



1
00:00:05,829 --> 00:00:03,110
while activities on the space station

2
00:00:07,829 --> 00:00:05,839
continue uh with the complex in overall

3
00:00:09,589 --> 00:00:07,839
excellent uh shape

4
00:00:11,669 --> 00:00:09,599
there's a uh

5
00:00:13,669 --> 00:00:11,679
what's known as a big move planned

6
00:00:16,950 --> 00:00:13,679
beginning tonight here in the clear lake

7
00:00:17,990 --> 00:00:16,960
houston area an iconic piece of nasa's

8
00:00:20,950 --> 00:00:18,000
history

9
00:00:22,790 --> 00:00:20,960
which never flew in space but without it

10
00:00:24,310 --> 00:00:22,800
proving the aerodynamic flight qualities

11
00:00:26,790 --> 00:00:24,320
of the space shuttle would have been

12
00:00:28,870 --> 00:00:26,800
very difficult as would have been moving

13
00:00:30,790 --> 00:00:28,880

the orbiters from coast to coast for

14

00:00:31,990 --> 00:00:30,800

refurbishment and upgrades between

15

00:00:35,750 --> 00:00:32,000

missions

16

00:00:39,190 --> 00:00:35,760

the boeing 747 shuttle carrier aircraft

17

00:00:41,270 --> 00:00:39,200

with the callsign nasa 905 that handled

18

00:00:43,430 --> 00:00:41,280

most of the shuttle ferry flights has

19

00:00:45,510 --> 00:00:43,440

been retired and now will make its home

20

00:00:47,830 --> 00:00:45,520

at space center houston just down the

21

00:00:50,310 --> 00:00:47,840

road from the johnson space center

22

00:00:52,950 --> 00:00:50,320

i recently talked with paul spana

23

00:00:55,029 --> 00:00:52,960

exhibits manager at space center houston

24

00:00:58,150 --> 00:00:55,039

and i asked him why the visitor center

25

00:01:00,150 --> 00:00:58,160

wanted the sca

26

00:01:02,150 --> 00:01:00,160

we want it because we're

27

00:01:03,990 --> 00:01:02,160

we are nasa's johnson space center

28

00:01:06,789 --> 00:01:04,000

official visitor center

29

00:01:09,429 --> 00:01:06,799

and it's our responsibility

30

00:01:11,350 --> 00:01:09,439

to represent nasa to be

31

00:01:13,270 --> 00:01:11,360

a gateway for the visitors to come in

32

00:01:15,350 --> 00:01:13,280

and learn about johnson space center and

33

00:01:16,390 --> 00:01:15,360

all the work that goes on here

34

00:01:17,910 --> 00:01:16,400

so

35

00:01:19,670 --> 00:01:17,920

that's the next step in in our

36

00:01:21,749 --> 00:01:19,680

progression of the timeline of the

37

00:01:23,670 --> 00:01:21,759

history of nasa

38

00:01:25,190 --> 00:01:23,680

after apollo

39

00:01:27,429 --> 00:01:25,200

the shuttle program the shuttle program

40

00:01:28,630 --> 00:01:27,439

went on for for 30 years and we wanted

41

00:01:30,789 --> 00:01:28,640

to

42

00:01:33,510 --> 00:01:30,799

represent that in a great way

43

00:01:35,350 --> 00:01:33,520

and the ability to have the same or the

44

00:01:36,310 --> 00:01:35,360

opportunity i should say to have the sca

45

00:01:38,630 --> 00:01:36,320

there

46

00:01:41,030 --> 00:01:38,640

is an awesome way to be able to display

47

00:01:42,310 --> 00:01:41,040

that and tell a piece of that history of

48

00:01:45,109 --> 00:01:42,320

the program

49

00:01:46,389 --> 00:01:45,119

what did it take to actually get the

50

00:01:47,910 --> 00:01:46,399

sca

51
00:01:49,910 --> 00:01:47,920
at space center houston and not

52
00:01:51,830 --> 00:01:49,920
necessarily the move yet but right just

53
00:01:53,510 --> 00:01:51,840
to just to get to this point there was a

54
00:01:55,429 --> 00:01:53,520
lot of work just to get to this point we

55
00:01:57,109 --> 00:01:55,439
started

56
00:01:58,950 --> 00:01:57,119
a year and a half almost two two years

57
00:02:00,870 --> 00:01:58,960
ago

58
00:02:02,630 --> 00:02:00,880
we worked very closely with nasa a

59
00:02:04,069 --> 00:02:02,640
johnson space center

60
00:02:06,069 --> 00:02:04,079
there was a lot of work that johnson

61
00:02:08,150 --> 00:02:06,079
space center had to do on this end to

62
00:02:08,949 --> 00:02:08,160
make it all possible for us and they

63
00:02:12,229 --> 00:02:08,959

helped

64

00:02:15,110 --> 00:02:12,239

lay the groundwork to make that possible

65

00:02:17,350 --> 00:02:15,120

so the plane came to houston

66

00:02:18,869 --> 00:02:17,360

it was presented to us the opportunity

67

00:02:21,110 --> 00:02:18,879

was there

68

00:02:24,150 --> 00:02:21,120

and then it was up to us at space center

69

00:02:25,750 --> 00:02:24,160

houston to uh to make sure that uh we

70

00:02:27,990 --> 00:02:25,760

could get it from

71

00:02:29,750 --> 00:02:28,000

ellingson airport over to

72

00:02:31,830 --> 00:02:29,760

our visitor center

73

00:02:35,030 --> 00:02:31,840

well now let's talk about

74

00:02:37,670 --> 00:02:35,040

moving a 747 i mean anybody who's seen a

75

00:02:40,070 --> 00:02:37,680

747 obviously knows how large this

76
00:02:42,390 --> 00:02:40,080
aircraft is and and obviously you know

77
00:02:44,390 --> 00:02:42,400
they've seen that the iconic moves with

78
00:02:46,550 --> 00:02:44,400
a space shuttle on the back but right

79
00:02:48,630 --> 00:02:46,560
but now you have to move it from one

80
00:02:50,790 --> 00:02:48,640
location to another from ellington to

81
00:02:53,589 --> 00:02:50,800
space center houston what what what is

82
00:02:55,990 --> 00:02:53,599
it taking you know it's amazing how big

83
00:02:57,990 --> 00:02:56,000
it is i think the average person their

84
00:02:59,430 --> 00:02:58,000
only experience with a an aircraft is

85
00:03:00,949 --> 00:02:59,440
being inside of it

86
00:03:04,070 --> 00:03:00,959
and on the outside of it it's walking

87
00:03:06,149 --> 00:03:04,080
through the jet way so it's it's a

88
00:03:07,910 --> 00:03:06,159

awesome feeling to be standing kind of

89

00:03:09,670 --> 00:03:07,920

surreal underneath the airplane

90

00:03:11,670 --> 00:03:09,680

especially one that's that that large

91

00:03:14,070 --> 00:03:11,680

right we've been working on the airplane

92

00:03:16,630 --> 00:03:14,080

for uh almost two months now around the

93

00:03:18,790 --> 00:03:16,640

clock 12 hours a day seven days a week

94

00:03:21,030 --> 00:03:18,800

taking big pieces off and it's amazing

95

00:03:23,030 --> 00:03:21,040

with as much of huge pieces we've taken

96

00:03:25,190 --> 00:03:23,040

off it's still big

97

00:03:26,869 --> 00:03:25,200

this was all made possible by the boeing

98

00:03:28,869 --> 00:03:26,879

company because they agreed to donate

99

00:03:30,630 --> 00:03:28,879

their services to take it apart and put

100

00:03:33,350 --> 00:03:30,640

it back together again and make it look

101
00:03:36,550 --> 00:03:33,360
like it had never been taken apart

102
00:03:38,869 --> 00:03:36,560
so the planning for that started back in

103
00:03:40,630 --> 00:03:38,879
august of last year so

104
00:03:42,309 --> 00:03:40,640
we have a team at space center houston

105
00:03:43,509 --> 00:03:42,319
and we've been working very closely with

106
00:03:45,110 --> 00:03:43,519
boeing

107
00:03:47,270 --> 00:03:45,120
starting then

108
00:03:48,949 --> 00:03:47,280
first was to secure for

109
00:03:51,830 --> 00:03:48,959
any possible hurricanes as we were

110
00:03:53,990 --> 00:03:51,840
entering into hurricane season

111
00:03:55,509 --> 00:03:54,000
then after that we started

112
00:03:57,190 --> 00:03:55,519
coming up with a detail plan on how we

113
00:03:58,070 --> 00:03:57,200

were going to dissect it and take it

114

00:03:59,270 --> 00:03:58,080

apart

115

00:04:01,589 --> 00:03:59,280

there is a

116

00:04:03,270 --> 00:04:01,599

a team of special mechanics that came in

117

00:04:04,630 --> 00:04:03,280

from boeing called the aircraft on

118

00:04:07,670 --> 00:04:04,640

ground team it's kind of like their

119

00:04:10,869 --> 00:04:07,680

special forces of mechanics uh they came

120

00:04:12,710 --> 00:04:10,879

in and what they did was they first took

121

00:04:15,030 --> 00:04:12,720

they started taking apart the wings not

122

00:04:16,310 --> 00:04:15,040

removing them yet but taking off flaps

123

00:04:19,509 --> 00:04:16,320

and there's a lot of work that they had

124

00:04:21,030 --> 00:04:19,519

to do to get ready to take the wings off

125

00:04:22,710 --> 00:04:21,040

so for almost six weeks they were

126
00:04:24,150 --> 00:04:22,720
working on on the plane there was always

127
00:04:25,590 --> 00:04:24,160
somebody working on the wings that

128
00:04:26,710 --> 00:04:25,600
entire time

129
00:04:29,189 --> 00:04:26,720
first thing that came off was the

130
00:04:31,590 --> 00:04:29,199
landing gear the plane was jacked up

131
00:04:33,270 --> 00:04:31,600
the landing gear was removed

132
00:04:35,909 --> 00:04:33,280
then they started working on the tail

133
00:04:38,070 --> 00:04:35,919
they took the vertical stabilizer off

134
00:04:40,310 --> 00:04:38,080
the main one and nasa had modified the

135
00:04:42,150 --> 00:04:40,320
plane with two more vertical stabilizers

136
00:04:44,710 --> 00:04:42,160
those came off the horizontal stabilizer

137
00:04:47,270 --> 00:04:44,720
came off in one piece and then

138
00:04:49,110 --> 00:04:47,280

two sections of the rear of the fuselage

139

00:04:51,830 --> 00:04:49,120

came off and each one's about 18 feet

140

00:04:53,830 --> 00:04:51,840

long so that left us with the fuselage

141

00:04:55,670 --> 00:04:53,840

which is 190 feet long that'll be the

142

00:04:57,670 --> 00:04:55,680

largest piece that we move

143

00:04:59,350 --> 00:04:57,680

all the pieces now are loaded there's

144

00:05:01,029 --> 00:04:59,360

seven loads

145

00:05:03,189 --> 00:05:01,039

the fuselage

146

00:05:05,110 --> 00:05:03,199

seven loads now these are on trucks

147

00:05:07,350 --> 00:05:05,120

obviously they're on

148

00:05:08,310 --> 00:05:07,360

trailers for some will be towed by

149

00:05:10,390 --> 00:05:08,320

trucks

150

00:05:13,189 --> 00:05:10,400

four of the trailers are hydraulic

151

00:05:16,070 --> 00:05:13,199

trailers which have the ability to raise

152

00:05:17,590 --> 00:05:16,080

and lower each one has about 144 wheels

153

00:05:18,710 --> 00:05:17,600

they're they can be independently

154

00:05:21,029 --> 00:05:18,720

steered

155

00:05:22,390 --> 00:05:21,039

of those specialty type trailers there's

156

00:05:24,310 --> 00:05:22,400

there's four of those

157

00:05:26,390 --> 00:05:24,320

two for the wings one for the fuselage

158

00:05:28,469 --> 00:05:26,400

and the fourth one is for the

159

00:05:30,390 --> 00:05:28,479

the main vertical stabilizer the others

160

00:05:31,909 --> 00:05:30,400

are on uh

161

00:05:33,510 --> 00:05:31,919

something typical what you would see out

162

00:05:35,590 --> 00:05:33,520

on the highway regular

163

00:05:37,110 --> 00:05:35,600

tractor trailer trailers okay so now

164

00:05:39,749 --> 00:05:37,120

you're you're ready to move now the

165

00:05:42,550 --> 00:05:39,759

actual move the route that it's got to

166

00:05:44,790 --> 00:05:42,560

take presently the aircraft is is

167

00:05:46,230 --> 00:05:44,800

sitting at in this remote corner of

168

00:05:49,510 --> 00:05:46,240

ellington field

169

00:05:51,350 --> 00:05:49,520

so um we're going to move this convoy

170

00:05:52,790 --> 00:05:51,360

and the convoy all together

171

00:05:54,469 --> 00:05:52,800

when you line up all these trailers it's

172

00:05:55,830 --> 00:05:54,479

about a thousand feet long we're gonna

173

00:05:57,749 --> 00:05:55,840

move across the

174

00:05:59,590 --> 00:05:57,759

uh the airfield and get to the other

175

00:06:01,350 --> 00:05:59,600

side of the west side of the airfield in

176
00:06:03,430 --> 00:06:01,360
preparation for the move which happens

177
00:06:05,029 --> 00:06:03,440
on on monday

178
00:06:07,270 --> 00:06:05,039
so monday afternoon

179
00:06:08,629 --> 00:06:07,280
we'll cut out a section of the fence at

180
00:06:11,029 --> 00:06:08,639
the airfield

181
00:06:14,469 --> 00:06:11,039
and move up to the intersection of

182
00:06:17,189 --> 00:06:14,479
highway 3 and challenger 7 which is also

183
00:06:19,350 --> 00:06:17,199
dixie farm road and we'll be staged for

184
00:06:21,510 --> 00:06:19,360
the move at nine o'clock on monday night

185
00:06:23,990 --> 00:06:21,520
the move happens obviously which is

186
00:06:27,110 --> 00:06:24,000
going to be a spectacle in itself but

187
00:06:29,110 --> 00:06:27,120
talk a little bit about why the move now

188
00:06:32,790 --> 00:06:29,120

the final plans for this exhibit what

189

00:06:36,390 --> 00:06:34,230

when you drive up to space center

190

00:06:39,670 --> 00:06:36,400

houston what you're going to see is the

191

00:06:42,629 --> 00:06:39,680

747 uh reassembled it will have a high

192

00:06:44,629 --> 00:06:42,639

fidelity replica of a shuttle and the

193

00:06:46,710 --> 00:06:44,639

name of our orbiter is independence

194

00:06:49,909 --> 00:06:46,720

right it'll be mounted on top and then

195

00:06:52,469 --> 00:06:49,919

on the side of it is a 60-foot tower

196

00:06:54,950 --> 00:06:52,479

which houses two elevators and a flight

197

00:06:57,749 --> 00:06:54,960

of stairs and this tower

198

00:06:59,909 --> 00:06:57,759

will provide you access to the 747 that

199

00:07:02,070 --> 00:06:59,919

will be one stop and then you can

200

00:07:04,469 --> 00:07:02,080

continue on to two more stops to go up

201
00:07:06,950 --> 00:07:04,479
to to the shuttle and you'll be able to

202
00:07:08,950 --> 00:07:06,960
go into the uh the flight deck as well

203
00:07:11,589 --> 00:07:08,960
as the mid deck and when what is your

204
00:07:14,710 --> 00:07:11,599
projection for that being open you think

205
00:07:17,350 --> 00:07:14,720
our goal is to open it in around spring

206
00:07:19,990 --> 00:07:17,360
break of 2015 so less than a year away

207
00:07:21,830 --> 00:07:20,000
from now so less than a year that after

208
00:07:22,950 --> 00:07:21,840
this move that we'll be able to see that

209
00:07:26,870 --> 00:07:22,960
and

210
00:07:28,790 --> 00:07:26,880
spectacle for those that haven't had an

211
00:07:30,469 --> 00:07:28,800
opportunity to see it before it's it's

212
00:07:32,070 --> 00:07:30,479
really going to be unique and

213
00:07:34,390 --> 00:07:32,080

paul we really appreciate you stopping

214

00:07:35,909 --> 00:07:34,400

by and talking about the whole plan uh

215

00:07:38,790 --> 00:07:35,919

for what's in store and we'll look

216

00:07:40,550 --> 00:07:38,800

forward to seeing that um it's always

217

00:07:42,309 --> 00:07:40,560

good to see you again and all the best