

Ripped from the ROUNDUP

Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:

1 9 7 0

Sharing a tank of compressed air on the way back to the surface is a standard emergency procedure among SCUBA divers. The mouthpiece is passed back and forth between the two divers who share the air remaining in a good air tank – called logically, the “buddy system.”

The buddy system approach has been adapted to moonwalks through the use of connecting lines that feed cooling water from an astronaut's backpack life support system to the spacesuit worn by his companion. The connections would give both astronauts enough time to return to the lunar module if the water cooling system of one of the backpacks failed.

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JSC's new Weightless Environment Test Facility (WET-F) in Bldg. 29 opened for operation November 21, hosting an average of four crew training runs and one engineering run per week.

Neutral buoyancy simulations of weightlessness date back to the mid-60s when one of the Gemini astronauts had problems conducting a procedure outside the spacecraft even though he had run through the procedure flying parabolas in the KC-135 aircraft.

Realizing that astronauts needed more than the average 20-second parabola to test procedures, crew trainers looked into underwater neutral buoyancy experiments then taking place in Pennsylvania.

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A new Shuttle Carrier Aircraft winged its way into the NASA fleet last week as the modified Boeing 747 flew from Wichita, Kan., to Ellington Field en route to its home in El Paso.

Before joining the NASA fleet, the 747 served as a domestic passenger aircraft for Japan Air Lines. Boeing acquired the aircraft for NASA in 1988, and modifications were begun.

When mated with an orbiter, NASA 911 cruises from 13,000 to 15,000 feet, but can increase its altitude to a cruising level of 24,000 to 26,000 feet when unmated. It has a range of 1,000 nautical miles when mated and 5,500 when not mated.

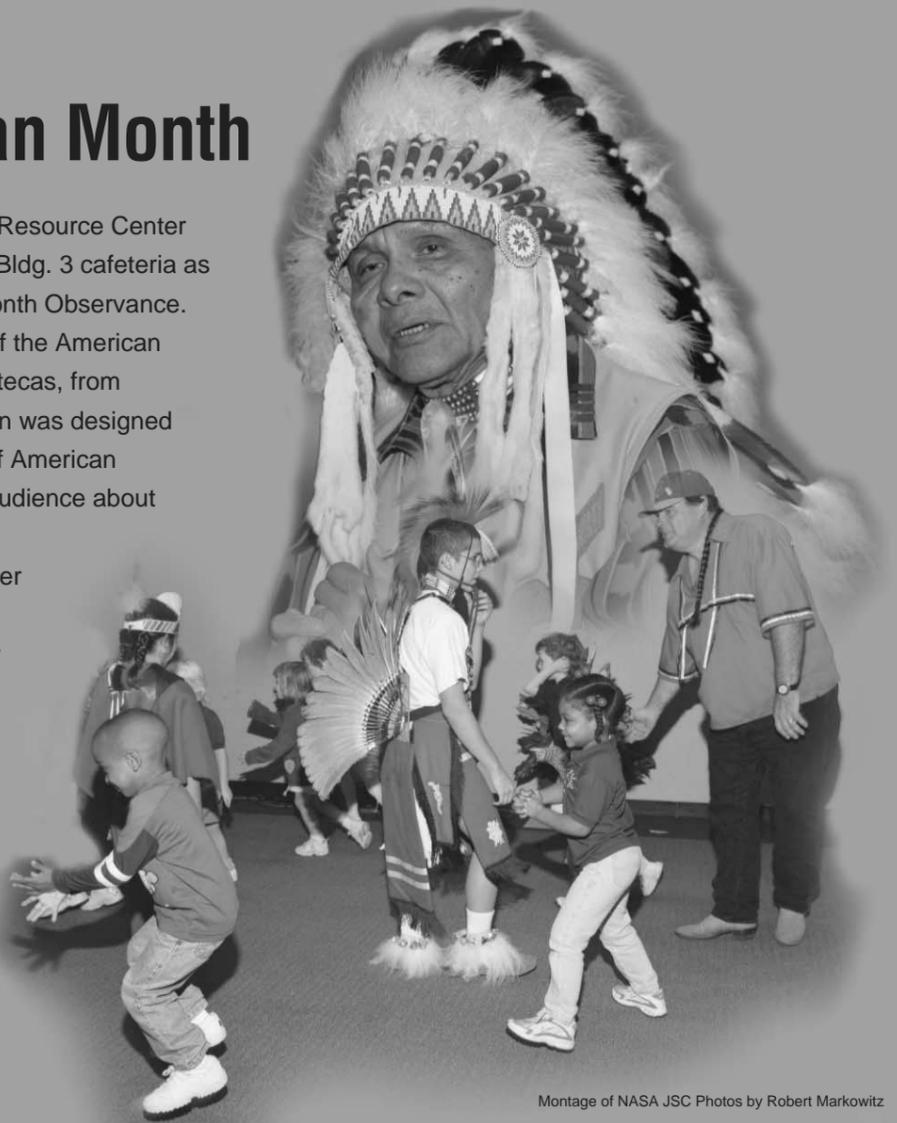


JSC observes Native American Month

Dancers from the American Indian Resource Center performed on November 8 in the Bldg. 3 cafeteria as part of JSC's Native American Month Observance.

The dancers represented many facets of the American Indian community, from Creeks to Huastecas, from Apaches to Cherokees. The presentation was designed to demonstrate the beauty and dignity of American Indian culture, as well as to inform the audience about contemporary Native American life.

The American Indian Resource Center educates the Native American and non-native communities about contemporary American Indian issues. Through lectures, cultural presentations, ceremonies, and direct action, the organization works to establish better communications between individuals and groups. Its goal is to improve the self-esteem and educational achievement of Indian youth as they interact with the larger non-Indian world. ■



Montage of NASA JSC Photos by Robert Markowitz

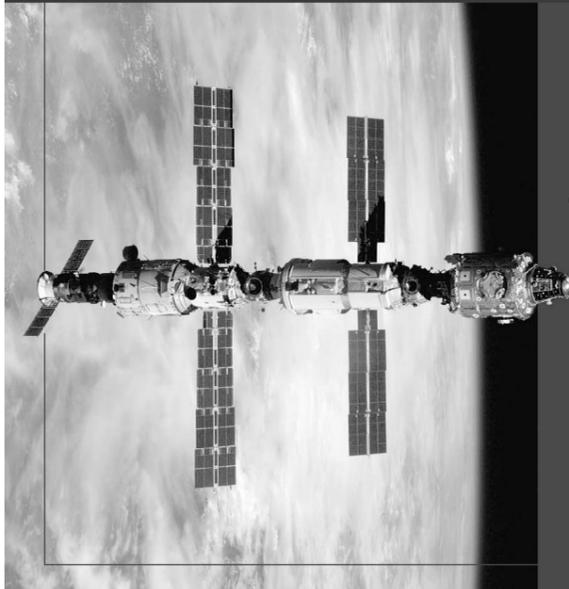
All JSC employees and contractors are cordially invited to a preview of *Inside the Space Station*

a Discovery Channel documentary

in the Teague Auditorium

Thursday and Friday, December 7 and 8, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Make the journey with us *Inside the Space Station* and...



Experience one of the most ambitious engineering feats ever attempted.

Meet the people who have banded together, despite cultural differences, to take on a project that no one nation could accomplish alone.

Relive the incredible technological obstacles that astronauts and scientists from around the globe have had to overcome.

Learn firsthand how this spirit of adventure will impact our lives.

Holiday Dinner/Dance tickets on sale

You better not cry, you better not pout. Tickets to the Employee's Activities Association Annual Holiday Dinner/Dance are out! The event will be held December 9 at the Gilruth Center.

Tickets may be purchased through 3 p.m. December 6 in the Bldg. 11 Exchange Store. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$45 per couple. Tickets are available to NASA employees, retirees, and contractors. Six guests per table are preferred. Seating for eight is available.

This year, partygoers will be entertained by the sounds of The Houston Society Jazz Orchestra providing a variety of music. Your evening will begin with a social period at 7:30 pm, followed with buffet-style dinner at 8 p.m., then on with the band and dancing the night away with friends and family until midnight.

You will be feasting on prim rib with veggies and assorted desserts, tea and coffee. ■

For additional information please contact Rose Gardner at 281-483-0331.

TICKET WINDOW

The following discount tickets are available at the Exchange Stores

AMC Theaters	\$5.00
Moody Gardens (2 events) (does not include Aquarium Pyramid)	\$10.75
Moody Gardens (Aquarium only)	\$9.25
Space Center Houston adult . . \$11.00 child (age 4-11)	\$7.25
(JSC civil service employees free.)	
Space Center Houston annual pass	\$18.75
Postage Stamps (book of 20)	\$6.60
Entertainment Books	\$20.00
Franklin Planner refills (Classic Style)	\$25.50
Franklin Planner refills (Seasons and Montecello)	\$30.25
Holiday gift wrap available December 1 to December 15	
Come see our great gift ideas for the holidays!	

Check out our new Website on the JSC People page at: <http://hro.jsc.nasa.gov/giftshop/>

Exchange Store hours

Monday-Friday
Bldg. 3 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
Bldg. 11 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

- All tickets are nonrefundable.
- Metro tokens and value cards are available.
- Sweetwater Pecans \$6.25 per lb.
- Chocolate-covered Pecans \$8.00 per lb.

For additional information, please call x35350.

Please bring your driver's license to pay by personal check.