



FLYING BLIND WITH DETERMINATION

GEORGE NYSTROM AND FRANK LICATA

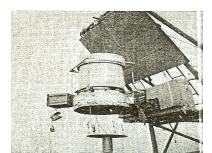




• THE EARLY YEARS (1962-3)



HENRY IS THAT A BUG IN THERE?



PAYLOAD READY FOR LAUNCH

Henry Helmken joins Giovanni's balloon program to search for Cosmic Radiation using a spark chamber excited by Gamma rays.

Posters are available in the hall documenting his work on this program.







GAMMA RAY BALLOON EXPERIMENT
GROUND STATION –MAY 1966





1 METER BALLOON BORNE TELESCOPE READY FOR LAUNCH, PALESTINE, TEXAS



SCIENCE TOPICS: ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION OF STARS, INTERSTELLAR MEDIUM, GALACTIC NUCLEI, SOLAR SYSTEM AND ATMOSHERIC SCIENCES





INSTRUMENT DEVELOPMENT TEAM

- N. HAZEN-MECHANICAL AND OVERALL DESIGN
- S. DIAMOND- ELECTRONICS
- E. THOMPSON- ELECTRICAL ASSEMBLY
- C. HUGHES-MECHANICAL ASSEMBLY
- V. KUOSMANEN-DESIGN, DRAFTING

TEAM FLIGHT OPERATIONS

- G. NYSTROM-MECHANICS AND MANAGEMENT
- F. LICATA- ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS
- D. GRAVELINE-MECHANICAL TECHNICAN
- V. KUOSMANEN-MECHANICS
- R. SCOVILL-ELECTRICAL TECHNICAN

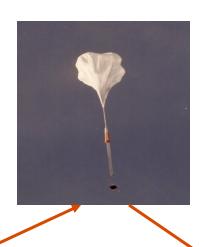




- The one Meter IR balloon program. A bit of history and events not yet told. Flights 1 thru 5.
- Flight 1 was and engineering flight.
- Flight 2 was another engineering flight.
- NASA-JSC 3 months of thermal/vacuum testing
- Flight 3 was successful (E. Wright thesis)
- Flight 4 was a balloon break at 50K ft.
- Flight 5 Source detection made and maps created







8 TONE COMMANDS 56K bits TM N SLIT PHOTOMETER E PROM ROUTINES 8K UPLINK TELETYPE MACHINE FOR
QUICK LOOK GONDOLA DATA
SCIENCE DATA LIMITED DISPLAY
FLIGHT DATA ON TAPES
PDP 11 FOR DATA RECORDING
FILM CAMERA FOR POINTING CONF.

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FLIGHTS 6 - 19

TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE AND RELIABLITY, THE PAYLOAD SERVO SYSTEMS WERE REDESIGNED, ELECTONICS AND CABLES REBUILT WITH AN INTENSIFIED CCD CAMERA INSTALLED FOR ACTIVE POINTING CONTROL AND VERIFICATION.

FLIGHTS: 14
SUCCESSFUL FLTS: 11
BALLOON BREAKS: 2

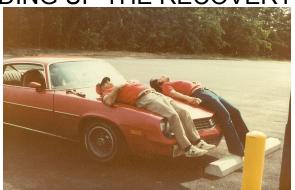
REEFING SLEEVE: 1

THE PROGRAM WAS TERMINATED IN 1989 BECAUSE FLIGHT RELIABLITY WAS DETERMINED TO BE UNACCEPTABLE.





ROUNDING UP THE RECOVERY TEAM





BALLOON ATTACHED

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GREAT LANDING

FLYING BLIND WITH DETERMINATION



EASY RECOVERY





ACCOMPLISHMENTS

6 PHD THESES-FAZIO

E. L. WRIGHT (H)

M. STIER (H)

D. JAFFE (H)

S. ODENWALD (H)

D. HEARN (H)

S. CAVRAK, Jr. (H)

OTHER BALLOON PHD THESES

L. O'LOCHRAINN (D-McBREEN)

J. BRASUNAS (CFA-TRAUB)

J. HOFFMAN (CFA-HELMKEN)

PUBLICATIONS (59)

ASTRONOMY 42 INSTRUMENTATION 6

ATMOSPHERIC 11

VISITING SCIENCE PROGRAM

B. McBREEN (D)

T. N. RENGARAJAN (TIFR-INDIA)

GUEST INSTRUMENTS

4 COLOR BOLOMETER-G. VIANA

FIRS-W. TRAUB

POLARIMETER- G.CHENIN

MULTI-COLOR BOLOMETER

K. SHIVANANDAN

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OBSERVATIONS CONDUCTED

ASTRONOMICAL SOURCES

M43 M16 NGC 6334

W3 M17 IR12.4=0.5

Rho Oph M17 SW Mol Cld RCW122

URANUS, NEPTUNE MGC 6357 NGC 6334

CERES RCrA G351-1.3

M20 W28 NGC6334 (V)

M82 GALACTIC CENTER CYGNUS-X

M8, M8E W33 W31

W51 IRC+10216 (SIZE AND SPECTRUM)

(DR-6,7,22,15)

SEVERAL MAPPED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE FAR-INFARRED

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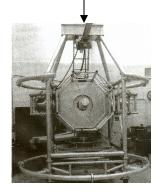
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OFF SPRING (TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGES)





R.SIVERBERG NASA-GSFC

D. RUST JHAPL



J. GRINDLAY HCO



T. N. RENGARAJAN (TIFR-INDIA)

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THE TELESCOPE DEVELOPMENT WAS FUNDED BY HCO (L. GOLDBERG)
AND SAO (F. WHIPPLE) UP TO AND INCLUDING THE TESTING
CONDUCTED AT NASA-JOHNSON SPACE FLIGHT CENTER.

NASA CONTINUED THE FUNDING STARTING WITH THE THIRD FLIGHT.

TWO IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER ARE:

- 1. MANY CURRENT SPACE SCIENTISTS AND PI'S DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS FROM BALLOON-BORNE SCIENCE MISSIONS.
- 2. BALLOON ASTRONOMY IS AN EXCELLENT MEANS FOR DEVELOPING AND TESTING INSTRUMENTATION FOR SPACE EXPERIMENTS.