

**Special Message From The Administrator
to NASA Employees
September 16, 1999**

Today I want to recognize the dedication, commitment and heroism of the NASA team. Over the past few days, it has been validated once again that our greatest national treasures are our employees.

I salute the NASA employees for their preparedness and responsiveness during the threat of hurricane Floyd. My deepest appreciation goes to the 105 volunteers at KSC who rode out the storm.

Your colleagues at Langley Research Center and Wallops Flight Facility are -- at this hour -- demonstrating similar dedication. The willingness of the NASA team to protect our nation's assets is the hallmark of what makes us great.

The President, the Vice President and the FEMA Administrator each called me to convey their concern. The President particularly expressed his commitment to preserving and protecting the space assets of our country.

As you know, I am firmly pledged to making safety our number one value.

In view of the devastating potential of natural disasters, I have asked Joe Rothenberg and Fred Gregory to reassess our preparedness. We must assure the safety of our employees, protect NASA's facilities and resources, and review the balance between risk versus cost.

I sincerely thank each and every one of you who regard their job at NASA with as much dedication and professionalism as shown by the diligent KSC, Langley and Wallops employees.