

# **KEAC/EAC**

**JEPPESEN**(17-1A) JUL 2013

**PENSACOLA NAS** 

PENSACOLA, FLA
BRIEFING SHEET 1

"Last Man on the Moon"
EUGENE A. CERNAN, CAPT. USN (Retired)

## **PERSONAL**

Birthplace: Chicago, IllinoisHometown: Houston, Texas

Wife: JanDaughter: Tracy

· Grandchildren: Ashley, Katie, Whitney, Carson, Kaylee, Maddie, Jackson, Jordan, Caroline

#### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- Bachelor of Science Electrical Engineering, Purdue University, Lafayette, IN (1956)
- Master of Science Aeronautical Engineering, Navy Post Graduate School, Monterey, CA (1963)
- United States Navy Carrier Qualified Aviator, Captain, and NASA Astronaut (1956-1976)
- · Coral Petroleum, Inc., Executive Vice President, International and Director (1976-1981)
- Digital Equipment Corporation, Executive Consultant, Aerospace & Government (1986-1992)
- Johnson Engineering Corporation, former Chairman (1994-2000)
- The Cernan Corporation, President & Chief Executive Officer (1981-Present)

#### **HONORS**

- · Navy Distinguished Flying Cross
- · Distinguished Service Medal with Star
- U.S. Space Hall of Fame, the Challenger Center's "Salute to the U.S. Space Program" Honor
- · Czech Republic Presidential Medal of Honor
- · Olympic Torch Bearer
- · National Aviation Hall of Fame
- · Naval Aviation's Hall of Honor
- Federal Aviation Administration's Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award
- · The Lindbergh Spirit Award
- The National Aeronautic Association's Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy
- · Rotary National Award for Space Achievement
- · Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) Gold Air Medal
- · Tailhook Association
- · SETP
- · Naval Aviation "Golden Eagles"

#### **APOLLO 17 MISSION OVERVIEW**

- · Final NASA Apollo mission to land men on the Moon
- · Mission Objectives:
  - Explore lunar surface features and retrieve samples at Taurus-Littrow
  - Set up and activate experiments on the lunar surface for long-term relay of data
  - Conduct in-flight experiments and photographic tasks
- · Vehicle Names: Command Module America; Lunar Module Challenger
- Crew: Eugene A. Cernan, (Commander C), Ronald E. Evans (Command Module Pilot R), Harrison H. Schmitt (Lunar Module Pilot - L)
- Mission Launch Date: December 7, 1972 (Kennedy Space Center, Florida)
- Lunar Landing Date: December 11, 1972 (Site name Taurus-Littrow)
- Total Time on Lunar surface: 74 hours, 59 minutes, 40 seconds
- Total Duration of EVAs (3): 22 hours, 4 minutes
- Lunar Surface Traversed: 18.64 miles (30 kilometers)
- · Lunar Module Departure from Moon: December 14, 1972
- Command Module Return Earth: December 19, 1972.
- Splash Down: Pacific Ocean (Latitude 17° 53' S, Longitude 166° 7' W)
- · Mission Duration: 301 hours, 51 minutes, 59 seconds
- Command Module & Crew Retrieved by United States Navy aircraft carrier USS Ticonderoga (CV-14)

# **PENSACOLA NAS**

PENSACOLA, FLA
BRIEFING SHEET 2

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### **NOTES**

- · Proud to be a Carrier-Qualified Naval Aviator
- Served on the aircraft carrier USS Shangri-La (CV-38)
- Gave up the second seat on Apollo 16 and a guaranteed chance to walk on the Moon for the opportunity to become the Commander of Apollo 17
- · He's proud of the fact that five out of six Lunar landings were commanded by Naval Aviators
- Holds the unofficial 'Lunar land speed record' with a maximum speed of 11.2 mph in the Lunar Rover.
- · One of his best friends was Apollo astronaut Neil Armstrong, the "First Man to walk on the Moon."
- Commander Cernan was the 11th and "Last Man of Apollo" to walk on the surface of the Moon.
- He's proud of the fact that the first and last men to walk on the Moon were both "Boilermakers", graduates of Purdue University
- Before returning to earth he wrote his daughter Tracy's initials "TDC" on the Moon's surface.
- · Passionate about the Future of American Excellence

#### QUOTES

- "The Navy has been my life all my life."
- · "I took my first steps to the Moon at Purdue University."
- "The only things that matter in life are Family, Friends, and Freedom and time to enjoy all three."

As Commander Cernan prepared to climb the ladder of the Apollo 17 lunar module for the final time he spoke these words, the last currently spoken by a human being standing on the Moon's surface:

"America's challenge of today
has forged man's destiny of tomorrow,
and as we leave the Moon at Taurus-Littrow,
we leave as we came
and,
God willing,
as we shall return,
with Peace and Hope for all mankind.

Godspeed the crew of Apollo 17."

December 14, 1972 40 Years