

JOHN L. SLOOP

**Director, Propulsion & Power Generation
Office of Advanced Research and Technology**

Mr. John L. Sloop received his degree in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1939. He joined the NACA in 1941 and began work on rocket research in 1945. In 1949 he was made Chief of the Rocket Branch of the Lewis Research Center. He and his group made contributions in the area of high energy propellants, ignition and combustion, and in film and regenerative cooling. Extensive work was done on hydrogen as a rocket fuel and oxygen and fluorine as oxidizers. By 1957 chambers thrust were operated at high performance levels and regeneratively cooled. In 1960 Mr. Sloop came to Washington as an assistant to Dr. Abe Silverstein, Director of Space Flight Development. In 1961 he was named Deputy Director of the Launch Vehicles and Propulsion Division of the Office of Space Sciences and in 1962 assumed his present assignment as Director of Propulsion and Power Generation in the Office of Advanced Research and Technology. Mr. Sloop was co-founder and second President of the Cleveland-Akron Section of the American Rocket Society and served in many capacities including Chairman of the Combustion Committee, National Program Committee Chairman, and a member of the Board of Directors of the ARS. He is a Fellow Member of the AIAA.

The Author

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John L. Sloop retired from government service in 1972 after 31 years of aeronautical and space research and its management. He joined the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics at its Langley laboratory in 1941, was transferred to its new engine laboratory in Cleveland in 1942, and headed a group working on aircraft engine ignition problems during WW II. After the war, he was placed in charge of cooling research in a newly-formed section on rockets and concentrated on internal film cooling using porous walls and other techniques. In 1949, he was made head of the laboratory's rocket research and during the 1950s his group made many contributions in theoretical and experimental research on high-energy propellants, ignition, combustion, and cooling. Over 150 technical reports were published by the rocket group during the 1945-1960 period.

Abe Silverstein, who initially headed all of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's space flight programs, brought Sloop to Washington in 1960 as one of his technical assistants where he served on a number of internal management committees on launch vehicles and spacecraft and participated in the planning that led to the Saturn vehicle and Apollo missions. A year later, Sloop was made deputy director of the group that managed NASA's small and medium launch vehicles that included Scout, Delta, Atlas-Agena, and Atlas-Centaur. In 1962, he was named director of propulsion and power generation in NASA's office of advanced research and technology, a responsibility that included solid and liquid

propellant rockets and on-board space power using chemical and solar energy. In 1964, Sloop became assistant associate administrator of advanced research and propulsion which managed research in ~~four~~ NASA laboratories in the fields of aeronautics, space vehicles, propulsion, electronics, human factors, and basic research.

Sloop is the author of 45 publications and over a hundred unpublished papers and talks. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and in 1974 shared its Goddard award with two others "for significant contributions to the development of practical lox-hydrogen rocket engines which have played an essential role in the Nation's space program and in the advancement of space technology." He is also a member of the Society of History and Technology. At various times, he has held a number of offices in the American Rocket Society and the AIAA, including co-founder and president of the Cleveland-Akron section, a national director, and nation chairman of the program, publications, propellants and combustion, and Fellow election committees. He was NACA's representative on its subcommittee for rocket engines from formation in 1951 until dissolution in 1958 when NASA succeeded the NACA.

In other activities, Sloop pursues interests in cruising by sail and other marine fields as well as various hobbies. He was born in Charlotte, N.C. in 1916, earned a B.S. in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1939 and is a registered engineer in Ohio. Mr. & Mrs. Sloop (the former

Atlasse Yeargin) live in Bethesda, Maryland. They have four children: Linda Carr (b.1942), Lt(jg) William Locke (1944-1969), Judith Farrell (b 1946) and John Robert (b 1948).

JOHN L. SLOOP

NASA Official

John L. Sloop, 76, an electrical engineer who was a retired official of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, died of cancer Oct. 4 at Sibley Memorial Hospital. A resident of the Washington area since 1960, he lived in Bethesda and had a vacation home in Marathon, Fla.

Mr. Sloop retired in 1972 as assistant associate administrator for advanced research and propulsion. He had worked for NASA and its predecessor agency, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, for more than 30 years, starting as an electrical engineer at the Langley Laboratory in Hampton, Va.

He later was head of rocket research at the NACA's Cleveland laboratory and a technical adviser and director of propulsion for NASA in Washington.

After he retired, Mr. Sloop was an alternate energy consultant to P.R.C. Corp. and formed his own company, International Consultants in Energy Systems, working on alternate energy projects in Africa, the Caribbean, South America and Mexico. He retired again in 1988.

Mr. Sloop was a native of Charlotte, N.C. He attended the University of North Carolina and was a graduate of the University of Michigan.

He wrote the book, "Liquid Hydrogen as a Propulsion Fuel, 1945-1959."

Mr. Sloop shared the NASA's Goddard Award in 1974 for contributions in the development of rocket engines. He was a fellow and officer of the American Institute of Astronautics and Aeronautics and held offices in the American Rocket Society. He was a member of the Society for the History of Technology and the U.S. Power Squadron.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Atlasse Sloop of Bethesda and Marathon; three children, Linda Carr of Gaithersburg, Judith Farrell of Upper Marlboro and John Robert Sloop of Orlando, Fla., a judge of the Seminole County, Fla., County Court; two sisters, Eleanor Cashion of Monroe, N.C., and Ernestine Walker of Sequim, Wash.; and four grandchildren. A son, William L. Sloop, died in 1969.

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