



For Release

COLUMBIA ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Adm. Harold W. Gehman Jr., U.S. Navy retired, completed more than 35 years of active duty in October 2000. His last assignment was as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, and as the Commander in Chief of the U.S. Joint Forces Command, one of the five U.S. Unified Commands.

Immediately after retiring, Gehman served as Co-chairman of the Department of Defense review of the terrorist attack on the USS Cole.

Gehman graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering and a commission in the Navy from the Naval ROTC program. He served at all levels of leadership and command and was promoted to four-star admiral in 1996. He became the 29th Vice Chief of Naval Operations in September 1996. As Vice Chief he was a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, formulated the Navy's \$70 billion budget, and developed and implemented policies governing the Navy's 375,000 personnel.

Maj. Gen. John L. Barry is Director, Plans and Programs, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Barry is a 1973 honor graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. He graduated from Fighter Weapons School, and was a test and evaluation pilot at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. He was selected as a White House Fellow at NASA and worked as the NASA administrator's executive assistant and White House liaison during the Challenger accident, and he served as the Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and during the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

He has commanded an Air Force fighter squadron, and, in a combat zone, a fighter operations group and a composite wing. He served as commander of Air Force units, where he led the recovery of a wing following the Blackhawk helicopter shoot-down at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. His assignment prior to his current position was the Strategic Planner for the U.S. Air Force.

Brig. Gen. Duane W. Deal is Commander, 21st Space Wing, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. The Air Force's largest, geographically and organizationally, the wing consists of a work force of more than 6,000 officer, enlisted, civilian and contract employees. The wing provides missile-warning and space-control for combat forces and the governments of the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom through its 43 units operating 15 weapon systems at 20 worldwide locations in five countries spread across nine time zones.

He has extensive flight experience in seven aircraft types, including the SR-71 Blackbird, crew commander experience in missile warning and space control, and extensive aircraft maintenance and logistics experience. He has served on or presided over 10 mishap investigations for space launch and aircraft incidents. He is serving in his eighth commander position in the U.S. Air Force.

Dr. James Hallock is Division Manager of the Department of Transportation's Aviation System Division. He is a senior member of American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a member of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Educational Council, and serves on review boards for the Canadian government, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the NASA Space Shuttle program.

He has authored or co-authored two patents and more than 125 papers and reports. He worked in the Apollo Optics Group of the MIT Instrumentation Lab (now the Draper Lab) from 1963 to 1966. He dealt with selecting Earth landmarks for updating guidance computers on Apollo and was co-experimenter on a landmark contrast experiment flown on Gemini X. He also calculated lunar photometric functions and the potential effects of solar flare radiation on the optical systems of Apollo.

Maj. Gen. Kenneth W. Hess is the Air Force Chief of Safety, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, and Commander, Air Force Safety Center, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

Hess entered the Air Force in 1969 through Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and has extensive staff experience at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, the Joint Staff and U.S. Pacific Command. He has commanded three Air Force wings: 47th Flying Training Wing, 374th Airlift Wing and 319th Air Refueling Wing. Prior to assuming his current position, Hess was Commander of 3rd Air Force, Royal Air Force Base, Mildenhall, England. He is a command pilot with more than 4,200 hours in various aircraft.

Scott Hubbard, Director, NASA Ames Research Center, is responsible for the organization and oversight of Ames' research efforts.

Prior to his appointment, Hubbard was deputy director for research. In March 2000, Hubbard was called to NASA Headquarters where he served as the first Mars program director. Hubbard had responsibility for successfully redefining all robotic Mars missions in response to the Mars failures in 1999. The Mars Odyssey mission launched during Hubbard's tenure is now successfully collecting data at the Red Planet. In previous roles at Ames, Hubbard was associate director for astrobiology and space programs. Hubbard was one of the founders of astrobiology and helped establish NASA's new Astrobiology Institute, serving as the initial director.

Previously, Hubbard served as staff scientist at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory; was a founder, vice president and general manager for Canberra Semiconductor (a high-tech San Francisco Bay Area start-up company), and held the position of senior research physicist at SRI International.

Rear Admiral Stephen A. Turcotte is the Commander of the Naval Safety Center in Norfolk, Virginia. He graduated from Marquette University NROTC in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science. Upon graduation, he was ordered to flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1977. A seasoned and decorated aviator, Turcotte has flown more than 5,500 flight hours in 15 different aircraft and logged over 500 carrier landings. He has earned Masters Degrees in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and in Management from Salve Regina University.

His tours have included several aviation squadrons, as well as shipboard and staff assignments. He commanded an aviation squadron, has served on the Joint Staff (Operations Division), was Commanding Officer of the Jacksonville Naval Air Station, and served as Deputy Commander of the Joint Task Force Southwest Asia at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia.

In January 2002, he became the 48th Commander of the Naval Safety Center, the Navy's leading organization responsible for accident investigations, mishap analysis and dissemination of information to the fleet.

Steven Wallace, the Director of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Office of Accident Investigation, has overall responsibility for all FAA accident investigation activity. He is the principal FAA liaison with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and oversees the FAA response to all NTSB safety recommendations, as well as internal FAA safety recommendations.

A lawyer by training, Wallace is also a licensed commercial pilot with multiengine and instrument ratings.

Roger E. Tetrault was appointed Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of McDermott International, Inc. on March 1, 1997. He became Chairman on June 1, 1997 and retired in August 2000 after 24 years of service with McDermott.

Tetrault left McDermott and its major subsidiary, Babcock and Wilcox, in 1991 to join General Dynamics as corporate vice president and president of its Electric Boat Division. At Babcock and Wilcox he had been the Vice President and Group Executive of the Government Group, where he was responsible for the diversified government business segment that included nuclear reactors, pressure vessels, steam generators and pressurizers for nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers. The Group also included ammunition and missile components, specialty pipe fabrication, Advanced Solid Rocket Motor bodies for the Space Shuttle, and other diverse weapon systems.

Dr. Sheila Widnall, Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics and Engineering Systems, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge. She has served as Associate Provost, MIT, and as Secretary of the Air Force. As Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. Widnall was responsible for all affairs of the Department of the Air Force. Dr. Widnall was also responsible for research and development and other activities prescribed by the President or the Secretary of Defense.

Since returning to MIT, she has been active in the Lean Aerospace Initiative, with special emphasis on the space and policy focus teams. Her research activities in fluid dynamics have included the following: boundary layer stability, unsteady hydrodynamic loads on fully wetted and supercavitating hydrofoils of finite span, unsteady lifting-surface theory, unsteady air forces on oscillating cylinders in subsonic and supersonic flow, unsteady leading-edge vortex separation from slender delta wings, tip-vortex aerodynamics, helicopter noise, aerodynamics of high-speed ground transportation vehicles, vortex stability, aircraft-wake studies, turbulence, and transition.

NASA SUPPORT

Theron M. Bradley Jr., NASA Chief Engineer, is responsible for the overall review and technical readiness of all NASA programs. Bradley assures development efforts and mission operations are planned and conducted on a sound engineering basis, and provides an integrated focus for agency-wide engineering policies, standards and practices. Bradley is a former nuclear engineer for the U.S. Navy, serving in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

He has also served as a civilian with the U.S. Department of Energy and the Department of Defense in numerous leadership and management positions with the Office of Naval Reactors, both in Washington and in the Idaho branch.

Bryan D. O'Connor, NASA Associate Administrator for Safety and Mission Assurance, has functional responsibility for the safety, reliability, maintainability and quality assurance of all NASA programs. After the Challenger was lost, O'Connor was given a number of safety and management assignments over the next three years as the space agency recovered from the accident. As a member of the Astronaut Corps, he has 386 hours in space covering nearly six million miles in 253 orbits of the earth.

Columbia Accident Investigation Board
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