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A LOOK AT THE DURANT AND ORDWAY RELATIONSHIP AND HOW THEY IMPACTED
SPACEFLIGHT

Abstract

Frederick C. Durant, III (1916-2015) and Frederick I. Ordway, III (1927-2014) henceforth called FCDIII and FIOIII respectively, maintained a 61 year long friendship that began in the spring of 1953 and lasted until the death of FIOIII in July 2014. It was a shared dream to realize "space travel" that brought the two men together.

FCDIII was an early post WWII President of the American Rocket Society (predecessor of the AIAA) and was the second President of The International Astronautical Federation. FIOIII was a well mannered multi-conversant uber-nerd whose organizational skills enabled him to nurture along the nascency of Astronautica Acta and later was Stanley Kubrick's technical advisor on the internationally acclaimed science fiction cinema masterpiece 2001: A Space Odyssey.

Both FCDIII and FIOIII navigated w/in the inner most circle of Wernher von Braun who, to date, is the most significant figure in the history of rocketry and space travel.

For the Apollo 11 50th anniversary and the 70th IAC, the author, who was friends w/ these two unusual men for many decades, will present brief biographies of FCDIII and FIOIII as individuals and additionally, express how their paths and efforts often intersected.