Webb Addresses TU Conferes

NASA Administrator James E. Webb was on hand to address the more than 200 attendees of Lewis' Conference on Selected Technology for the Electric Power Industry at a dinner Wednesday evening.

Photographs of Mr. Webb's visit and excerpts from his address will be carried in the next issue of the Lewis News since the present issue went to press before his arrival. The conference was opened Wednesday morning by Dr. Abe Silberstein, assistant director and chairman of the conference, the power company officials heard presentations by Center speakers and panels on technology of interest to them on Wednesday and Thursday. Also highlighting the conference were speeches by Mr. Edwin Venard, Managing Director of the Edison Electric Institute, and Mr. Karl Rudolph, President of the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co.

Three Lewis engineers have been in Munich, Germany this week to discuss high temperature alloys, variable geometry of inlets and exhaust nozzles, and short combustors.

Progress of NASA research programs in these areas were presented at the Sixth Congress of the International Council of the Aeronautical Sciences on September 9 - 13 at the Deutsches Museum. This year's program, held as a free interchange of information between nations on all phases of mechanical flight, focused particularly on four areas: atmospheric flight vehicles and their environment, combustion and propulsion; materials and structures; and noise and sonic boom.


Such materials, according to the authors, will be used for the "hot components" in advanced gas turbine engines where exceptional demands are made to withstand extreme heat.

Milton A. Beheim, chief of the Wind Tunnel and Flight Division, discussed Lewis research on inlets and exhaust nozzles for supersonic aircraft. He presented his paper, "Variable Geometry Requirements in Inlets and Exhaust Nozzles for Advanced Engines" on September 10.

Staffers in Munich this Week

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Wins Trophy

Marion Baker's "Boo Ray" placed third in the Cleveland National Air Races to win Baker his largest trophy and prize money. Story on page 3. (Lloyd Trunk photo)
Places Third
in Air Races

Marion Baker of Plum Brook did Lewis proud in the Cleveland National Air Races at Burke Lakefront Airport over the Labor Day weekend by placing third in the Formula 1 competition.

He was pleased with the performance of his “Boo Ray” midget racer when he was up against Bill Falck of New York and Bob Downey of California, two of the top racers in the country.

Baker qualified for the races at a speed of 204 m.p.h. In the first race on Saturday he came in second behind Falck by “a couple of plane lengths.” Then on Sunday, Baker says, “it was neck and neck with Downey, who is president of the Professional Race Pilots Assn. He beat me by one plane length.”

In the final heat on Labor Day Baker, with a speed of just under 200 m.p.h., trailed Falck and Downey to take third. Falck set a new course record for Formula 1 (midget racer) planes with a speed of 215.25 m.p.h.

Baker’s third place show netted him $1,795, a nice winning. But according to Baker, the money already is spent. “We figure now we’re just covering expenses. As far as I know, nobody in this business makes any profit!”

Next stop for the “Boo Ray” is Reno, Nevada, where it will qualify for competition next Thursday (Sept. 19) and race the next three days. Accompanying Baker will be the “Boo Ray Gang,” as they are commonly called at Plum Brook. Baker’s pit crew in Reno will include his brother, Bob, Ed Graebner, Don Cosgrove, George Wildschrey, and Bob Walters.

McFann Retires

Charles B. McFann, Automotive Operations supervisor, retired on September 5.

McFann joined Lewis 26 years ago as a senior patrolman. From 1942 to 1945 he was responsible for the security guard as chief of the NACA Patrol. In 1945 he transferred to what is now the Plant Services Division and most recently served as head of the Traffic Section.

He and his wife, Mary, look forward to spending the winter in sunny Florida.

National ANS Head to Speak

The new president of the American Nuclear Society, Dr. Karl P. Cohen, will discuss goals of the nuclear energy industry here on Sept. 27.

Dr. Cohen, who is general manager of the Nuclear Energy Division for the General Electric Co., will make his address on “Long Range Planning and the Goals of Power Reactor Development” to the Northern Ohio Section of ANS in the DEB auditorium. All interested employees are invited to attend.

At GE Dr. Cohen’s group is developing economical nuclear power reactors. His present work involves the construction of an experimental fast breeder reactor in Arkansas, scheduled to begin operation this year.

Dr. Cohen began his career in the nuclear field at Columbia University prior to WW II and has since distinguished himself as an expert in atomic energy.

Employees interested in attending the dinner meeting should make reservations through Jack Miller at Lewis-Cleveland, PAX 4252, or Margaret Heinsen at Plum Brook, PBX 588. The dinner will be preceded by a social hour at 6:30 p.m. with the talk scheduled for 8 p.m.

The Nose Knows

Storage for an inflated weather satellite? No, this radome addition to the nose of the KC-135 4-engine jet aircraft, originally designed as the military fuel tanker version of the Boeing 707, houses a seven-foot parabolic S-Band antenna and a co-mounted phased dipole VHF antenna. These are used as the aircraft to spacecraft voice relay and data receiving antennas on the Apollo/Range Instrumentation Aircraft, shown above. This aircraft, one of a fleet of eight, houses other special communications equipment, and will monitor critical phases of the Apollo lunar missions, serving as a vital air-to-ground voice relay link between the Apollo mission control center and the astronauts on board the spacecraft.

PSL Expansion Contract Is Awarded...

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