

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

EDITED ORAL HISTORY TRANSCRIPT 12

SHANNON W. LUCID
INTERVIEWED BY JENNIFER ROSS-NAZZAL
HOUSTON, TEXAS – SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

ROSS-NAZZAL: Today is September 9th, 2021. This interview with Shannon Lucid is being conducted in Houston, Texas, for the JSC Oral History Project. The interviewer is Jennifer Ross-Nazzal. Thank you again for letting me come over.

LUCID: Oh, you're welcome.

ROSS-NAZZAL: And chat with you some more. Last time we talked about Mir, but I wondered if there was anything else you wanted to talk about that we hadn't discussed. You probably are all talked out about Mir.

LUCID: I can't even remember what we discussed.

ROSS-NAZZAL: That's fine.

LUCID: We don't have six months.

ROSS-NAZZAL: One of the things we didn't talk about was meeting your family for the first time when you landed. What did you all talk about? What did they say to you when they finally had a chance to spend some time with you?

LUCID: I got to meet them right away. After we got back to the building where everybody was, then I had to do the medical research DSOs [detailed supplementary objectives]. I was sitting up, so we were sitting up there, and the family came in. The very first thing Michael my son said to me is, “Wow, Mom, your hair is as gray as Rich [Michael R.] Clifford’s now.” It sort of was okay, I’m back home now.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Welcome back.

LUCID: Yes. But that was so funny. Because Rich was on the [STS]-76 when we launched.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I had read that they were concerned about your recovery, so you were assigned, I’m going to read all the people that were assigned. You had your flight surgeon, Gaylen [S. Johnson], and then you had other rehabilitation physicians, physical therapists, a nurse, physical trainers, a dietitian, psychologists, and a variety of other people.

LUCID: The only person I ever saw or knew about was Gaylen.

ROSS-NAZZAL: That’s it?

LUCID: That was it.

ROSS-NAZZAL: All right. So this article was incorrect.

LUCID: No. There was nothing.

ROSS-NAZZAL: How long did it take you to recover from being in space?

LUCID: Now I heard from my friend Ellen [S.] Baker, and it wasn't right away, it was after. They had had an ambulance on call. After a few days she said, "Shannon," because I was going into work, "Do we still need to have this ambulance on call?" I said, "I never heard about it." It wasn't real well coordinated.

ROSS-NAZZAL: You didn't do any physical therapy or any other sort of recovery strategies from being in space for that long?

LUCID: Not at work, no. What happened, if I get this right—we spent the night at KSC [Kennedy Space Center, Florida], the STS-76 crew. We spent the night in crew quarters there at KSC, and basically I just slept and slept and slept. Then the next morning I woke up, and we were going to come back to JSC. I remember oh my goodness, there in the crew quarters I guess everybody else had had breakfast, so I went into the dining area, and the person in charge said, "What would you like for breakfast? Everybody else had pancakes." I said, "That sounds absolutely wonderful." So she made blueberry pancakes, and oh my goodness, they were so good. Then she said, "You want more?" I said, "Oh, of course." I shouldn't have gotten the second helping, because I was overfull, but they were so good.

We did that, and then at some point we went out and got on the airplane to come home. We came back, and I guess it was the weekend. The next day I got up, and the kids wanted to know, "Well, what do you want to do?" I said, "Let's go to the bookstore." We went over to the bookstore, and then Sunday I went to church.

The thing that shocked me was Saturday morning when I was home, this is back in the olden days when newspapers still showed up at the door, so I went out to get the newspaper. Normally I was barefoot at home, and I thought oh my goodness. I thought I was going to die, because all the pine needles were on the ground, and they were so sharp. I hadn't realized that the bottoms of my feet were tender as a baby's. There were no calluses after six months in space. I realized I needed some kind of covering on my feet for a while.

I went to work on Monday. I know somebody asked me, because I guess the Russians did things in the swimming pool, they said, "Somebody has a pool over at their house you can go use if you want to." Why would I want to go to somebody's house? Then Gaylen said that there was somebody at the astronaut gym that would go walking with me, so we talked for a little bit, and I talked with her, and we walked around once, and she said, "Well, that's enough for today." I said, "Well, that's fine." Because the kids were coming over every night and we were doing our normal walk around Clear Lake City, so it wasn't a huge need to walk once around the track at NASA, because I walked a lot more at home.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Do you feel like working out on the treadmill was what helped you just come back and pick up life?

LUCID: Now my bones felt a little creaky, it was just like you hadn't been doing any activity for a little bit. I was very fortunate.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I've heard that people have been taken off the Shuttle on stretchers. For you to have been up there that long and come back and basically pick up life is pretty amazing.

LUCID: What else were you going to do? I didn't have a vacation when I came home.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I was going to ask you about that. Since you had been up there for so long were you accumulating things like comp time or extra vacation hours?

LUCID: No. Oh, no. This is the government we're working for. Obviously, I was accumulating the normal vacation days. We always do a crew report when you get back, so you're supposed to put your recommendations in there, and I had several recommendations. One recommendation I had was that when you come home you should get a week off for every month that you were in orbit. I think they sort of are doing that. So that's a good thing.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Yes, that makes sense.

LUCID: Yes. The one thing that happened—I was smart. Before I launched I made them show me the postlanding schedule, because I wasn't going to come back and be surprised with a lot of requirements postlanding. I'd signed up for lots of different DSOs. I made them show me the

schedule for what I was going to be doing when I came back, as far as the on the ground data collection things.

That made some people very cross because I guess they didn't like to think that far out. But I was signing up for a DSO. I was signing up for doing it on orbit, and I also wanted to know what I was going to be doing on the ground when I got back.

I also made them sign that they were going to tell me the results of all the experiments, because so many times you signed up for medical DSOs and you never heard back. I will say this, the people running the DSOs, they did such a super job. Every single DSO was like we discussed preflight, and I got data back. Every single one of them gave a debrief on the data, except for one experiment. Evidently the guy that was running the experiment had quit working at the university and was no longer associated with NASA, and that's when I found out that NASA doesn't own the data, it's the university. So that disappeared.

The other thing that I'd done was get agreement that when I came back I would have two weeks where I didn't have to do any postflight PR [public relations tours], not talking to any newspaper people, because I would have been gone from the Earth for a long time. I didn't know what was going on. I wouldn't have known what NASA was doing. I wouldn't know the correct party line to espouse. You know what I mean? I just needed to get acclimated to what I was supposed to say, and besides I don't like doing interviews a lot. I didn't need to be in the paper for saying stupid things, which people try to get you to say. That was agreed to.

But then surprise, surprise. I came back, and there was my schedule. I had gone to the scheduler, and I'd taken off a Tuesday. Lo and behold, the schedule I had, they said I couldn't take the day off because I had a whole day full of interviews, PRs. Then I kindly reminded people that I was going to take the day off, because I was going to Oklahoma City to see my

mother, because my mother had been very concerned, and it was to relieve her mind that she saw her daughter walking around.

Oh my goodness, I got called from the highest levels of management saying I was not allowed to go anywhere. In my cynical mind I really thought that they were just mad because I had said I wasn't going to do any of the interviews, but we had an agreement.

I was forbidden to leave town. I took the day off anyway. I was home, and I was really really cross. I went out in the backyard, and I was just digging away in a garden. I was going to make a garden. Nothing came of it. I was so cross as I was digging away, and my toes were hitting the bottom of my shoes, and they weren't fitting. I don't know why. But by the end of the day my big toenails were absolutely purple. When you're mad, you're mad. It was interesting, because it took six months or longer before the toenails grew out and they fell off. I just found them last week, so I've kept them. You have to have things to pass down to your grandkids.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Are you putting them in those bags?

LUCID: Yes, I put them away as a paperweight. Makes a nice little paperweight. I canceled my reservation that I made on Southwest Airlines. I told Mike that night. I said, "Now I have plans for this weekend, I'm not telling you what they are, and you don't know. So if anyone asks you where I am you don't have to lie." That Saturday I flew up to Oklahoma City and saw mother and then flew back that night. I was just really really cross.

ROSS-NAZZAL: It seems like a bit of overreach to tell you that you could not leave.

LUCID: Now that I'm not cross anymore, I can sort of see their side of it. They had never had anybody that had been up in orbit for such a long period of time, and they didn't really know how things were. From my point of view, I was just fine. There wasn't anything to be concerned about. I was driving; I was riding my bicycle. You know what I mean? My mother needed to see me. Like everything in life there's two sides, and I was very focused on my side. I was cynical. I figured the only reason that came up was because they had—without my consent—scheduled all these interviews that they had to go cancel because I didn't show up.

Like in most things you can look at both sides of it. I was really really cross.

ROSS-NAZZAL: It sounds like it. What sort of DSOs were you doing in orbit? Do you recall what some of those were?

LUCID: Oh, there were a lot of ones. The one I remember the most was really sort of funny because you had a Ping-Pong ball and you were supposed to throw it, and you just don't throw the same way in orbit as you do on the ground. The one that we were supposed to do, it was looking at lights and how they changed, that's the one piece of equipment that didn't work. We weren't able to do that one, which we didn't feel bad about, because it was really boring. But most of the DSOs were looking at things pre- and post-flight.

ROSS-NAZZAL: You had brought up PAO [Public Affairs Office], and this was something that I was curious about. One of the stories that you would often tell when you came back was the fact that you and Yuri [I. Onufriyenko] and Yury [Usachev] would sit around—you were talking one

day about how you had all grown up during the Cold War, and how you had seen each other as enemies, and how you recognized on this flight that it was two nations, two groups of people coming together to cooperate in space. Is that something that you came up with? Or is that something you worked together with PAO on? It seemed to be a consistent message coming across from the Agency.

LUCID: You work with PAO? What do you mean?

ROSS-NAZZAL: Did you work with PAO on coming up with a message?

LUCID: Look, you're told someplace to go, and you're given a schedule. You go. A good number of the times nothing worked, but you just go with the flow. No one ever tells you, ever told you what to say.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I was just curious, because it seemed like most people who were working with NASA at the time, that seemed to be like their tagline. I was just curious if that was something that PAO was promoting, we all need to be on the same page.

LUCID: Not that I know of. No. That was a genuine thing that happened. Pretty far into the flight, we were floating around the table one night after supper, and that's when—we spent a lot of time talking about stuff. Yuri and Yury both, we got talking about our childhoods, and I told them about when I was a little girl how we used to have bomb drills because the Russians were going to come and drop a bomb. We knew that it was going to hit us, because we lived real

close to Tinker Air Force Base [Oklahoma] and that's right in the middle of the United States so it was the most important place for the Russians to hit. We would have these bomb drills where we would get under our desk. It was sort of like a tornado drill that we did all the time.

I did wonder at that time what good it would be for us to be under our desk and die versus just being incinerated, because I'd seen pictures of Hiroshima, and I didn't see what getting under our desk would do. But I guess I sort of thought well, it made the adults feel better. So you were doing that off and on as a child in school.

Then both the Yuris talked about—one was growing up in the Ukraine and one was growing up in a small Russian village, and they talked—about how afraid they were of American bombers coming over and bombing them. It was just sort of an instant when we realized oh, we had shared this common childhood experience of being afraid of each other's countries. Then it dawned on me what a strange instant it was, because if you had been writing a science fiction story 10 years previously there is no way you would have come up with this scenario. No one would have published it because it was so outlandish.

Also what was really funny was when I was maybe early middle school, there was an article in our paper, and of course that's when we got papers to the house, we didn't have TV, so that's how you got your news. There was a little article in the paper, because I read the paper every day from front to back. There was a little article way in the middle, and it said something about the Russians were going to have a rocket and launch a person into space. Oh my goodness, I was big into reading science fiction and thinking about the future.

I remember I cut that out. I took it into my parents, and I said, "Wow, look at this, the Russians are going to launch people into space. I guess I'll have to become a communist so I can go into space." Oh my goodness, my parents got so upset. That's about the only time that I

remember my parents getting upset with something I said about what I was going to do in the future.

They explained to me that you do not become a communist. It was so funny. I thought about that then, because they said, “You don’t have to be a communist to go into space.” They were right. Your parents sometimes know best.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I was curious about it because I noticed it was a pattern. I’m not saying that your conversations did not happen.

LUCID: No, I just think that’s funny that you would have thought.

ROSS-NAZZAL: The other reason is when I talked to Eileen [M.] Collins, she said when she went to the White House and gave a talk that she worked with Public Affairs on that speech, when she had been named to be the first female commander. She said she worked with them on a theme for that. So that also set in my mind oh, well, I wonder if you had perhaps worked with Public Affairs on that.

LUCID: It just never occurred to me. Actually a few years before that I’d been sent on the spur of the moment to some kind of congressional hearing on something. I wasn’t just real sure what. I showed up there. We were sitting at this table, and the congresspeople were out there, and everybody else pulled out remarks and they were reading them. I thought hmm, wonder what I’m supposed to do. Then it became my turn, so I just said something. I thought somebody

maybe should have put a little thought into this and told me that I should have something prepared.

ROSS-NAZZAL: That's funny. Do you remember what the hearing was about?

LUCID: No, I don't. It obviously was very nonmemorable.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Wonder if you would talk about the media interest that you experienced and compare it to what you had experienced when you were first selected. Were there any similarities or was it a completely different experience?

LUCID: I would say there was a lot of media interest both times, but in the first, I was just one of a group, and that always helps, like when you went on a Shuttle flight, because you were one of a group. But here I was one of one, because Yuri and Yury obviously were in a different country. Otherwise, they could have taken the brunt of it. But there were some similarities.

The first time you were very cognizant of the fact, and you didn't know what NASA wanted—I'm talking about when we were first selected. But you wanted to be very sure that you didn't say anything that would put you in a bad light and make someone at NASA say, "What on Earth did we hire this person for? I can't believe she said this."

After I got back from Mir it was like okay, I want to be very careful what I say, I don't want it to look bad because I really would like to fly again. I didn't want to get in bad with anybody at NASA. You're always cognizant of that.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I got the sense when you were first selected there were just tons of people chasing that story. Was that the same thing with Mir? Was there a lot of interest in writing about you and having you sit for interviews to that same extent?

LUCID: Yes, I would say that the year I came back from Mir was the worst year of my working career, because oh my goodness. I'm most probably exaggerating, but it seemed to me I was gone every week doing somebody's wishes. I didn't want to get anybody mad at me because I did want to fly again. But it was just crazy. At the same time, I had been assigned a job in the Astronaut Office. I had my work to do, and it's a little difficult to do your work when you're out of town, so it was very stressful to try to get everything done.

There wasn't a plan a lot of times. I can remember walking down the hall, this is back in the days when we still had secretaries to answer the phones. "Hey, you got this message." It was from somebody at [NASA] Headquarters [Washington, DC]. "They're really cross because you didn't come to the birthday party." I thought what world are we living in? Now I'd heard the name before, but it was crazy.

I was always being told that I had to go here or there. I would ask, "What am I supposed to do?" They'd say, "Oh, nothing, just show up." Of course that was never the right answer, and so I was always making up speeches on the fly wherever I showed up. I remember one time that I was supposed to go somewhere. When I came back I hadn't worn any professional clothes in a long time, I'd just been wearing the same coveralls for six months, so I thought maybe I ought to get something a little more up-to-date.

I asked my daughter. I said, "Will you go to the mall with me and let's see if I can't find me a suit?" She said, "Only if you promise to stick your head in a grocery sack and never take it

off.” Because it was very painful going out to the stores. It was very painful going to the grocery stores. I’d go to the grocery store needing to get a can of beans to fix with supper, and an hour later I’d come back and Mike would say, “What took you so long?”

It was very hard to get through a store without people stopping you, and they were all very nice, don’t get me wrong, they all wanted to talk. They were all so proud of America. They were so proud of what happened, and they were so interested. But it was very time-consuming, and I lived close to the grocery store and a lot of times I’d just run out and get stuff. But I really got to the point of, “Hmm, well, maybe I won’t go to the grocery store because I’d have to brush my hair.” People talk. You feel like you can’t wear your paint-spattered pants anymore. That was real difficult.

I remember one time that I was supposed to show up at this event, and then at the last minute they said that it was sort of formal. Okay. Would I ever do a formal thing? No. I was in there, and actually there was a person, and I’m very very sorry I can’t remember her name. She was so helpful, and she really helped me out a lot in the CB [Astronaut Office] office that handles appearances.

I was in there and I said, “Look, what am I going to do? I don’t have any time to get to the store. I wouldn’t even know how to pick out anything.” She said, “Well, Shannon, it looks like we’re about the same size. I was at Ross last weekend, and I got something on sale. It might work, and it might fit you. I’ll bring it in.”

So she brought it in, and I tried it on. I asked my daughters what they thought. They said, “Well, it’s not you, but it’s not embarrassing.” So I paid her the \$40 that she had paid, and I actually ended up using it several times. That was just so helpful.

I was always being sent out doing things. I remember one time I had no idea why I was there, but I was in the airport. What airport was it? Maybe it was in Las Vegas airport. This was fairly soon after the flight. Airports were hard because people would recognize you and they'd always want to talk.

I would go into the restroom, and I would sit there because you could be private sitting there with the door closed. I was sitting there, and I was wondering what on Earth am I doing. I looked down at my feet, and a lot of times after a long flight your ankles swell so there were my ankles flopping down over my shoes. I thought what am I doing, or what is going on. Just sort of feeling sorry for yourself. But then you get over it and go on. I had no idea why I was even doing what I was doing.

I do remember maybe it was in Frankfurt, it was in one of the German airports, and I was walking. I always thought when I was in a foreign country I was home free. Lo and behold, two pilots walked by; you knew they were pilots because they had the uniform on. They stopped and they said, "I know you. You were on Mir." I thought oh my goodness.

Then I was in the Paris airport, and somebody walked by and said, "I'm sure I know you." I said, "I doubt it." They said, "Weren't you running for the presidency?" There was a certain resemblance there because several times I was mistaken for her. I said, "No, I'm not," and just walked off.

It was difficult. But I figured I was home, and I was going to do what I always did. I was aware that if something happens you have your 15 minutes of fame and then it moves off. I knew that things were going to happen in the world and soon it would be over.

Then I knew I was home free. One night I was in the grocery store, and this was back in the days when sometimes you wrote checks, so I was writing a check and the cashier looked at it.

It had your name printed on there, and she said, “Are you Michael’s mother?” Michael is my son. I thought I’m home free, finally.

ROSS-NAZZAL: It’s over.

LUCID: I’m just Michael’s mother now. Because that happened to me several times when Michael was in high school. People would recognize my last name. “Oh, are you Michael’s mother?”

ROSS-NAZZAL: That’s funny. That’s what someone told me. Once you become a mother that’s it. That’s all you’ll ever be known as, so-and-so’s mother.

LUCID: I was proud to be Michael’s mother.

ROSS-NAZZAL: There you go, it was probably a relief. Interestingly enough, just to piggyback on that, I found a *Christian Science Monitor* article that actually shared your e-mail with readers, shannon@packardbell.com. It said it was available for a period of time.

LUCID: At where?

ROSS-NAZZAL: At packardbell.com.

LUCID: That’s never been an e-mail of me.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I just thought it was interesting. I was wondering why your e-mail was made available to the public.

LUCID: I don't know why they would. But no, that's never been one of my e-mail addresses.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Okay.

LUCID: No. But that is a weird thing. Maybe somebody was trying to con readers. That's interesting.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I thought it was interesting. I was curious about mail. Did you get a lot of mail in the Astronaut Office about your flight when you got back?

LUCID: Oh yes. I still feel bad about it in a way because there were just mounds of mail. Of course you feel like you ought to read the mail, and so many of them were from schoolkids and all these people were asking questions. You wanted to be nice to everybody because everybody was so interested in the space program. What I would do, and I don't really believe in form letters, but I just wrote a little letter. I figured it was okay for me to copy it off at work, so I copied it off, and then I took it home. I spent a good number of evenings stuffing envelopes and sending letters out. But it did cross my mind it would have been nice if somebody was helping.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Yes, I was curious about that too.

LUCID: No. It was interesting because as a government employee you're not allowed to accept gifts. I forgot what it was, maybe over \$25. All these things were showing up in the Astronaut Office. Somebody sent the nicest set of Rollerblades. You would really like to have them, but of course they had to be sent back. Somebody sent some kind of exercise equipment, and of course that had to be sent back. But that was nice because the people in the main office, the people that were there to support us, they took care of all that and sent them back.

Then someone sent a whole stack of Coke. It wasn't worth sending back, so we donated it to the office. Everybody could come in and have their free Coke. One night I was here at the house, and someone came up with a wagon and brought several gallons of milk. Because it was calcium or whatever. This was soon after. Milk I couldn't really return, so I just set that in the refrigerator. I hope it was under \$25.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I bet it was.

LUCID: There was an amazing amount of interest, which was very much appreciated. It's just that people didn't understand that you're not allowed to accept things.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Was there anything that anyone sent you that you were able to keep and that you've kept to this day that meant anything to you?

LUCID: We're really not allowed to keep things, so anything that was sent I turned in.

ROSS-NAZZAL: What about the letters, did you keep any of the letters?

LUCID: No.

ROSS-NAZZAL: When did you find out that you were going to be receiving the Congressional Space Medal of Honor? Do you recall?

LUCID: I guess I was just called up and told I had to be in DC the next day.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Did you know you were going to the White House? Was that made clear that you were going to be meeting the president and first lady?

LUCID: I guess because I was wearing a suit.

ROSS-NAZZAL: What did you think when you heard that you were going to be receiving this honor?

LUCID: There were so many other people that had done so many other things. I didn't think that being on a Russian space station for six months would really justify that. I felt bad, because I could think of a lot of other people in the office that had done so much more, that should have had recognition, and they didn't. Your cynical self sort of kicks in and you think well, hmm, we're coming up for reelection, maybe people want to know that we support females. There's always a little bit of cynicism. But it was very very nice. It was just that I just really thought

that there were many other people in the Astronaut Office that had done things that were more deserving of something like that.

There wasn't anything so deserving about me versus the other people that were going to be on Mir. To put it bluntly, Norm [Norman E.] Thagard had been the first. You know what I mean? But you don't have control over a lot of things.

ROSS-NAZZAL: That is true. Did you get any grief from your colleagues over getting the award?

LUCID: No, no one ever mentioned it.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Talk if you would about going to the White House. Had you been to the White House previously for other missions?

LUCID: Yes. NASA liked to bring their crews to the White House. It was always very nice. Then this time when I went to the White House, the person that was with me, the NASA liaison in Headquarters to get you through security, assisted me and then we were told that we needed to wait. So we had to wait in the room because Hillary Clinton wanted to meet us. She did, she came down and she met us, and she was so nice. I can still remember the person from NASA Headquarters, I'd worked with her a lot, we were friends, and her first thing, she looked at Hillary and she said, "She is beautiful, isn't she?" It was so natural. It was. We had a very nice conversation because Hillary had wanted to be an astronaut too. Hillary had sent me a very nice note postlanding.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Did you have a chance to talk with the president as well or was it just the ceremony that was planned?

LUCID: It was just the ceremony.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Mike came with you. I think I saw him in the audience.

LUCID: I think so.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Did your kids come as well?

LUCID: Oh, no. They had a lot of other responsibilities.

ROSS-NAZZAL: One of the other awards that I saw that you were up for—and I'm just curious what the outcome was on this one—*Glamour* magazine named you one of their women of the year. From what I gather, you did not want to accept that award for reasons you have shared before. But I wonder, did you end up accepting that award? Because it sounded like the people who were handling awards at that time really wanted you to accept. Do you remember if you accepted that award?

LUCID: It just wasn't my thing. There's nothing against it or whatever. But there's a limit.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Sure. You also received the Order of Friendship Medal by Boris Yeltsin. Did you go to the Kremlin? Was there a ceremony with him?

LUCID: Yes, there was a ceremony there and I was there with Yuri and Yury. It was really funny. I think I went from Star City with Yuri and Yury. We went up. When we got there, there was somebody from the American embassy, somebody that worked there. They were sitting behind us. He leaned over and he said, "Do you understand what you're supposed to be doing here?" I said, "I just follow along with whatever Yuri and Yury do."

I had practiced the sentence in Russian so I could say something in Russian. Claudie [Haigneré] was there. She was very fluent in Russian, and I thought ooh, I'm not going to measure up to that. Then Yuri and Yury were there, and they didn't say anything. So I didn't need to say anything either. No, but it was very nice. Yeltsin was very personable.

ROSS-NAZZAL: What have you done with those two awards? Are they here with you today or have you donated them to a museum?

LUCID: A museum?

ROSS-NAZZAL: I'm sure Air and Space would be interested, or Space Center Houston.

LUCID: I doubt it. Yes, they're around the house somewhere.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Did you do a lot of PRs in Russia after the flight?

LUCID: Russians don't do PRs. It was something sort of new that I think they'd learned a little bit from NASA. But no, there were no Russian PRs.

ROSS-NAZZAL: You had mentioned that you had a technical position in the Astronaut Office. What was that position once you came back?

LUCID: I was the CB rep to the Phase I.

ROSS-NAZZAL: What did that involve?

LUCID: It involved going to tons of meetings and trying to present the astronaut view about whatever anybody was deciding about the rest of Phase I about the people on orbit and try to support the people that were there.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Were there any changes made because of suggestions that you had made from your experience?

LUCID: Not really. Again, being a little cynical, because I think a lot of us over in Russia that were working with Mir thought that this was to be a stepping-stone to ISS [International Space Station] and everybody working on the Space Station would be very interested. But it didn't seem like there was an interest in the Mir experience and how it could be applied to ISS. But

there again there's always two sides to every story and maybe there were a lot of things that people picked up that were useful that I'm just not aware of.

ROSS-NAZZAL: You had mentioned that you wanted to fly again. You were hoping that you would be assigned a mission. At what point did you realize that that was not going to happen? Did you get that sense?

LUCID: When my underwear showed up on my seat in the Office. Female astronauts, when you made your first flight, you went out and you bought underwear. Now the males, NASA had a stash of male underwear that they flew for all the males. But the females, they didn't have a stash, so females bought their own underwear and turned it in. Then NASA just kept it and reused it when you flew again.

One day when I went into my office there in my chair was my underwear from all my flights, and I thought oh, this really means I'm never going to fly again.

ROSS-NAZZAL: That is an odd way of telling someone.

LUCID: I don't think anybody meant it that way. It's just that that really was. You got to tell it like it was.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Once Phase I ended, what were your next assignments? It wasn't exactly clear to me what you were working on with the exception of a couple of things, like you did a dual run

demonstration test out at the NBL [Neutral Buoyancy Lab]. You were doing some CapComing [capsule communicating]. But I wasn't sure what your responsibilities were in the office.

LUCID: I think basically I was the CapCom. I was the CapCom for both Shuttle and ISS when ISS picked up and they started launching, because I was certified in both rooms, Shuttle and the Station room. I could be very wrong in this, but I'm under the impression that I was the first person to get certified in both rooms. I'm not sure about that. But I was doing a lot. A lot of CapComing, a lot of supporting the flights.

ROSS-NAZZAL: After you came back from DC, I noticed that. You had a new head of the Astronaut Office after Phase I ended, who was Charlie [Charles J.] Precourt. I wondered if you wanted to chat with me about your relationship with him and his impact on your career.

LUCID: At one point I had been told that I was going to fly again, and I'd even been told what increment I was going to fly on. I'd even been told to brush up more on my Russian, so that's what I was doing. I was never told otherwise. But one day I saw that somebody else had been assigned and I said, "Okay, I guess I've been forgotten." You just keep going. I had been working real hard in the Shuttle Mission Control Room and in the Station Control Center. With Station it's 24/7, you've got to work all the time and there's no time off for holidays obviously. With the Shuttle flights there was no time off for the holidays either.

Christmas and New Year's were coming up, and they obviously wanted people, you needed to be CapComing during those times. My thought was well, I don't have any young kids at home, so I can be magnanimous. I can volunteer to do the shifts that I thought that a lot of the

others could not fill. The other people that were CapComing from the Office, they were, I found out, younger than I am, and they had young families. They can be home for the time that they want at Christmas. So I worked a lot over the holidays.

After the holidays I got a phone call that Charlie Precourt wanted to talk to me, and Charlie had been the DOR [Director of Operations-Russia] in Russia, and he was such a breath of fresh air when he came over there as the DOR because John and I for the first time thought that somebody really cared for us. Of course, that's most probably not true, but that's what we thought. He had been very helpful while we were over in Russia, so I just thought we were friends. Not bosom buddies, but I thought we understood each other and we got along good.

This shows my lack of a lot of understanding. I thought he was calling me in to personally thank me for all the work I'd done over the holidays and that I had worked Christmas, etc. I went in, and then the first thing he said was, "Shannon, how can we help you find another job? Because you need to leave." I was just a little taken aback. He said, "You're no longer in the office. You can't fly T-38s, and you really don't have access to the medical facilities because you're not an astronaut."

I thought okay. What could I say? There wasn't anything I could say. I walked out. As I was walking out, I thought to myself, "Hmm, I have six weeks of use or lose vacation, because as a government employee you always keep your use or lose saved up, so that if you retire you get money for it." I always kept the maximum saved up for use or lose. I thought I've always wanted to go to Mongolia. Now would be a perfect time, and I can use my six weeks.

I went home, and I told Mike. I said, "How about if I go this summer to Mongolia?" I had seen this ad that ELIC, the English Language Institute of China, did a summer program. You applied, and you could go over there. He said, "It's fine with me." I said, "Is it okay if I'm

gone for six weeks?" He said, "Yes." So then I applied, and I had enough money to do it, because my father had died in '99, so I had \$4,000 from my father. That was just what I needed. I went in. I asked for permission to take six weeks' leave and got accepted by ELIC and went to Mongolia.

I'd always wanted to go to Mongolia. As a matter of fact, this shows my lack of parenting skills, but when Shani, my middle daughter, when she was about in late grade school, the *National Geographic*, their grade school edition, they were running some kind of a contest where if the student wrote a letter saying why they wanted to go someplace, then they and their parent could get a free trip there.

I told Shani. I said, "Look, you got to write a letter saying why you and your mother need to go to Mongolia." She wasn't super enthused about this. But it helps to bribe, and I said, "You can write this letter and we'll send it in, and it counts as a Mother's Day present." So she did; she wrote a letter. Obviously, it didn't get selected. I say that. It wasn't like out of the blue that I decided to go to Mongolia, it was something I had always wanted to do. So that's what I did.

ROSS-NAZZAL: What year was this, Shannon?

LUCID: Let me think. What year was it? I can look it up.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I have him head of the Office from '98 to 2002. I wasn't sure.

LUCID: Let me think. Kate was born in April; she was 20 years old this April. She was born in April and then I went to Mongolia in June.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Okay, so 2001.

LUCID: Is that what it was? Maybe.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I think so but you're asking a historian to do math.

LUCID: I obviously can look it up. I asked Shani because she was pregnant, and I said, "When the baby is born in April I can help you till June. Would that be enough? Is it okay?" She said it'd be okay. I got permission from Mike and Shani.

Most of the time that I was in the Astronaut Office up until Mir, the Astronaut Office sort of changed in the way that there was a paper trail of stuff. Before that there never ever was one. There were never any written down requirements for anything. But when I came back from Mir then all of a sudden you had to get certified in these different things, like you had to get certified in rendezvous to be a CapCom for rendezvous and all these different things. So that's another thing I was very busy doing that year I came back.

Then things showed up like yearly evaluation things that had never ever happened before. Now there was paperwork from the Personnel Office. There on the paperwork it said that my job title was management astronaut. All I knew was that meant that you weren't a real astronaut, you couldn't fly T-38s, and you didn't have any of the privileges.

But I was still allowed to work. Of course I did work a lot of third shifts, it was real hard to get people to work. I was very happy working in Mission Control. My pay was the same. I wasn't docked. You know what I mean? All that was changed was the title and was taken off some of the privileges that you had in the office.

I did work it to my advantage, because I figured well, if I'm not a real astronaut and if I'm not allowed to fly in the back seat of the T-38s anymore, then obviously if someone requests an astronaut for a PR I can't do it, because I'm not a real astronaut. A lot of times requests would come into the PR Office, and at some level it was decided it was a must do, that someone would have to support it, and a good number of the must dos were must dos because no one wanted to support it.

There was a rule that everybody had to do so many must dos every year. There was a must do that came up and I remember somebody from the management part of CB came in and said, "Shannon, it's been forever that you've done a must do. You need to go do this." I said, "But they asked for an astronaut; I'm not a real astronaut. Therefore I don't have to do that." I never heard another thing. So there were pluses.

I had read somewhere that you could work longer in a situation when you get old, because age discrimination is alive and well, we all know that, and they said the way to counteract that is find someplace where you're really happy working and then don't try to ruffle a lot of feathers and just make yourself really useful. That's basically what I did. I was extremely useful. I was doing all these shifts that a lot of people didn't like to do, and I was having a really good time. If you can't be flying, I always thought the best job to do would be a CapCom. Then they were hard up for people to be the astronaut support person between the crew on orbit and their families. So I volunteered to do that, and I was assigned to do that for a

lot of the different crews. It was such a good deal, because I got to go to Kazakhstan and watch the launch. I got to go be with the crewmember's family prelaunch and be with them to support them, and then support them during the flight. That was a super good deal. So I was busy with those things, and I thoroughly enjoyed the last part of my time in CB. Things all worked out.

ROSS-NAZZAL: You did have a break in there though, and that's when NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe named you chief scientist for the agency.

LUCID: That was very strange, and I tried to say no. My kids, we still had somebody in college, so you got to be real careful, you don't want to get people too cross. Frankly I think the whole reason was because my name was known. People knew the name. When a new person comes in they like to show that they're doing things and appoint different people, so that was the basic driver. It wasn't that I had had a stellar career in science. NASA didn't really need that kind of a person, so I commuted for about a year. I commuted to DC. Didn't change, I was always here at JSC.

I had a really nice time. The people there in the office, there were three or four people that had been there for a long time. They knew what to do, and they knew what I should do. We had such a nice time working together. Except that it is exhausting going back and forth to DC every week, but I really had a nice time working with the people there in the office. They know who they are, and they know how grateful I am for all that they did.

Then one day I was home for the weekend. I had gone to get groceries, and as I was pulling out of Kroger's all of a sudden I realized I was going the wrong way down the road. I thought oh my goodness, you are overtired. I thought I need to just come back to JSC. I figured

I needed to have a plan, so I figured out I'd talk someone into being chief scientist, because it would be a real good deal.

I went to Sean O'Keefe and I explained to him that it was time, that it had been a wonderful experience, but it was time for somebody else to have the same wonderful experience. I told him who could do it, so he agreed. I just showed up back at JSC. I walked into the head of the Astronaut Office, and I said, "Hi, I'm back." The person was just a little shocked. Their mouth dropped, and they said, "You're back?" I said, "Yes, I'm here to work." They said, "What are you going to do?" I said, "Oh, I'll CapCom." They said, "Oh, good, we need that." There I was.

ROSS-NAZZAL: A couple things that I wanted to ask about. What was the role of the chief scientist? What sort of things did you occupy your time with? There was one thing that I found that you were working on: could you maintain Station with two people on board, because during that time *Columbia* [STS-107] happened and they went down to two people on Station. What were some of the other things that you were working on?

LUCID: Everything that came up. There was lots of things. There were lots of meetings to go to, and there were lots of discussions about the medical support for people. I was involved in a lot of the life science discussions, every day. It was sort of amazing to me because I always showed up in the Office before 7:00, and many times I didn't even leave until 8:00. It was like, what did I do with my day? It had been full, but it was hard to pin down just exactly what was accomplished. There were just meetings after meetings and going to this and that. Anything that needed to be done I did.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I did want to ask you about *Columbia*. It was the weekend when it happened; it happened on a Saturday. What are your memories of *Columbia* and the impact that it had here and at Headquarters?

LUCID: I was sitting in the other room, and the phone rang. It was the person that I was working with in the office, and so she asked. She said, “Do you have the TV on?” I said no. Then she told me. I was just absolutely shocked. It was very difficult to believe.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Were there any similarities for you between what happened with *Challenger* and *Columbia*, or were they two very different incidents in your mind?

LUCID: There were a lot of similarities. You lost your friends. It was strange during the week then. I was at Headquarters and not involved really with CB, so that was very strange. That just ended a lot of things that had been planned and that I’d been working on at Headquarters.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Yes, I’d wondered if that had impacted your position.

LUCID: Yes. Basically what I did then at Headquarters a lot of the time was go to the life science meetings where they were discussing what was going on.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Did you get a chance to hear [President George W.] Bush’s speech on the new Vision for Space Exploration in 2004? That was when he announced we were going to finish

Station, the Shuttle Program was going to come to an end in 2010, and we were going to go to the Moon and Mars.

LUCID: Oh. Yes. Because there was a lot of meetings, a lot of discussion in Headquarters. They were trying to get the White House to support going back to the Moon. The White House was reluctant because—what I had heard, and of course I wasn't in the big loop of anything—NASA had previously said they were going, and it hadn't panned out. They were telling the current president, "NASA makes these big promises but a lot of times they don't pan out." There was a reluctance. I was in the auditorium when Bush made the announcement.

ROSS-NAZZAL: What did you think when he made the declaration that we're ending Shuttle and we're going to go back to the Moon and on to Mars? What were your thoughts?

LUCID: Obviously everybody had been talking about it for a long time, and they'd been working toward this. The thing that I remember most about that was so funny, there was a couple of girls, I would say middle school age. I don't know why they were there in the foyer or the entryway before you went into the auditorium, but they saw me and they said something. They said, "Oh, are you an astronaut?" I said, "Yes, I've been in space." They said, "Did you go to the Moon?" I said, "No, I never went to the Moon." They said, "Well, what did you do?" I said, "Well, I was on the Shuttle." They said, "Oh, you didn't go to the Moon? We need to go find somebody that's gone to the Moon." It was just sort of funny.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I know you mentioned you did a lot of CapComing. One of the missions that you worked was the Return to Flight mission. I wondered if there was anything of interest on that flight that stuck out for you. I know that there was foam loss. Foam had fallen off the PAL [protuberance air load] ramp, and if that was something.

LUCID: Yes, there was. Yes. I guess I was just so proud of the crew and the way they conducted themselves. You're just very very proud to be part of the team that had been able to bring this about.

ROSS-NAZZAL: The only other mission I was going to ask you about was STS-135, because you were there that last day. You picked a certain song to be played for that last mission before they came home, and that was "God Bless America" for the wake-up call. I wondered if you would talk about that day and what was happening and going through your mind at that moment, because you had flown on Shuttle. You were part of the first class of Shuttle astronauts. Certainly that must have had some impact.

LUCID: I thought it was pretty neat to have been there from the beginning to the end of the Shuttle Program. I thought I was very very privileged to be able to work the last flight. You were aware of the historicity of it. I was working with Paul [F.] Dye. I'd worked a lot of Shuttle missions with him, and we were doing the last third shift, then we were going to turn over to the entry team. Things had been going so smooth—you couldn't have asked for anything smoother. Then in the middle of the night, all of a sudden, there was an alarm. What? What's this?

It was the computers. Very quickly I pulled out my flight book, the data file that you look at, and I quickly thumbed to the correct malfunction procedure because I knew the ground would be working it, and the rest of the people in the Control Center. They'd be sending the crew, and I wanted to have the right procedure up.

Paul was doing the same thing, the flight director. Before the ground could even tell us and I could get a call out, the commander called down and said, "Oh, we had this alarm and so we did this." I said, "Well, that's exactly what we were going to tell you to do." Then Paul said, "Well, tell them to go back to sleep." I said, "Okay, get back to sleep, you have a big morning coming up." So they did.

I thought that was so interesting because that was the very last malfunction on the Shuttle.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Oh, that is funny.

LUCID: Yes.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Were you in Mission Control for wheels stop?

LUCID: Oh, no, no. The entry team was. I'd quick gone home, and I told the girls that the grandkids had to come and watch the last landing. They were, "That's so early in the morning." JSC had a huge huge screen out, and everybody could gather round and watch it. I said, "It's historic, we're going to go."

We all dashed over there to watch the landing with everybody else. It was really nice, and they had bananas sliced in half. That's what the grandkids remember the most, were most appreciative of. We all watched the Shuttle land together and went home sort of sad.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Yes, it was a sad day.

LUCID: Endings are always sad.

ROSS-NAZZAL: You continued to work in the office for—let's see, that was July of 2011. How many more months? Did you retire in January of 2012? I think that's when you retired.

LUCID: Maybe. You can look it up. I had never ever given any thought to quitting work. My vision was I'd work until I died. I was having a very good time working in the Station room. Like I said I supported a lot of the crewmembers and was getting to travel to Russia some. It was really good.

One person who was at some point some kind of supervisor of me came in and said—they were going over my performance because by this time we had forms that you filled out or that were filled out. He said, "Anything?" I said, "I really could do a little more work. I could be assigned something else to do in addition to what I'm doing, because I'm really enjoying it. I could do more work."

This person just looked at me, and this person was young enough to be my child, and said, "Well, you know, Shannon, we have all these young people in the office and they need experience, so we really need to give them the work to do." I thought to myself okay. Wasn't

hard to see that. My policy was good, you just find what needed to be done that no one else wanted to do, and you could do it. They'd be happy with you forever. I thought am I going to say anything, because obviously you should never be told something like that.

I thought no. I didn't have enough years left. Going through discrimination against being a female was hard enough. I wasn't going to fight against the discrimination of being old. I was old.

Before this time my husband had developed symptoms of dementia, and he continued to get worse and worse. I worked it out with the girls. We tried to hire people to come in and stay with him during the day. He got to the point where he needed someone to stay with him all the time. No one would stay because it wasn't an easy job, and they just walked off.

My daughters were very very helpful, so they were willing to stay so I could work. I told them, "Okay, I need to work to such and such a date and then I'll quit if you can hang in there." They did.

Then the day came when I had to come home and stay with Mike 24/7, it was really sort of sad the last day. I went, I signed all the paperwork that you sign to leave out. It was a foggy day. I drove around the Center a couple times and then I drove out, waved goodbye.

ROSS-NAZZAL: It must have been so hard. That was your dream for all those years.

LUCID: All these years really and truly just about every day when I drove into work, I thought thank you, God, for giving me such a great job. Now it wasn't perfect, and there were a thousand things wrong, but nothing in life is 100 percent anything, and the good way outweighed

the bad. Not only was I so grateful to have a job all these years, I mean a real job, but I actually got paid for it, and it was so much fun, I really enjoyed it.

I drove home and the girls were standing here and they said goodbye and they left, and it was Mike and me.

ROSS-NAZZAL: No big retirement party or farewells?

LUCID: Oh, no, and so for several years then I was home 24/7 taking care of Mike.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Yes. That was really nice of you.

LUCID: There were no other options. That's what you do.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I always like to ask people, when we end an interview, if you would pick what you think was your greatest challenge during your NASA career. If you had one.

LUCID: Obviously there were tons of challenges.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Is there one that spans your entire career or one that when you think back, boy, I can't believe I overcame that obstacle?

LUCID: What about the ones I didn't overcome?

ROSS-NAZZAL: Maybe that. Yes.

LUCID: I really really did want to be a pilot in the T-38, and that obviously didn't happen.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Yes, but you got to fly the Mission Specialist Training Aircraft.

LUCID: Oh yes. I got to be a copilot in that, actually takeoff and landing, and that was the high point of flying. Not flying in the Shuttle obviously. But flying in aircraft for NASA, for me.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Is there anything that you would point to that someone might not know and say, "Well, this is something that I accomplished; this was my greatest accomplishment working over at NASA"?

LUCID: Yes. I think one of the things that I did, and I don't mind saying this. Phase I was a difficult program. There were all these different people from CB that were flying on Mir. There was not very much overlap between the people, and everybody was having separate experiences or whatnot. Different people were saying different things. It was just a very sort of difficult time.

Then I was called up by the head of FCOD [Flight Crew Operations Directorate] and this person said, "Shannon, your job is to get all the Mir fliers together and talk about their experiences and come up with a common story, because you need to do this before," there was a book that was going to come out about flying with the Russians, "and just get everybody together and talk."

I said, "Whoa, really?" This person said, "CB will pay for their travel." I said, "Okay." So then I came up with a plan. First of all I went into the head of CB and I said, "Look, none of the people flying on Mir ever got a free shirt." See, on the Shuttle flights one of the nice little perks was you got to pick your own shirts you were going to fly with. They were generally shirts, and they had the crew patch embroidered on it. They were from Lands' End. You got to pick, and then you got to keep them after the flight. It was nice. Then as a crew you wore a crew shirt together, and it made a nice little photo. That was one of the little perks. I told the person. I said, "Look, none of us got a shirt from flying on Mir. There are no crew shirts. We're all going to get together. We need to have a crew shirt." He said, "Oh, we can't afford that, it's so much money."

I said, "Look, it's 30 times X." I didn't leave. Finally he says, "Okay, okay, go order a shirt for everybody." So I did, I went down to the person that ordered shirts and I ordered a shirt with a patch on it and got one for everybody.

That was the other thing that we didn't get. Generally when you flew on the Shuttle you had an individual patch. For Phase I they just had this generic patch. After a little bit of protest, they did sew your name on as a little addition on the bottom. But we all had the same patch. You sort of felt like you were an orphan program, the Mir fliers, because you didn't get all the perks, not that you need perks. But it was obvious we were second-rate. We didn't rate up with the Shuttle crews.

I got us all a shirt. Then I got everybody to agree to come at a certain time. Back then before launch the crew quarters was out there in the 200 area. They hadn't built the nice new one so I reserved it for the day. Then I went and I said, "Look, we're going to order lunch. It's going to be delivered." I ordered sandwiches to be delivered. Then I thought we had never had

a crew photo. So I called up the Photo Ops people and I said, “We’re going to come over at such and such a time and we’re going to get a crew photo.” They said, “Oh, but we need a day.”

Granted, to do the crew photos it took a long time. You were over there forever because they really did a nice job. I said, “Look, we’ve got 30 minutes. We’re going to come in. We’re going out. You’re going to get a photo.” They agreed. Before everybody showed up, I told them, “I will have a shirt for you and we’re going to put our shirt on and the NASA van is picking us up at this time. We’re going over, we’re getting our picture made, and we’re coming back, and we’re going to continue on with the day.”

I had an outline of a plan of what we were going to talk about. We got in. Everybody was sitting around. It was the first time that all of us had been together to share our experiences, and it was a very revelatory experience because we went around the table. Everybody was talking. Every one of our eyes were opened because we didn’t realize how different our flights had been and what challenges other people had faced.

At the appointed time we went, we got our crew picture made, and then we went back, had lunch, we continued the discussion till the end of the day, and people had their flights to catch. I still remember several people as they were leaving, they threw their arms around me and said thank you. It was such a great experience to be able to hear what other people had gone through and how their flights compared to theirs.

Then I got the picture. I went to the head of CB, and I said, “I want to order.” I think it was 100 pictures. Or however many. Do the math. “Everybody’s going to have 20 pictures.” “Oh, we don’t have money for that.” I said, “Look, a shirt and a picture is not too much to ask for everybody.” They agreed, I guess to get me out of the office. I ordered pictures, then I put them all in a box, and I put in a gold pen with them. I sent it to each one and told them to send

around. I even put in money so that they wouldn't have to pay for the mail. But no one ever used the money, they used their own money.

We mailed it to all the different crewmembers. Each of us signed them. Then we each got a stack of about 20 signed photos. That was I guess what I'm just really proud of that was accomplished, that everybody that flew on Mir were friends.

ROSS-NAZZAL: We have a copy of that photo in our office.

LUCID: What's so weird is it was really difficult, it was hard to get, because I told somebody that it existed, and it took a long time for NASA to put it into the system so that you could find it.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I think it's signed. It's been a while since I've seen it up in the office because we prepped for hurricane last year and it's been down.

LUCID: But anyway those pictures, everybody's signature on it, they're rare.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Good to know.

LUCID: But don't you worry, I have one for each of the grandkids.

ROSS-NAZZAL: Oh, well, good. Shannon, I'm sure I could keep asking you questions, but I don't want to eat up any more of your day. But I wonder. Is there anything else that you would like to talk about?

LUCID: No, that was so long ago.

ROSS-NAZZAL: All right. Doesn't seem that long ago, but I get what you're saying.

LUCID: No. Life—the older you get; the faster life goes.

ROSS-NAZZAL: I've heard that, yes. Thank you very much, Shannon, I appreciate it.

LUCID: Oh, you're welcome.

[End of interview]