Volume 1, Number 40

Kennedy Space Center, Fla.

October 7, 1965

## Bob McDaris **Appointed** Director

Robert A. McDaris, a retired Air Force Lt. Colonel with nearly a quarter century of service, has been named Director of Quality Assurance and Safety for the Kennedy Space Center.

It will be his responsibility to direct KSC's Quality As-surance and Safety programs, including development of objectives, implementation of new techniques and surveillance of contractor activities.

McDaris, a native of Georgia and longtime resident of Tallahassee, joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1940 and served as an advanced flight instructor before transferring to the U.S. Army Air Force two years later.

#### 242 Combat Missions

During World War II he flew 242 combat missions as a fighter pilot in the Pacific Theatre of War through two consecutive tours of duty covering a period of two and a half years.

He shot down four enemy aircraft and was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, five Air Medals, a Presidential Unit Citation and six service medals. He had previously been awarded the Canadian

war medal.

He served a variety of assignments in the Air Force following the war and gained a bachelor's and master's degree in electrical engineering at the University of Illinois. He also attended the Air Force Staff Command Col-

McDaris' rocketry experience dates back to 1952 when he became Chief of Range Safety at Patrick AFB, and served as safety officer on many of the first Redstone flights, which were launched by a team under Dr. Kurt H. Debus, now Director of the

(See McDARIS, Page 2)



Robert A. McDaris

## Gemini SLD On Schedule

One of the most critical preflight phases for the Gemini 6 mission—a simulated launch demonstration — was scheduled to be underway at complexes 14 and 19 today.

Astronauts Wally Schirra and Tom Stafford are to participate in the day's activity. The dual simulated countdown on the Agena target vehicle and the Gemini vehicle will run to liftoff for the Gemini. The Agena simulated liftoff will take place more than an hour and a half earlier.

All support phases for the Gemini 6 mission will take part in the test. The actual launch for the Agena and Gemini will be no earlier than October 25.

Prime objective will be to prove the ability of the spacecraft to rendezvous and dock with an orbiting Agena vehicle. Secondary objectives include evaluating maneuverability of the two undocked vehicles.

#### Bagnulo Speaks In LA

Aldo H. Bagnulo, addressed the Los Angeles section of the American Society for Quality Control last week.

Bagnulo, KSC Assistant Director for Engineering and Development, covered the Center's role in Manned Space

## **Achievement Awards** Presented In Washington

Two Kennedy Space Center organizations have received NASA Group Achievement Awards at NASA's Annual Honor Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The awards, presented by Dr. Robert C. Seamans, went the Launch Support Equipment Engineering Division

(LSEED) and to the design group in the Manned Spacecraft Center's Florida Operations who developed the Acceptance Checkout Equipment for the Apollo spacecraft. MSC Florida Operations is now an element of the Kennedy Space Center.

LSEED, under the leader-ship of Theodor A. Poppel, received its award for the design, development, and checkout of launch support equipment for the Saturn I.

This was a particularly significant achievement, the award stated, because of the unprecedented size of the Saturn I, and the impressive launch record of 10 consecutive successes.

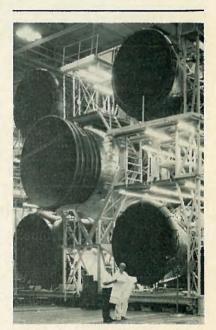
The Florida Operations of the Manned Spacecraft Center became a part of the Kennedy Space Center in December 1964. The award winners from that group were cited

for the development of Acceptance Checkout Equipment (ACE) for the Apollo space-

This equipment provides a faster and more flexible means of total preflight testing of the Apollo. G. Merritt Preston, Kennedy Space Center Deputy Director for Launch Operations, and Walter E. Parsons, Chief of the Checkout Equipment Division, received the award from Dr. Seamans.

Dr. Kurt H. Debus, Director of the Kennedy Space Center, attended the presentations and extended congratulations and a "well done" to both groups.

Dr. T. Keith Glennan, who was the first NASA Administrator, gave the ceremonial address. Dr. Glennan is now president of Associated Universities, Inc.



HOW big is the Saturn V? This photo helps answer the question. It pictures the business end of the launch vehicle's first stage, S-IC, showing the nozzles of the five F-1 engines. This stage is in final assembly at the Marshall Space Flight Center, and will be launched from the Kennedy Space Center in 1967. The five Rocketdyne engines will consume 15 tons of propellant a second!

#### Col. Bangert Appointed At Canaveral District

Lt. Col. Robert L. Bangert. former commanding officer of an engineering battalion in Korea, is the new assistant district engineer for the Canaveral District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Lt. Col. Bangert, his wife and two sons reside at 25 East Poinciana in the Capehart Housing Area at Patrick Air Force Base.



BOEING employees in the Vehicle Assembly Building at KSC pack a box full of clothing for shipment across the seas to their two adopted children—Korean orphans Kim Un Ha and Kim Sung Tae. Left to right are Frank Buckoski, Catherine Sheets, Lucy Higdon and Kenneth Dahl. They are with the Saturn Launch Site Documentation Film group. Len Ingram, chairman of the group said they wanted to do something worthwhile and with purpose for those less fortunate than us. Adoption, in this case, means sponsoring the children at an orphanage, paying their room and board.

#### **McDaris Appointed Director**

(Continued from Page 1)

Kennedy Space Center.

He later served as Chief of the Communications and Electromagnetic Warfare Laboratory at Wright-Patterson AFB, and received a Commendation Medal for his work there.

More assignments followed with the Air Force Research and Development Command (now the Air Force Systems Command).

Prior to joining KSC last month, he was at Eglin AFB, with the Systems Command Detachment, engaged in engineering development for the Tactical Air Warfare Center support for Viet Nam operations.

McDaris is a member of Eta

Kappa Nu and Sigma Tau, honorary engineering societies.

He lives on Merritt Island with his wife, Kathleen, and their daughter, Kathy. Two sons, Richard and Robert, Jr., are in college, at Florida State University and Tufts University, respectively.

# Luxembourg Visitors At Spaceport Today

A Group of 16 Luxembourg citizens, in the country under the auspices of the American-Luxembourg Society, will tour the Spaceport today as guests of the Kennedy Space Center.

# Gottuso Appointed Office Chief

Vincent Gottuso, a veteran employee at the Kennedy Space Center, has been appointed Chief of the Planning and Programming Office, Launch Support Equipment Engineering Division.

The appointment was announced by Theodor A. Poppel, Division Director.

Gottuso is responsible for the development and control of the division's budget and resources, and for scheduling activities including logistics support for site activitation at Launch Complexes 34, 37 and 39.

The division, in turn, is responsible for the design, development, fabrication, assembly, installation and acceptance testing of launch support equipment at these complexes for the MSFC Saturn IB and V programs.

Gottuso's duties also include personnel work and organization within the division, preparation of technical progress reports, drawing release and control documentation, and supply management and administration.

He first joined the old Missile Firing Laboratory, headed by Dr. Kurt H. Debus, now Center Director, in August 1958, while in the Army. Later, he transferred to civil service, keeping his same job, and in March 1962 moved from Huntsville, Alabama, to the Cape area.

With a background strong



Vincent Gottuso

in budget work, contracts and scheduling, he was assigned to the Center's Resources Office, and in June 1964, was named the KSC Apollo Data Manager and was promoted to Chief of the Data Management Branch, Program Control Office. He held this position until his recent appointment.

A native of Ellwood City, Pa., about 50 miles northwest of Pittsburgh, Gottuso gained a BS degree in industrial engineering from Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa.

A bachelor, he lives at the Manor House Apartments on Merritt Island. Hobbies include golf, tennis, and "a lot of reading."

**BLOUNT REVAMPING 37** 

Blount Brothers Corp. is the prime contractor at the Kennedy Space Center for the revamping of Launch Complex 37 for the Saturn IB program. The fixed price contract is for \$6,745,000.

#### SCOOP FOR CHOPPERS

A scoop attachment for helicopter rescue and recovery operations in tight places has been developed by NASA.

#### **EXCLUSIVE CLUB SEEKS MEMBERS**

If you are six feet or under; 35 years old or less; have a degree in engineering, physical or biological science; and have either 1,000 hours jet pilot time, or have been graduated from an armed forces test pilot school — you may qualify for one of the nation's most select groups — the astronauts.

NASA is seeking applicants with such qualifications for future manned space flight missions. Applications should be mailed to: Pilot-Astronaut, P. O. Box 2201, Houston (77001).

If for some reason you don't meet those qualifications, listen to these:

Are you 43 years old and have 14 years of government service? Then you are an average civil service worker. The figures were based on a recent study examining 10 percent of all Federal workers.

SPACEPORT

Published each week by the John F. Kennedy Space Center,
National Aeronautics and Space Administration,
Kennedy Space Center, Florida, 32899
John W. King, Chief, Public Information Office
L. B. Taylor, Jr., Editor
Russell F. Hopkins, Staff Photographer

## KSC's 'Sunday Painter' Has 'One-Woman' Showing

Ruth Bernstein, editorial assistant in the Kennedy Space Center's publications section, is having a one-woman art exhibit in the Cocoa Beach Library. The exhibit began October 1, and runs for at least two weeks, and possibly for the rest of the month.

Miss Bernstein has been a "Sunday painter" off and on for about 30 years. She had taken art courses at Washington Irving High School and the Da Vinci Art School, New York City, and at Heidelberg University in Germany.

She now specializes in acrylics, a fast-drying medium which produces colors more brilliant than oils. For years she concentrated on sea scapes, but has recently branched out to cover a wide variety of subjects in her

#### Gemini Statistics

NASA's Gemini 4 spacecraft is 18.78 feet long. Its two sections, a reentry module and an adapter section, weighed 7,799 lbs. fully loaded with the astronauts aboard when it was launched last June 3.

Successful Maturity

In 1958, in the first three months of NASA, four space missions were attempted without a single success. In 1964, 25 of 30 more difficult missions were successful.

paintings.

One of her most recent, for instance, is titled "New England Cathedral." It features a road bordered on both sides by brilliantly colored maple trees; oranges, roses and copper tones are predominant.

In the background is a lake and distant hills. She got the title from the effect of the trees forming an arch over the road with sunshine streaming through as if from a stained glass window of a cathedral. Miss Bernstein considers this one of her best works, and says it is not for

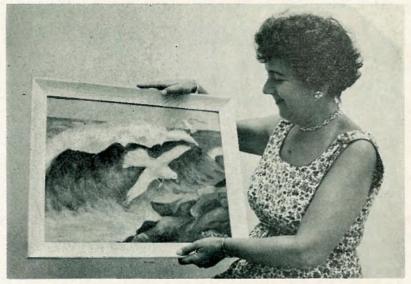
Most of her paintings required from two to five hours of work, and she usually finishes them in one sitting. She works best from the Florida Room of her house, in the quiet of the late afternoon when the lighting is good, and there is a fresh breeze off the ocean. She lives in Cape Canaveral.

She feels her work gives a sense of creation and is very relaxing.

"It's good for the soul," she says. It has also opened the door for her to many wonderful friendships with people interested in art.

She works both with brush and palette knife, and says her paintings have improved over the years as she acquired experience.

The showing at the Library contains 23 of her paintings.



RUTH Bernstein shows one of her paintings, a sea scene.



THERE'S a lot of activity going on at NASA's Launch Complex 36 on the Cape, not the least of which is a daily feeding time for a friendly raccoon. The guard is C. W. Vereen. Other activity at the Complex includes work on the Atlas-Centaur 7 launch vehicle, scheduled for flight later this year.

### New Haulover Bridge **Eases Traffic Flow**

While traffic continues to be heavy at most entrances to the Kennedy Space Center, there is good news for at least one set of commuters.

With the opening of a new bridge across the Haulover Canal on north Merritt Island, employees who drive from Daytona, New Smyrna Beach and adjacent points should be able to cut their travel time appreciably.

The bridge has been turned over to the Kennedy Space Center for occupancy by the Canaveral\_ District of the Corps of Engineers.

The double-leaf bascule span replaces a one-lane, swing-type bridge which dates back a number of years in Island history.

## YOUNG EDITOR COVERS SPACE BEAT



PETER **FAULKNER** 



TV Launch of Gemini 5

The Spaceport News has a he has." potential editor being groomed in the far north several thousand miles from the Kennedy Space Center.

He is 14-year-old Peter Faulkner, a native of Windsor, Ontario, and he is undoubtedly one of America's greatest single space boosters.

H. H. "Buck" Rogers, a KSC spacecraft control inspector, met young Faulkner while on a recent vacation in Canada.

"He's really enthusiastic about what we're doing here," Rogers says in admiration. "It's amazing the knowledge

The youngster manages to "be sick" from school on the day of each manned launch from Cape Kennedy. Then he photographs the liftoff on television and runs the picture along with skillful drawings of his own in a monthly publication he edits called "Wings and Space." It's distributed as a service for his Canadian Aerospace Club.

In addition to the photos and drawings, he runs authentic press releases on space activities, and writes personalized editorials expressing his own knowledgeable views.



H. "Buck" Rogers holds H. copies of Peter Faulkner's publication, "Wings and Space," which the youthful Canadian publishes monthly.



"It's a wonderful sensation, a peculiar feeling of euphoria, like being out of this world."

John Bentley of KSC's Public Information Office thus relates how it feels to drive an automobile at speeds exceeding 150 miles per hour!

Bentley reached such lowflying velocity recently at a sports car race on the famous Daytona International Speedway. He placed second in his class for the Paul Whiteman trophy.

"It was really a wonderful sensation," he said, "no cops, no speed traps, you just jam your foot down on the accelerator and go flat out."

Bentley's vehicle was a Sunbeam Tiger, which he, chief mechanic Gary Matthews, who works at the Center for Chrysler, and others have put endless hours on tuning up for racing competition. Mathews also races and is rated a fine driver.

Bentley ranks second in the Southeast Division, Central Florida, in point standing for the Sports Car Club of America's national championship in his class. He has been invited to the national race of champions at Daytona in Nov.

His car has been running perfectly recently, but he has torn it apart nevertheless. "We need more power," he lamented.

To John Bentley, 150 mph is not quite fast enough.

NASA will negotiate contracts with Convair Division of General Dynamics Corp., San Diego, Calif., and Honeywell Inc. Aeronautical Division, St. Petersburg, for five Centaur stages and guidance systems for use in Surveyor lunar landing missions.

The high energy Centaur stages will be used in Atlas-Centaur launch vehicles being developed to soft-land Surveyor spacecraft on the Moon to conduct lunar surface studies in support of later manned missions.

## The Flag: How To Pay It Respect

The daily display of the national flag of the United States in front of the KSC Headquarters Building has prompted many inquiries as to when courtesies are required of those personnel present when the flag is being raised or lowered.

Proper guidance in this respect is quoted below from Section 5, Public Law 829, which was promulgated on December 22, 1942:

"That during the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in a review, all persons present should face the flag, stand at attention, and salute.

"Those present in uniform should render the military salute. When not in uniform, men should remove the headdress with the right hand holding it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

"Men without hats should salute in the same manner. Aliens should stand at attention. Women should salute by placing the right hand over the heart. The salute to the flag in the moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes."



Diana Boles
. . . . Pledges Allegiance



PALM trees and attractive shrubbery are being added at points along the NASA Parkway in a beautification program. The work is being done under contract by Indian Rocks Nursery of Largo, Florida.

#### **FBA Elects Officers**

Milton M. Cook of the Canaveral District of the Corps of Engineers, has been elected President of the Federal Bar Association, Cape Canaveral Chapter.

Others elected at the regular meeting of the Association, held recently at the Patrick AFB Officers Club, include: Keith Young, First Vice President; L. James Gardner and John R. Stanier, both of the Kennedy Space Center, Second Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively; and Sam Horn of the Air Force, national delegate.

## Center Employment Increases By 567 Since June 30, 1965

Total employment in NASA launch operations at Cape Kennedy and the Kennedy Space Center has increased by 567 since June 30, 1965 despite a reduction of more then 400 in construction employment.

Completion of several major facilities on the Spaceport has caused reductions in the level of construction manpower, but this was more than offset by the phased increase in stage and support contractors.

#### TWA Adds 100

In the support field Trans World Airlines, KSC's base contractor, added more than 100 employees. RCA Service Company, providing technical communications, increased by 50. Other increases were reported by Ling Temco Vought, information services contractor, and General Electric. Bendix, contractor for launch support, added 147 and the Bechtel Company employed 141 more in special maintenance and modifications work.

The prime contractor for the Saturn IB booster, Chrysler Corporation, increased its staff by 180. Douglas Aircraft, supplying stages for both the Saturn IB and Saturn V vehicles, added 91. Boeing, the prime contractor for Saturn V booster, has employed 125 more since June 30.



CATHERINE Archer, secretary in the NASA Regional Audit Office at the Kennedy Space Center, receives a sustained superior performance award from her boss, Eugene Nettles, manager of the office.

# Insurance Surveys Deadline Tomorrow

Civil Service employees are asked to return the insurance questionnaires distributed by the NASA Employees Benefit Association no later than tomorrow.

The questionnaires are to determine interest in a new travel accident insurance proposal and a dependent life insurance plan.

Completion of either survey doesn't obligate employees, but will allow the Home Life Insurance Company to determine if there is sufficient interest to develop the plans.

Deadline for the questionnaires is at close of business tomorrow. They should be sent to mail unit EXC, room Headquarters Building.