56th IAA HISTORY OF ASTRONAUTICS SYMPOSIUM (E4) Scientific and Technical Histories (2)

Author: Dr. Albert Jackson
Triton Systems LLC, United States, al_jackson@aajiv.net

THE LUNAR MODULE SIMULATOR: AN INSTRUCTOR'S ACCOUNT

Abstract

The author was a member of the Flight Crew Training Division at the Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas from January 1966 to September 1970. I was in the simulator crew training branch. After initial assignments to the Gemini flight simulator and work on a fixed base simulator for the Lunar Landing Training Vehicle I became the prime instructor for the Abort Guidance System on the Lunar Landing mission training simulator (LMS) in Houston. Described are the factors needed for high-fidelity training crew stations, especially in the area of controls and displays; accurate simulation of the spacecraft systems, including the guidance computer and navigation system; complete visual display systems for simulated out-the-window scenes. An account is given of my experience with the instillation and experience as an instructor on LMS. Some narrative of what the simulator did and instructor interaction with the Apollo LM crews is presented. I include some personal observations and a few anecdotes about Apollo crew training in this simulator.