourned by a blother Earth that dared send two of her sons into the unknown.

In their exploration, they stirred the people of the world to feel as one; in their sacrifice, they bind more tightly the brotherhood of man.

In ancient days, men looked at stars and saw their heroes in the constellations. In modern times, we do much the same, but our heroes are epic men of flesh and blood.



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Others will follow, and surely find their way home. Man's search will not be denied. But these men were the first, and they will remain the foremost in our hearts.

For every human being who looks up at the moon in the nights to come will know that there is some corner of another world that is forever mankind.

PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:

The President should telephone each of the widows-to-be.

AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT, AT THE POINT WHEN NASA ENDS COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE MEN:

A clergyman should adopt the same procedure as a burial at sea, commending their souls to "the deepest of the deep," concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

- The President’s statement to the public if Apollo 11 failed
- Addresses the nation and to the world
- Document analysis exercise: https://www.docsteach.org/resources/document-analysis

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The Space Shuttle

Beginnings of the Space Shuttle

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JANUARY 5, 1971

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(San Clemente, California)

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I have decided today that the United States should proceed at once with the development of an entirely new type of space transportation system designed to help transform the space frontier of the 1970s into familiar territory, easily accessible for human endeavor in the 1980s and '90s.

This system will center on a space vehicle that can shuttle repeatedly from earth to orbit and back. It will revolutionize transportation into near space, by routinizing it. It will take the astronomical costs out of astronautics. In short, it will go a long way toward delivering the rich benefits of practical space utilization and the valuable spinoffs from space efforts into the daily lives of Americans and all people.

The new year 1972 is a year of conclusion for America's current series of manned flights to the moon. Much is expected from the two remaining Apollo missions -- in fact, their scientific results should exceed the return from all the earlier flights together. Thus they will place a fitting capstone on this vastly successful undertaking. But they also bring us to an important decision point -- a point of assessing what our space horizons are as Apollo ends, and of determining where we go from here.

In the scientific arena, the past decade of experience has taught us that spacecraft are an irreplaceable tool for learning about our near-earth space environment, the moon, and the planets, besides being an important aid to our studies of the sun and stars. In utilizing space to meet needs on earth, we have seen the tremendous potential of satellites for intercontinental communications and world-wide weather forecasting. We are gaining the capability to use satellites as tools in global monitoring and management of natural resources, in agricultural applications, and in pollution control. We can foresee their use in guiding airliners across the oceans and in bringing televised education to wide areas of the world.

However, all these possibilities, and countless others with direct and dramatic bearing on human betterment, can never be more than fractionally realized so long as every single trip from earth to orbit remains a matter of special effort and staggering expense. This is why commitment to the space shuttle program is the right next step for America to take, in moving out from our present beachhead in the sky to achieve a real working presence in space -- because the space shuttle will give us routine access to space by sharply reducing costs in dollars and preparation time.

The new system will differ radically from all existing booster systems, in that most of this new system will be recovered and used again and again -- up to 100 times. The resulting economies may bring operating costs down as low as one-tenth of those for present launch vehicles.

MORE

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The resulting changes in modes of flight and re-entry will make the ride safer and less demanding for the passengers, so that men and women with work to do in space can "commute" aloft, without having to spend years in training for the skills and rigors of old-style space flight. As scientists and technicians are actually able to accompany their instruments into space, limiting boundaries between our manned and unmanned space programs will disappear. Development of new space applications will be able to proceed much faster. Repair or servicing of satellites in space will become possible, as will delivery of valuable payloads from orbit back to earth.

The general reliability and versatility which the shuttle system offers seems likely to establish it quickly as the workhorse of our whole space effort, taking the place of all present launch vehicles except the very smallest and very largest.

NASA and many aerospace companies have carried out extensive design studies for the shuttle. Congress has reviewed and approved this effort. Preparation is now sufficient for us to commence the actual work of construction with full confidence of success. In order to minimize technical and economic risks, the space agency will continue to take a cautious evolutionary approach in the development of this new system. Even so, by moving ahead at this time, we can have the shuttle in manned flight by 1978, and operational a short time later.

It is also significant that this major new national enterprise will engage the best efforts of thousands of highly skilled workers and hundreds of contractor firms over the next several years. The amazing "technology explosion" that has swept this country in the years since we ventured into space should remind us that robust activity in the aerospace industry is healthy for everyone -- not just in jobs and income, but in the extension of our capabilities in every direction. The continued preeminence of America and American industry in the aerospace field will be an important part of the shuttle's "payload."

Views of the earth from space have shown us how small and fragile our home planet truly is. We are learning the imperatives of universal brotherhood and global ecology -- learning to think and act as guardians of one tiny blue and green island in the trackless oceans of the universe. This new program will give more people more access to the liberating perspectives of space, even as it extends our ability to cope with physical challenges of earth and broadens our opportunities for international cooperation in low-cost, multi-purpose space missions.

"We must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it," said Oliver Wendell Holmes, "but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor." So with man's epic voyage into space -- a voyage the United States of America has led and still shall lead.

# # #

Janurary 4, 1972

MEMORANDUM TO: PETER FLANIGAN

FROM: BILL SAFIRE

I think we ought to give the President four choices to replace the "Space Shuttle".

1. Space Clipper
2. Rocket Ship # 1
3. Space Ship # 1
4. The Yankee Clipper

Of the four, the one that attracts me most because of its historic and patriotic association is "The Yankee Clipper". This was a fleet of ships designed for speed and passengers rather than cargo and helped to make the American merchant fleet preeminent in the early 19th century. The name would be critized as nationalistic, but I think that heat would be good.

I do not think we should submit "Pegasus" because it would be soon named Peggy and parodied with the old song title "Peg of My Heart".

RECEIVED
JAN 4 1972
CENTRAL FILES

Subject Guide

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
Materials on the Space Program

Textual Materials

White House Central Files (WHCF) – Subject Files

FG (Federal Government-Organizations): FG 6-4 – National Aeronautics and Space Council
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/fg-6-4-national-aeronautics-and-space-council-white-house-central-files-subject-files

FG 6-9 – Office of Science and Technology
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/fg-6-9-office-science-and-technology-white-house-central-files-subject-files

FG 33-17 – House Committee on Science and Astronautics
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/fg-30-fg-46-legislative-branch-white-house-central-files-subject-files

FG 36-1 – Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/fg-30-fg-46-legislative-branch-white-house-central-files-subject-files

FG 164 – NASA (2 boxes)
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/fg-164-national-aeronautics-and-space-administration-white-house-central-files-subject

FG 209 – President's Science Advisory Committee
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/fg-209-presidents-science-advisory-committee-white-house-central-files-subject-files

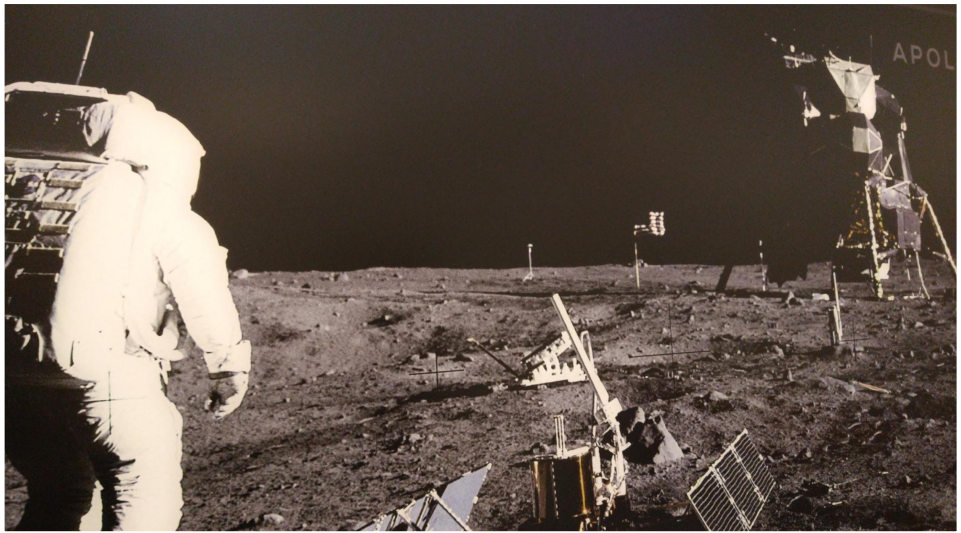
FG 221-18 – Space Task Force (Box 3)
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/fg-221-task-forces-white-house-central-files-subject-files

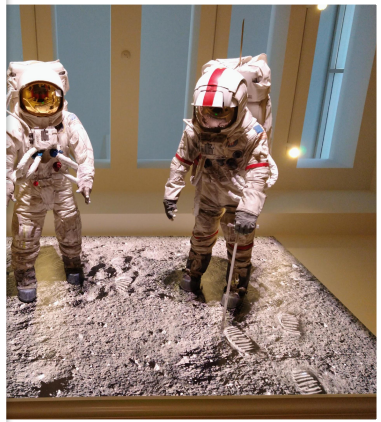
OS (Outer Space) (13 boxes)
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/os-outer-space-white-house-central-files-subject-files

SP (Speeches)
https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/finding-aids/sp-speeches-white-house-central-files-subject-files

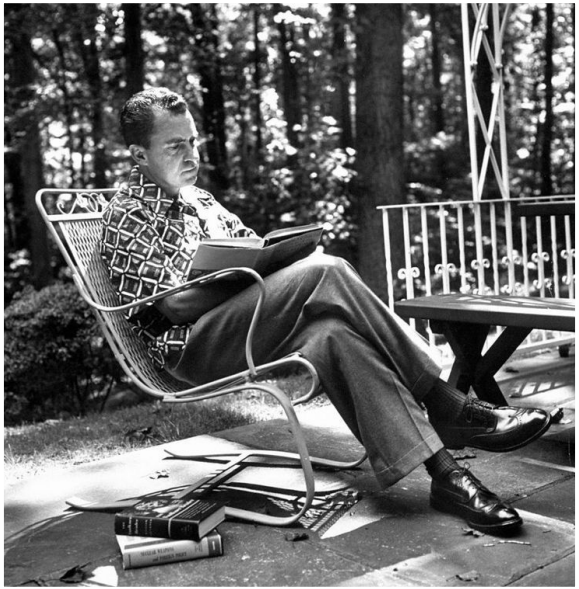
Box 21 - GEN SP/OS Outer Space
Box 155 - SP 3-60 NASA Personnel in Launch Control at Kennedy Space center

Questions?





Contact Information



Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum
(714) 983-9192

- https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/
- https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/research-reference/links-learning
- nixonreference@nara.gov
- NixonEducation@nara.gov

Richard Nixon Foundation
(714) 993-5075

- https://www.nixonfoundation.org/

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Thank You!

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