

Guide to  
MS 644  
Space Program collection

1962 – 1983 Span Dates,  
1963 – 1973 Bulk Dates,

2 feet, 1 inch (linear)

Processed by Armand J. Avila  
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Donated by various donors.

Citation: Space Program collection, 1962 – 1983, MS 644, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department  
University of Texas at El Paso

## Historical Sketch

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was founded on July 29, 1958 by President Eisenhower as a response to the launch of Sputnik by the Soviet Union. The first major achievement for the agency came after President John F. Kennedy advocated for the United States to put a man on the moon. This effort resulted in NASA's Apollo program. The purpose of the first four Apollo missions was merely to test systems and equipment. In 1969 Apollo 11, carrying Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, successfully landed on the moon. Five of the remaining six missions also landed on the moon, the sole exception being Apollo 13. Ultimately, twelve American men have walked on the lunar surface.

Since its creation, NASA has developed a long and special relationship with the southwest region. The area's large expanses of uninhabited and relatively flat desert land presented an opportunity for testing both high profile and classified projects, which culminated in the creation of White Sands Test Facility in 1963. At the time, its primary purpose was to function as a rocket and propulsion system testing site for the newly created Apollo program, and its presence even brought President Kennedy to El Paso on a visit. Later the site served as a training facility for space shuttle pilots. Notably, the Space Shuttle Endeavor landed at Biggs Army Airfield at Fort Bliss after its final mission to space in 2011. The modified Boeing craft it was mounted on was refueled on its way to Kennedy Space Center in Florida for the final time.

## Series Description or Arrangement

This collection is primarily arranged by format. The collection is in five boxes. The first two boxes are primarily composed of NASA or NASA contractor photographs, concept art or press releases on the Apollo missions, as well as newspaper clippings all from the *El Paso Herald Post*. Box three contains NASA data reports and the 'Skylab Experiments' book series. Box four holds books and documents on the Apollo program, while box five contains books and documents on science and the solar system, most published by NASA.

## **Scope and Content Notes**

The Space Program collection dates 1962 – 1983, bulk 1963 – 1973. Types of records include newspaper clippings, photographs, concept art, diagrams, government documents, data reports, press releases, promotional material, and books. The majority of these items chronicle the history of the Apollo program and its individual missions. There is one item on the space shuttle program. This collection also includes books on the Skylab space station and some educational solar system and astronomy materials donated from the UTEP Centennial Museum.

## **Provenance Statement**

Some materials transferred from the UTEP Centennial Museum; other items possibly from the El Paso Herald-Post records, MS348. Overall provenance of collection is unknown.

## **Restrictions**

No rights to publications and books.

## **Literary Rights Statement**

Permission to publish material from the Space Program collection must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, Space Program collection, MS644, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

## **Notes to the Researcher**

See also:

El Paso Herald-Post records, MS348.

## Container List

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	NASA Business Card: Alex Paczynski	undated
1	1	Valentina Tereshkova/Sally Ride Photo and Information	31 October 1983
1	1	Four Astronauts Photo and Information	16 November 1982
1	1	Married Astronauts Photo and Information	1 June 1981
1	1	Female Astronauts Photo and Astronaut Recruits Information (torn)	31 January 1978
1	2	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Early Apollo Program and Apollo 1 Tragedy	1966-1968
1	3	Gerald Wheeler Photograph (2 copies)	15 August 1968
1	3	'Apollo 7 Comes Home' North American Rockwell Space Division Concept Art	15 August 1968
1	3	'Jemeney' Photograph	15 August 1968
1	4	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 12 Mission	1969
1	5	North American Rockwell Space Divison/NASA Command and Service Module Contract	1968
1	5	Apollo 7 Test Photographs	1968
1	6	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 7 Mission	1968
1	7	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 8 Mission	1968-1969
1	8	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 9 & Apollo 10 Missions	1969
1	9	Apollo 11 Crew Photographs	1969
1	9	Apollo 11 Lunar Procedures/Activity Photographs (3 copies)	1969
1	9	Apollo 11 Official Lunar/Mission Photographs	1969
1	10	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 11 Mission	1969
1	11	Photograph of the Apollo 11 Crew	1969
1	11	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 11 Mission	1969

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1	12	Apollo 12 Space Sheet from NASA Public Information Division	1971
1	12	Apollo 12 Photographs	2 December 1969
1	13	Apollo 11 Crew Photographs	1969
1	13	Apollo 7 Crew Photograph	1968
1	13	Apollo 8 Crew Photograph	1969
1	13	Apollo 10 Crew Photograph	1969
1	14	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 13 Mission	1970
1	15	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 14 Mission	1971
1	16	Alan Shepard's Launch Vehicles Sheet (fragile)	27 January 1971
1	16	Apollo 14 Mission Photographs	1971
1	17	Apollo 15 Space Sheet from NASA Public Information Division	24 July 1971
1	17	Apollo 15 Mission Photographs	1971
1	17	NASA Press Release: US Scientists Studying USSR Samples	9 July 1971
1	18	Drafts of United Press Articles on Apollo 15 by Al Rossiter Jr. (6 copies)	July 1971
1	18	Various Newspaper Clippings Relating to Apollo 15	1971
1	18	Apollo 15 Guidebook to Lunar Hadley Rille & the Apennine Mountains	June 1971
1	18	Apollo 15 Educational Mini-Posters by the Newspaper Enterprise Association (4 copies)	1971
1	19	Photos relating to Apollo 16 (fragile)	1972
1	20	Apollo 17 Mission Photographs	1972 – 1973
1	20	Apollo 17 Educational Mini-Posters by the Newspaper Enterprise Association (4 copies)	1972
2	21	Apollo 17 Mission Report	8 January 1973
2	21	Various Newspaper Clippings Regarding Apollo 17	1972
2	21	Apollo 17 Newspaper Enterprise Association Literature Page	29 November 1972
2	22	Manned Spacecraft Center Apollo Rocket Tests Official Photographs	19 May 1965
2	22	Apollo 8 Astronauts Newspaper Photographs	17 December 1978
2	22	Northwestern Engineer Booklet on	11 September

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		Project Apollo	1963
2	22	Early Apollo Photograph	circa 1968
2	22	NASA Report to US Senate: Space Benefits	circa 1967
2	22	Apollo 9 Astronaut Photograph	14 March 1969
2	22	North American Rockwell Space Division Concept Art: Apollo Comes Home	1968
2	22	North American Rockwell Space Division Photograph: Apollo Readied	1968
2	22	North American Rockwell Space Division Photograph: Liftoff	1968
2	22	Manned Spacecraft Center Photographic Progression: 'Little Joe' Saturn V Rocket Unprogrammed Abort Test, White Sands Test Facility	19 May 1965
2	22	North American Rockwell Space Division Photograph: Apollo 7 Crew	1968
2	22	North American Rockwell Space Division Photograph: Jose Jimenez	1968
2	22	USAF NASA Module Photograph, White Sands Test Facility	6 August 1968
2	22	White Sands Test Facility 'Missile Park' Photographs (4 copies)	30 June 1965
2	23	Northrop Ventura Photograph: Capsule Parachute	circa 1963-1965
2	23	White Sands Test Facility Armed Forces Day Photographs: Module Placement	11 May 1963
2	23	Apollo Photograph: Launch Escape Subsystem Test	19 May 1965
2	23	Concept Art: Capsule Parachute Test	11 November 1963
2	23	News Visuals, Apollo Test Shot	23 May 1965
2	23	News Release from North American Aviation Inc.: Getaway Device Test	5 December 1965
2	23	News Photos from North American Aviation Inc.	1964
2	23	Canards Deployment Procedure Diagram	1963 – 1964
2	23	Northrop Fact Sheet on Project Apollo Earth Landing System	1963 – 1964
2	23	Lockheed Propulsion Release: Apollo Launch Escape System (2 copies)	1963 – 1964

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2	23	North American Aviation Press Release: Apollo Test System	27 November 1963
2	23	Report: Status of Project Apollo Activities at White Sands Test Facility	11 May 1964
2	23	White Sands Test Facility Photograph: Test Capsule	16 November 1963
2	23	North American Aviation Inc. Photograph: Mooncraft Takes Form	11 September 1963
2	23	Concept Art: Saturn V on Launchpad	11 September 1963
2	23	Concept Art/Diagram: NASA and Saturn V Rockets	11 September 1963
2	23	North American Aviation Photograph: Apollo – Saturn Photograph	11 September 1963
2	23	North American Aviation Photograph: Transposition	11 September 1963
2	23	North American Aviation Photograph: Lunar Approach	11 September 1963
2	23	North American Aviation Photograph: Lunar Excursion Module	11 September 1963
2	23	Fort Bliss Apollo Capsule Photograph	14 May 1963
2	23	White Sands Test Facility Photograph: Sergeant Missile Test	24 October 1962
2	23	News Release from North American Aviation: NASA White Sands Test Facility	11 September 1963
2	23	Manned Spacecraft Center Fact Sheet #194: Apollo – Saturn V Mission	1 November 1963
2	23	NASA News Release: Prototype Space Suit and Photograph	28 October 1963
2	24	Apollo / Saturn V Stack Design Layout	5 September 1967
2	24	Photograph: Saturn V Roll-Out Test	circa 1967
2	24	Photograph: Apollo Command Service Module Navigation System Test	circa 1967
2	24	Photograph: Saturn V Stage II	circa 1967
2	24	Photograph: Apollo Simulation Test	circa 1967
2	24	Photograph: Apollo Command Module	circa 1967
2	24	North American Aviation News Release: Apollo Emergency 'Getaway Device' Test	10 December 1964
2	24	Northrop News Release/Fact Sheet: Project Apollo Earth Landing System	10 December 1964
2	24	Thiokol Chemical News Release/Fact Sheet: Apollo Tower Jettison Rocket	10 December 1964

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		Motor	
2	24	North American Aviation Materials	10 December 1964
2	24	Business Card from Dave Alter, North American Aviation Public Relations	10 December 1964
2	24	Lockheed Press Release: Apollo Launch Escape System Test at White Sands Test Facility	10 December 1964
2	24	NASA Press Kit and Photographs: Apollo Abort Test	10 December 1964
2	25	El Paso Times Newspaper Clippings on Apollo	3 September 1968
2	25	Newspaper Article Clipping: "Man on the Moon- So What?"	18 July 1979
2	25	NASA Space Sheet Public Information Division: Volume 9 No. 4	20 May 1971
2	25	NASA Report: Benefits of Space Research and Development	4 July 1971
2	25	Lunar Landing Sites Photograph	18 June 1971
2	25	Photograph: Lunar Soil Exchange	18 June 1971
2	25	Photograph: Migratory Bird Experiment	18 June 1971
2	25	Photograph: Bird Box	18 June 1971
2	25	NASA Public Information Division Space Sheet: Volume 9 No. 5	20 May 1971
2	25	NASA Press Kit: Naval Research Laboratory/NASA SOLRADIO Project	2 July 1971
2	25	Apollo Candidates Information Sheet	6 April 1966
2	26	Various Newspaper Clippings Regarding the Apollo Program	1962-1968
2	27	Various Newspaper Clippings Regarding Joint Apollo-Soyuz Mission	1975
2	28	NASA Public Information Division Space Sheet: Volume 12 No. 6	27 May 1975
2	28	Various Telephoned Press Photos regarding Joint Apollo-Soyuz Mission	1975
2	28	Various Photographs regarding Joint Apollo-Soyuz Mission	1975
2	29	<i>El Paso Times</i> Presidential Welcome Special Issue	6 June 1963
3		National Space Science Data Center Catalog: Satellite Experiments	October 1969
3		Report: Flow and Use of Information at the National Space Science Data Center	January 1969



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3		National Space Science Data Center User's Note: Apollo 11 Lunar Photography	April 1970
3		National Space Science Data Center User's Note: Apollo 12 Lunar Photography	July 1970
3		National Space Science Data Center User's Note: Lunar Orbiter Photographic Data	June 1969
3		National Space Science Data Center Document Availability and Distribution Services	May 1974
3		<i>Skylab Experiments Volume 1: Physical Science and Solar Astronomy</i>	1973
3		<i>Skylab Experiments Volume 2: Remote Sensing of Earth's Resources</i>	1973
3		<i>Skylab Experiments Volume 3: Materials Science</i>	1973
3		<i>Skylab Experiments Volume 4: Life Sciences</i>	1973
3		<i>Skylab Experiments Volume 5: Astronomy and Space Physics</i>	1973
3		<i>Skylab Experiments Volume 6: Mechanics</i>	1973
3		<i>Skylab Experiments Volume 7: Living and Working in Space</i>	1973
4		Apollo 12 Final Flight Plan	15 October 1969
4		Apollo 11 Mission Plan	7 July 1969
4		<i>Apollo 17 at Taurus-Littrow [book]</i>	1973
4		<i>Apollo 16 at Descartes [book]</i>	1972
4		<i>Apollo 15 at Hadley Base [book]</i>	1971
4		<i>Apollo 8: Man Around the Moon [book]</i>	1968
4		<i>Apollo-Soyuz by Walter Froehlich [book]</i>	1976
4		CBS News 1966 Retrospective & Transcripts	1967
4		<i>A Footprint on the Moon (Apollo 11 Photography) [book]</i>	circa 1970
5		<i>Exploring Space with a Camera [book]</i>	1968
5		<i>What's New on the Moon? [book]</i>	1976
5		<i>Exploration of the Solar System [book]</i>	1975
5		<i>The Jupiter Pioneers by Thomas Gates &amp; Donald McDonald [book]</i>	1972
5		<i>Voyager Encounters Jupiter [book]</i>	1979

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5		<i>Apollo-Soyuz Pamphlet No.2: X-Rays, Gamma Rays</i>	October 1977
5		<i>Extragalactic Astronomy</i> [book]	1976
5		<i>Chemistry Between the Stars</i> [book]	1977
5		<i>Atoms and Astronomy</i> [book]	1977
5		<i>Planetary Exploration: Space in the Seventies</i> [book]	June 1971
5		<i>Aeronautics: Space in the Seventies</i> [book]	December 1971
5		<i>Space Shuttle Program Concept</i> [book]	1971
5		<i>Studying the Earth from Space</i> (US Department of the Interior) [book]	1972
5		<i>The Mystery of Comets</i> by Fred L. Whipple [book]	1985
5		<i>The New York Times Guide to the Return of Halley's Comet</i> [book]	1985