

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

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23665-5225

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1. Wingate  
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Reply to Attn of 163B

March 28, 1988

TO: 387/Head, Laboratories Operations Branch, OSD  
FROM: 163B/Supervisory Engineering Technician, TSS "A", LOB, OSD  
SUBJECT: Moth-balling of Vortex Facility, Bldg. 720B and Transfer of Facility Coordinator Duties

The final testing and sequential phase down/mothballing of the Vortex Research Facility, Bldg. 720B was completed on March 25, 1988. The following action items have been performed to complete this task.

- All facility documents (Resume, CCD procedures, memos, drawings, etc) pertinent to operating the Vortex test vehicle have been sealed in plastic bags, stored inside the test vehicle instrumentation compartment, and locked. Keys to locks were forwarded to Guy Kemmerly.
- Motor pool has winterized the test vehicle propulsion system, removed fuel from vehicle and removed lead acid batteries.
- Instructions have been added to the Computerize Preventative Maintenance Program for Klate Holt motor pool mechanics to start the test vehicle engine and perform the steps to winterize engine on a two year cycle.
- All inventoried items assigned to OSD personnel have been transferred and or accessed as following:
  1. Bandsaw and Drill Press transferred to Boyce Lavender, Tunnels Operations Branch, OSD.
  2. Battery Chargers (3) transferred to Guy Kemmerly, Subsonic Aerodynamics Branch, Low Speed Aerodynamics Division.
  3. All instrumentation transferred to Scott Kjeldgaard, Analytical Methods Branch, Low Speed Aerodynamics Division.
  4. Hydraulic Work Stand transferred to James Richardson, Laboratories Operations Branch, OSD.

5. Walkie Talkie radios (3) transferred to Raymond Scholz, Tunnels Operations Branch, OSD.
- Facility Coordinator duties will be transferred to Bobby Gaddy, Tunnels Operations Branch, OSD effective March 21, 1988. The following items require the continuous attention of the new coordinator.
    1. Verify the 7 sump pumps located along walkway in tank area are properly operating whenever Navy Tank is filled with water and/or rainy weather.
    2. Verify sump pump under Panel C platform is operational whenever Navy tank is full of water. Failure of this pumping system would allow water damage to high pressure air compressor located under Panel C platform if left unattended for extended periods of time.
    3. Perform Severe Cold Weather Program as required in 720A/720B facility resume.
    4. Monitor aircraft warning lamps located on top of Bldg. 720A and 720B. Work Control will replace malfunctioned lamps per short and urgent calls.
  - I have met with Mr. Gaddy and gone over all outstanding 69's scheduled for completion after March 21, 1988.
  - On March 8, 1988, OSD facility personnel, Guy Kemmerly (Safety Head) and Charles Zeitman, Safety Engineering Branch, met to discuss moth-balling of facility from a safety aspect. The following items were discussed and have been completed.
    1. Removed gasoline and vented fuel tank on test vehicle.
    2. Lowered nitrogen charge on arresting gear to 10 psi.
    3. Removed fuses from high pressure air compressor.
    4. Lowered air pressure on high pressure air bottle located on test vehicle to 10 psi.
  - Also discussed were items listed at beginning of memo that have all ready been addressed.
  - Charles Zeitman would place Vortex Facility configuration controlled documentation program in inactive status.
  - All items presently stored in flame proof lockers (paints, cleaning fluids, small quantities of gasoline, etc.) will be controlled by OSD personnel from Basic Aerodynamic Research Tunnel.

- Contacted Lois Breen at Work Control Office to place all test vehicle maintenance and inspection routines except engine winterization on inactive status until further notice. Normal Preventative Maintenance responsibilities will be transferred to new facility coordinator.

If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at Ext. 2492.

*Raymond C. Scholz*

Raymond C. Scholz  
2492

cc:

347/Bobby Gaddy  
347/Guy Kemmerly  
355/Boyce Lavender  
429/Charles Zeitman  
163B/TSS "A"  
387/TOB  
114/OSD

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