

Mrs. Ruth Graefin von Saurma  
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### BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Mrs. Ruth G. von Saurma, nee Ramthun, is a Public Information Specialist in the Public Affairs Office at NASA's George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala.

Born in Frankfurt-Main, Germany, in 1921, she attended elementary school and high school in Germany and graduated from the Foreign Language College of the Lette-Haus in Berlin.

Prior to her immigration to the United States, Mrs. von Saurma's professional career included secretarial and translator work for various industrial companies in Berlin, Frankfurt-Main and Paris, France, and employment as chief clerk with the International Refugee Organization in Kiel, Germany.

In 1953, Mrs. von Saurma came to the United States as a dependent of her late husband, Friedrich Graf von Saurma, an aeronautical research engineer who immigrated under special contract of the Department of Defense. He joined the rocket development team under the direction of Dr. Wernher von Braun in Huntsville in February 1954.

In February 1958, after the launch of America's first satellite by the Huntsville rocket team, Mrs. von Saurma was offered a position as translator and specialist in foreign correspondence on Dr. von Braun's staff. She transferred to NASA's George C. Marshall Space Flight Center upon its establishment in July 1960.

At the Marshall Center, Mrs. von Saurma held positions as international relations and foreign information specialist in various staff offices. During the tenure of Dr. von Braun as director of the Center, she was responsible for Dr. von Braun's foreign correspondence, including preparation of foreign language publications, and handling of foreign media and visitor requests. In October 1977, she became of a public information specialist in the Public Services and Education Branch.

Since May 1959, Mrs. von Saurma is a citizen of the United States. She has been active in various civic organizations and is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Huntsville/Madison Council for International Visitors. She also is a member of the Huntsville Press Club, the Friends of German Culture, the Monte Sano Civic Association and a former officer of the French Alliance of Huntsville.

Her daughter Lily, born in Erfurt, Germany, is married and lives in Munich