

Laurels for 1972

The year just closing marked a resurgence of the aerospace industry, particularly in the U. S. This resurgence is sparked not only by an increasingly lively economic climate but also by a new generation of technology that presages the continuing of this trend through the mid-1970s and probably through the end of the decade. Among those whose contributions to aerospace in 1972 we consider meritorious are:

■ **John Stack**, long-time NACA and NASA aeronautical researcher and vice president-engineering of Fairchild Industries, Inc., for a lifetime of outstanding contributions to basic advances in the aeronautical state of the art that ended with his death in a horseback accident last summer.

■ **David J. Salomimer** and **Norman L. Bell**, civilian engineers at the Army's Redstone Arsenal, who hammered out the theory for semi-active laser guided missiles and inspired the Air Force into adapting the scheme for what has become the remarkably accurate laser-guided bomb.

■ **William B. Graham**, head of the Engineering Sciences Dept. at Rand Corp., who led a one-man crusade within the military for the use of remotely-piloted vehicles as an answer to the increasingly high cost of modern air warfare and as a means of saving pilot lives.

■ **William Magruder**, special consultant to President Richard M. Nixon, for his role as a catalyst in stimulating new aerospace research programs that have widespread national utility and in the formulation of a revitalized U. S. aerospace export program.

■ **Air Force Lt. Gen. James T. Stewart** for streamlining the management procedures at Systems Command's Aeronautical Systems Div. to provide effective control over major hardware development programs, tightening management procedures and improving service-industry relationships in contractual and technical negotiations.

■ **Charles Duke**, Apollo 16 astronaut, for his sharp-eyed observation of abrupt color differences in lunar soil near the Apollo landing site, and **Everett Gibson**, a scientist at the Manned Spacecraft Center, and his backers for proposing the radical hypothesis that the soil Duke collected contained volatile remnants of a comet, a hypothesis that is slowly gaining adherents.

■ **Dr. Harrison H. Schmitt**, the first astronaut-geologist in space, for the extensive service rendered in training other Apollo astronauts in lunar-applicable geology and for his work on the lunar surface during Apollo 17.

■ **Capt. John J. O'Donnell**, president of the Air Line Pilots Assn., for his courageous leadership in the fight to eradicate aerial piracy.

■ **Capt. William R. Hass**, of Southern Airways, for his superb airmanship under incredibly difficult circumstances that saved the lives of 31 passengers and

crew during his DC-9 takeoff from Orlando airport with half its tires shot out during a hijacking episode.

■ **Col. Lawrence A. Skantze**, Air Force director of the Boeing AGM-69A short-range attack missile (SRAM), for successfully pushing the once-troubled program into the production phase and active deployment with the Strategic Air Command.

■ **William Nordberg**, NASA project scientist for the Earth Resources Technology Satellite (ERTS), and **Sheldon Haas**, General Electric general manager of earth observatory programs, for their leadership in establishing priorities and coordinating the experiments for the highly-successful international ERTS project.

■ **Jack Steiner**, of Boeing Co., for his technical innovations and salesmanship in revitalizing the international sales of the 727-200 airliner.

■ **John S. Attinello**, of the Institute of Defense Analyses, for a decade of pioneering work in developing in-flight thrust vectoring for combat aircraft, a technique seriously considered and applied by potential users only within the past two years.

■ **Dr. R. T. Jones**, of NASA's Ames Research Center, the wing-sweep pioneer who in 1972 revived and advanced the antisymmetric wing concept that shows promise for a variety of applications, ranging from supersonic transports to remotely-piloted vehicles.

■ **Joseph J. Knopow**, communications satellite manager at Lockheed Missiles & Space Co., for successfully directing a 15-company, multi-national consortium in designing and building a privately-funded demonstration model of a versatile, high-capacity long-life satellite for advanced communications applications.

■ **Maj. Gen. Benjamin N. Bellis**, USAF system program director for the McDonnell Douglas F-15 air-superiority fighter, for his tightly controlled fiscal and technical management of the program through prototype development and into the flight-test stage.

■ **Al Feldman**, Frontier Airlines president, who took over in early 1971 without prior airline experience, for leading the local service carrier to its first profitable January-September period since 1967.

■ **Charles F. Hall**, Pioneer satellite project manager at NASA's Ames Research Center since 1965, for his successes in directing scientific spacecraft programs, beginning with Pioneer 6 and culminating this year with the launch of Pioneer 10, now more than halfway through the asteroid belt on its way to Jupiter and a journey beyond the solar system.

■ **Chuck Tiffany**, of the Air Force Systems Command, for defining fracture mechanics requirements that will give the USAF/North American Rockwell B-1 advanced strategic bomber improved fatigue qualities and increased crack resistance for longer service life.

—Robert Hotz