

# Langley Researcher

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LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER

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## NASA RESCHEDULES LAUNCH DATE FOR APOLLO 14 TO NEXT JANUARY

Changes to be made in the Apollo spacecraft and procedures before the Apollo 14 mission will require postponing the launch to no earlier than January 31.

The changes and new date were announced by Dr. Thomas O. Paine, NASA Administrator, following a review of recommendations of the Apollo 13 Review Board, an evaluation of the Board's report by the NASA Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel, and recommendations by NASA's Office of Manned Space Flight.

The Review Board, which was chaired by Langley Director Edgar M. Cortright, had reported that a short circuit ignited electrical insulation in spacecraft oxygen tank No. 2, causing failure of the tank, subsequent loss of electrical power and abort of the lunar-landing mission 200,000 miles from Earth on April 13.

Command and Service Module systems will be modified to eliminate potential combustion hazards in high-pressure oxygen of the type revealed by the Apollo 13 accident.

In addition, a third oxygen tank will be added to the Service Module to avoid operations in low oxygen conditions, thereby making possible the removal of unsealed fan motors in the tanks.

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## CONTRACT AWARDED TO BUILD VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

Langley Research Center will build a Visitor Information Center to be opened to the general public in the spring of 1971, Director Edgar M. Cortright announced last week.

Construction will begin immediately under a \$142,000 contract awarded to the Eastern Construction Corporation of Tabb.

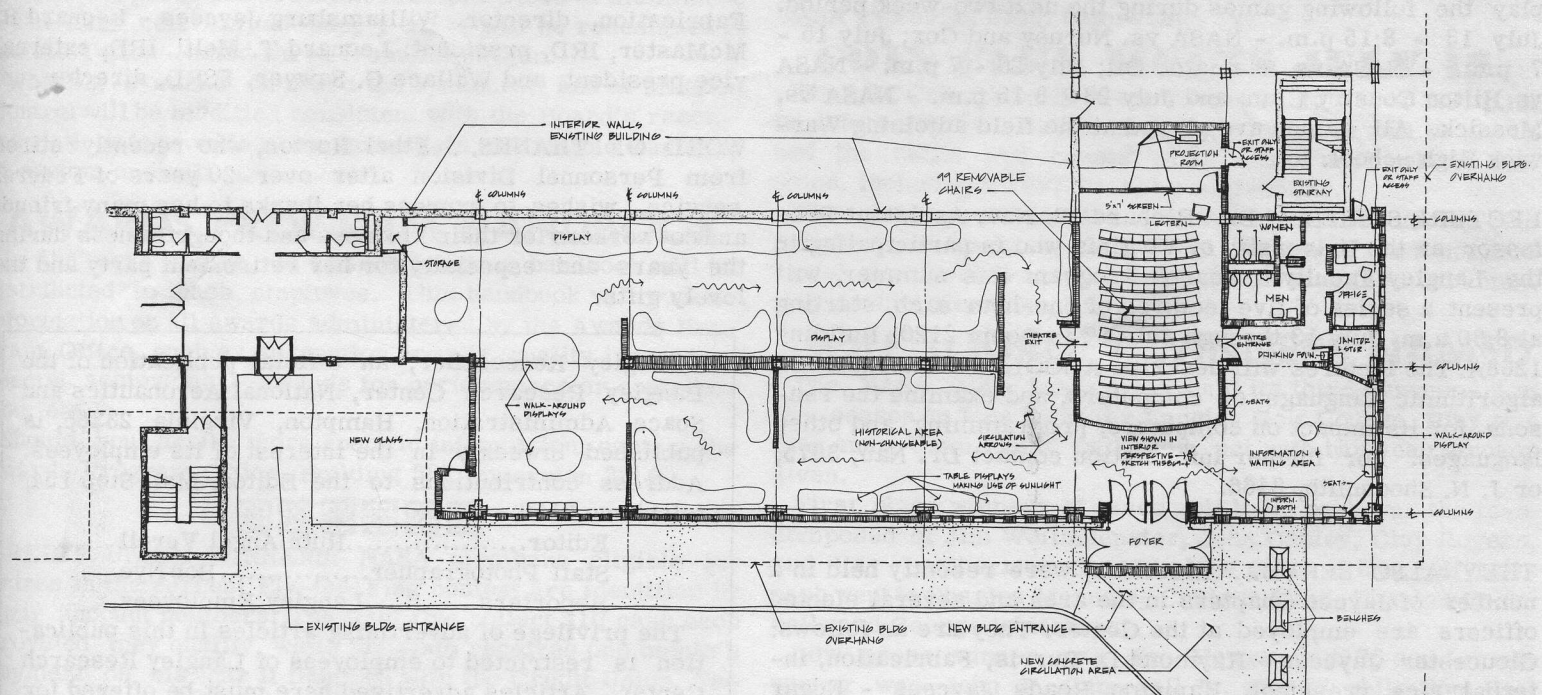
The Information Center will be located on the ground floor of the Flight Instrumentation Building. Construction will consist of enclosing an 8,000 square foot area now unfinished and providing interior facilities.

Langley plans to equip the Information Center with exhibits and displays to explain NASA activities and the role played by the research center in supporting the nation's programs in space and aeronautics. A small theatre with a seating capacity of 100 will provide a place for welcoming visitors and showing NASA films.

There will be no admission charge to visit the Information Center and plans are being made to include it as a stop on the Hampton Tour.

Interior arrangements, displays and exhibits will be prepared and installed by members of the Center staff after completion of the construction in late December.

Architects for the Visitor Information Center are Oliver and Smith of Norfolk.



**VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER.** The Langley Center plans to open a Visitor Information Center to the general public in the spring of 1971. This sketch shows the floor

plan of the Information Center which will be located on the first floor of the Flight Instrumentation Building. An 8,000 square foot area will be enclosed to provide the facility.