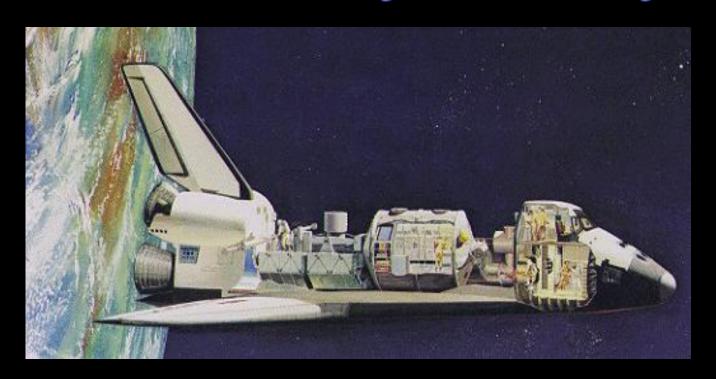
The Shuttle Missions Enabling Science and Exploration

An Introductory Back-Story



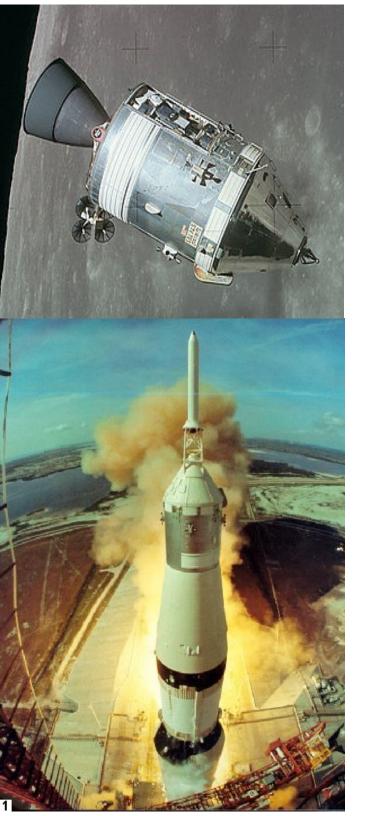
NASA APPEL Masters Forum 19
May 12, 2010
Noel W. Hinners



The von Braun Dream Lives On

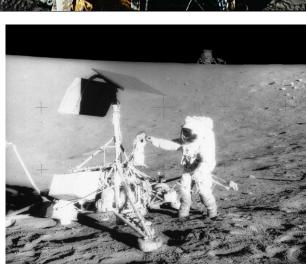


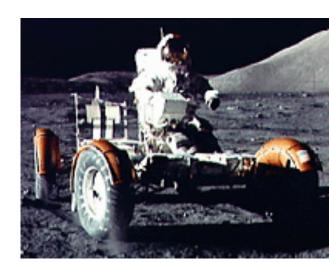
Kennedy, May 25, 1961: ".. to the Moon"













Woods Hole Summer Study, 1973 Scientists Come to Grips with Reality

- 1. Launch to near-earth orbit the kinds of payload that the previous expendable space launch vehicles could.
- 2. Place in near-earth orbit payloads weighing 10 tons or more. This would make possible the launching of a large space telescope, which was of considerable interest to scientists. Heavy payloads for high-energy astronomy would also be possible.
- 3. Recover such heavy payloads from orbit and return them to the ground. Refurbishing and updating of expensive spacecraft and equipment for reuse would then be possible.
- 4. Carry experimenters with a minimum of spaceflight training into orbit and back. Only the pilot and copilot would have to be fully qualified astronauts.
- 5. Remain on orbit for several days or even several weeks, operating in effect as a temporary space station.
- 6. Carry into orbit and return to earth an outfitted laboratory for the performance of experiments in the space environment. Investigators would go aloft to conduct the experiments.



Three Skylab Missions 1973 - 1974

"Filling the Gap"

Apollo-Soyuz Test Project - 1975



