

ASTRONAUT LAUDS INTERNATIONAL TRACKING STATIONS --- Astronaut Walter M. Schirra, speaking during ceremonies marking the fifth anniversary of the U.S. international space tracking network, pays tribute to tracking station personnel who helped make his orbital flight last October a "near perfect" success. The ceremonies were held January 31 at the Goddard Space Flight Center, the network headquarters near Washington, D. C. Secretary of State Dean Rusk presented scrolls to envoys of the 16 nations cooperating in the network and praised their participation as a "partnership in peace which we hope can be emulated in other fields." Seated at front row left are:



Dr. Harry J. Goett, director of the Goddard Center; Secretary Rusk; James E. Webb, head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); and Dr. Edward Welsh, NASA Executive Secretary. The scrolls were given to envoys from Peru, Netherlands, Australia, South Africa, Ecuador, Iran, Argentina, Spain, Mexico, India, United Kingdom, Japan, Brazil, Nigeria, Chile and Canada.

Front row: Ambassador Fernando Berckemeyer of Peru, Dr. J. Herman Van Roijen of the Netherlands, Ambassador Howard Beale of Australia, Willem C. Naude of the Union of South Africa, Dr. Neftali Ponce-Miranda of Ecuador and Hossein Ghods-Nakhai of Iran. Second row: Ambassador Roberto T. Alemann of Argentina, Ambassador Antonio Garriques of Spain, Minister Eugenio de Anzorena of Mexico, Minister Autar Krishna Dar of India, Minister Michael A.M. Robb of Great Britain, Counselor Masao Kanazawa of Japan, Counselor Carlos F. Leckie-Lobo of Brazil, Counselor Godwin A. Onyegbula of Nigeria, Minister Fausto Soto of Chile, and Ambassador Charles S.A. Ritchie of Canada. (63-435)

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SCIENCE - TRACKING STATIONS