

**FINDING AID FOR THE
SAMUEL H. NASSIFF PAPERS, 1924-1990 (#2007-0005)**

Contact Information:

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Descriptive Summary

Repository: UHCL Archives, Human Space Flight Collection

Collection #: 2007-0005

Title: Samuel H. Nassiff Papers

Creator: Nassiff, Samuel H.

Inclusive Dates: 1924-1990

Bulk Dates: 1955-1987

Extent: 3 boxes (1.5 linear feet)

Language: English

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use: None

Acquisition Information: Samuel H. Nassiff left behind seven boxes of JSC and personal papers in the garage of his former home in Friendswood in August 2006. The new owner arranged the physical pickup of Mr. Nassiff's donation and Mr. Nassiff mailed a signed Deed of Gift a few days later.

Processed by: Shelly Kelly

Preferred Citation: Samuel H. Nassiff Papers (#2007-0005), University of Houston-Clear Lake Archives.

Biographical/Historical Note

Samuel Henry Nassiff was born to Margaret Richardson and Mike Nassiff on January 12, 1931 in Jacksonville, Florida. The youngest of five children with two older brothers and sisters, he attended Fishweir Grammar, and John Gorrie Junior High. He was graduated from Robert E. Lee Senior High in January 1949, and attended Jacksonville Junior College for one year.

At age 17, he joined the Naval Air Research for two years. When called to active duty in September 1950, he was assigned to the U.S.S. Valley Force, CV-45.

He attended the University of Florida in Gainesville, graduating in 1956. In the summer of 1955, he worked for General Dynamics (Convair) in Fort Worth, Texas, returning there after graduation. He worked as an aerophysics engineer in the stability and control group, performing analyses and handling quality characteristics on the Supersonic B-58 until 1963.

He married Lou Ann Woods of Jacksonville, Florida, on June 5, 1956 and they welcomed their first child, Gary, in April 1957. Ronald arrived in 1959 and Cynthia followed in 1965. Lou Ann's parents are Basil and Vernon Woods.

Sam Nassiff joined the Manned Spacecraft Center in 1963 working in the Simulation Branch, Flight Crew Operations Directorate where he developed a Gemini reentry simulator with six-degrees-of-freedom and trained the first two classes of astronauts. In 1964 he was named Head of the Simulation Dynamics Section.

He continued in the Simulation Requirements and Design office through 1973. Between 1974-1975, Sam worked in the Spacecraft Design Division of the Payload Integration Office determining requirements and conducting studies for the design of the Shuttle aft crew station.

In 1975 he moved into the Engineering & Development Directorate, Systems Design Office as a Technical Manager developing a Manned Remote Work Station (MRWS) and Open Cherry Picker Development Test Article. In 1979 he moved to the Program Development Office, also in the Engineering & Development Directorate. From 1982-1985 he worked in the Systems Engineering Division as Technical Manager for the Space Station. From 1985-1987 he worked as Technical Assistant to the Manager of the International and External Affairs Office in the Space Station Program Office, where they formulated plans and schedules relative to international projects for implementation in the Space Station Program.

Sam Nassiff retired from NASA Johnson Space Center in 1987 and worked for Eagle Engineering, Inc. where he participated in the preparation of the MDAC proposal for the Space Station Program in the area of SE&I, managed a study for an international space contractor to develop requirements and designs for an Astronaut Training Facility and designed an Earth Orbiting Transportation Node for a NASA contracted study in the area of advanced space craft design.

Scope and Content

This collection represents the material Samuel Nassiff gathered for his personal files outside of his work papers, which were donated to the official NASA Johnson Space Center History Collection. The collection includes his work with Eagle Engineering, Inc. as an associate responsible for a NASDA Crew Training Facility Study, and a Systems Engineering and Integration proposal for MDAC.

Papers also reflect his employment with General Dynamics (Convair) in Fort Worth, Texas, from 1956-1963. The remainder are personal papers including his personnel file, resumes, a biographical letter, personal correspondence, and other historical information he collected during his employment at NASA Johnson Space Center.

Index Terms:

Personal Names

Crawford, Karen
Kent, Joel G.
Nassiff, Samuel H.
Woods, Basil
Woods, Lou Ann
Woods, Vernon

Corporate Names

Convair
 Eagle Engineering, Inc.
 NASA, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
 NASDA, Japan's National Space Development Agency
 Subjects
 Space Station Freedom
 Weightless Environment Testing

Arrangement: Organized in three groups, representing work before and after his NASA career, and his personal life.

Items Separated: A number of miscellaneous personal items were returned to the family. Three copies of *Mach Buster* (1955-56) published by the Florida Student Branch, Institute of Aeronautical Sciences were transferred to the University of Florida archives. Several items relating to Lee Sr. High School (Jacksonville, Florida) were transferred to the Jacksonville Historical Society. One book was transferred to the UT-Dallas Special Collections.

Related Material: Samuel H. Nassiff's working papers from NASA were donated and processed to the JSC History Collection, Center Series, Samuel H. Nassiff Papers, housed at UHCL through a renewable Memorandum of Understanding (2001-2011). This collection comprises of 10 groups and measures 5.25 linear feet. It covers Nassiff's NASA years 1963 through retirement in 1986.

The LLTV/LLRV documents found in the JSC History Collection, Apollo Series (Boxes 086-11, 086-12, 086-13, 086-14) were donated by Samuel H. Nassiff prior to 2001.

Inventory

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1		Convair	
	1	Collection of Atmospheric Tables and Data (IAR 1.071)	May 15, 1955
	2	Correspondence	1958-1961
	3	Method for Obtaining Bode Plot from a Transfer Function	Nov. 23, 1959
	4	NATO Advisory Group for Aeronautical Research & Development Report 224. Stability-Derivative Determination from Flight Data	October 1958
	5	Rolling Motion of MB-1 Pod Ref. TN 3737	undated
	6	Time Vector and Dynamic Equations	undated
		Eagle Engineering	
	7	Associates, Board of Directors, and Staff	1986-1987
	8	<i>Eagle News</i> (Vol. 3, No. 1-2; Vol. 4, No. 1-2)	1987-1988
	9	Kent, Joel G.	1987
		NASDA Crew Training Facility Study	
	10	Japanese Module Photographs	1987
	11	Japanese Weightless Environment Testing System (WETS) Study	1987
	12	NASDA Contract for Crew Training (Kawasaki Heavy Industries – WETS)	1987
	13	Neutral Buoyancy Safety Requirements	1987
	14	Requirements for a Weightless Environment Testing System (87-170)	Oct. 25, 1987
	15	Requirements for a Weightless Environment Testing System (87-170)	Jan. 8, 1988
	16	Personnel File – Resumes	1986-1990

2	17	Policies	1986-1987
	18	Policy Guide for Employees and Associates	Aug. 1, 1988
		Space Station Freedom	
	1	Extravehicular Mobility Unit System Design, Development, Test, and Evaluation Plan. ETS-89-25	Aug. 18, 1989
	2	Rationale for Major Space Station Configurations and Space Station Pictures	1988
	3	Systems Engineering & Integration MDAC Aerospace Corp	1987
	4-5	Systems Engineering & Integration MTGM Plan – MDAC Huntington Beach	1987
3	6	Von Karman Lecture. The Space Shuttle - Some Key Program Decisions	1984
		Personal	
	7	Aeronautical Vest-pocket Handbook	1952
	8	American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Monthly Space Center Study	Jan. 1987
	9	Arnold Engineering Development Center. High Mach	about 1955
	10-11	Biographical Information	1951-53, 1960-61, undated
	12	State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers	1964
	13	Correspondence	1963-1975
	14-15	Of Others	1955, 1957, 1970-1971
	16	Crawford, Karen	1970
	17	Woods, Basil	1970
	1-3	Woods, Lou Ann	1955-1956
	4-5	Woods, Vernon	1957, 1968, 1970-1971
	6	House Plans	undated
	7	IEEE/USAB Legislative Alert	July 10, 1986
	8	MSC Suggestion 782-66 to encourage carpools	1966
	9	Miscellany	1963-65, 1968 1977-80
	10	NASA Memorabilia	Aug. 1969
	11	NASA Performance Appraisal System for Non-supervising employees	June 1981
	12	NASA Press Release (re: Samuel H. Nassiff)	1964
	13	NASA Roundup Swap Shop submission	undated
	14	NASA Suggestions	1964-1966
	15	Paper Samples	undated
	16	Personnel File	Abt. 1985
	17	Photographs	1924, 1962, 1968, 1971
	18	Photograph Negatives	about 1953
	19	Seminar Documentation- System Engineering Advanced Techniques	1981
	20	Solar Ephemeris for 1952 and Surveying Instrument Manual	1952
	21	Standard Aircraft Handbook	1952
	22	Travel (maps of various space centers)	undated