



MARSHALL  
REMEMBERS APOLLO

1  
00:00:20,020 --> 00:00:16,410

[Music]

2  
00:00:24,460 --> 00:00:20,030  
and I came to work for Marshall in 1960

3  
00:00:29,890 --> 00:00:24,470  
and as a gs2 clerk typist and I retired

4  
00:00:31,480 --> 00:00:29,900  
in 1999 as a gs-14 assistant director to

5  
00:00:34,860 --> 00:00:31,490  
a customer and employee relations

6  
00:00:39,190 --> 00:00:34,870  
director II my story with Marshall is

7  
00:00:42,220 --> 00:00:39,200  
pretty much a fairy tale in 1960 young

8  
00:00:45,940 --> 00:00:42,230  
graduate from high school in May at 17

9  
00:00:47,290 --> 00:00:45,950  
years old September the second I married

10  
00:00:50,319 --> 00:00:47,300  
the love of my life

11  
00:00:54,459 --> 00:00:50,329  
September 23rd I was 18

12  
00:00:57,779 --> 00:00:54,469  
in early October I got a job at Decatur

13  
00:01:00,340 --> 00:00:57,789

founded machine company the one girl

14

00:01:03,910 --> 00:01:00,350

everybody else man so I was treated like

15

00:01:05,800 --> 00:01:03,920

a queen learned a lot there but they

16

00:01:09,760 --> 00:01:05,810

were the one of the few companies that

17

00:01:12,340 --> 00:01:09,770

would hire before you were 18 so at work

18

00:01:15,070 --> 00:01:12,350

one day I got a call from NASA Marshall

19

00:01:18,040 --> 00:01:15,080

personnel office wanting to know if I'd

20

00:01:20,190 --> 00:01:18,050

like to have a job at Marshall and I

21

00:01:22,480 --> 00:01:20,200

said well I already have a job thank you

22

00:01:25,330 --> 00:01:22,490

so a couple of weeks later I get another

23

00:01:27,399 --> 00:01:25,340

call NASA Marshall would you like to

24

00:01:29,920 --> 00:01:27,409

have a job at Marshall and I said well I

25

00:01:32,289 --> 00:01:29,930

have a job well I got really curious

26

00:01:33,490 --> 00:01:32,299

talked to my husband and I said well I

27

00:01:35,380 --> 00:01:33,500

probably would have to buy better

28

00:01:38,740 --> 00:01:35,390

clothes and we'd have to have another

29

00:01:42,429 --> 00:01:38,750

car so it's probably not worthwhile

30

00:01:44,469 --> 00:01:42,439

well fortunately my fairy godmother must

31

00:01:47,230 --> 00:01:44,479

have really been looking out for me

32

00:01:50,530 --> 00:01:47,240

so a few days later I got an offer in

33

00:01:55,060 --> 00:01:50,540

the mail offering me just to clerk

34

00:01:57,880 --> 00:01:55,070

typist making 67 dollars a week I don't

35

00:02:01,330 --> 00:01:57,890

remember the hourly rate but 40 hours I

36

00:02:04,660 --> 00:02:01,340

was working for 40 to 50 a week it's a

37

00:02:07,209 --> 00:02:04,670

Decatur foundry so I told my husband I

38

00:02:09,340 --> 00:02:07,219

said you know for that much increase I

39

00:02:12,130 --> 00:02:09,350

could probably buy another dress or two

40

00:02:15,070 --> 00:02:12,140

I wondered how they got my name and then

41

00:02:18,520 --> 00:02:15,080

I recalled as part of our business class

42

00:02:20,470 --> 00:02:18,530

in high school the Civil Service Board

43

00:02:23,500 --> 00:02:20,480

send a representative to the high school

44

00:02:25,869 --> 00:02:23,510

and gave the typing test the steno test

45

00:02:27,580 --> 00:02:25,879

and asked us to fill out a form I think

46

00:02:32,500 --> 00:02:27,590

it was called a 57 and

47

00:02:34,509 --> 00:02:32,510

years as a class assignment and that

48

00:02:36,900 --> 00:02:34,519

just kind of you know that was I just

49

00:02:38,770 --> 00:02:36,910

went to class that day and we had a

50

00:02:42,420 --> 00:02:38,780

representative day that gave us a type

51  
00:02:47,110 --> 00:02:42,430  
of test and steno test and that is that

52  
00:02:49,570 --> 00:02:47,120  
application it was ended up in NASA's

53  
00:02:52,479 --> 00:02:49,580  
hands because I had passed the typing

54  
00:02:56,530 --> 00:02:52,489  
test I did not pass steno test I came

55  
00:02:59,740 --> 00:02:56,540  
over for a physical was hired and I was

56  
00:03:03,250 --> 00:02:59,750  
put in a typing pool and farmed out and

57  
00:03:05,589 --> 00:03:03,260  
in less than six weeks I was picked up a

58  
00:03:10,449 --> 00:03:05,599  
permanent assignment in the facilities

59  
00:03:12,759 --> 00:03:10,459  
office in 1965 all I got an offer to

60  
00:03:15,940 --> 00:03:12,769  
move to dr. van Browns office as

61  
00:03:19,350 --> 00:03:15,950  
Secretary to his assistant assistant

62  
00:03:22,449 --> 00:03:19,360  
director Jim Sheppard at that time and

63  
00:03:24,069 --> 00:03:22,459

the rest is just still more and more its

64

00:03:26,890 --> 00:03:24,079

fairy tale all the way through it was

65

00:03:30,190 --> 00:03:26,900

such a rewarding experience in high

66

00:03:32,949 --> 00:03:30,200

school we did not have career counselors

67

00:03:35,800 --> 00:03:32,959

and my mother and dad were not high

68

00:03:37,780 --> 00:03:35,810

school graduates and there was really no

69

00:03:40,000 --> 00:03:37,790

career counseling but my dad had asked

70

00:03:41,670 --> 00:03:40,010

me one day in the cotton patch says well

71

00:03:44,349 --> 00:03:41,680

what do you want to be when you grow up

72

00:03:47,110 --> 00:03:44,359

and I thought be you know you just get a

73

00:03:50,949 --> 00:03:47,120

job and go to work and I really didn't

74

00:03:52,330 --> 00:03:50,959

have a goal but I said well daddy I

75

00:03:55,530 --> 00:03:52,340

really would just like to work in an

76

00:03:58,089 --> 00:03:55,540

air-conditioned building so and that

77

00:03:59,500 --> 00:03:58,099

fulfilled my lofty goal to get to work

78

00:04:02,470 --> 00:03:59,510

at Marshall in an air-conditioned

79

00:04:07,089 --> 00:04:02,480

building but it was it was just fabulous

80

00:04:08,949 --> 00:04:07,099

and working in dr. from brands office we

81

00:04:11,319 --> 00:04:08,959

were separated by a wall but the door

82

00:04:14,379 --> 00:04:11,329

between us was just a cased opening and

83

00:04:17,379 --> 00:04:14,389

I between me and his secretary Bonnie

84

00:04:19,509 --> 00:04:17,389

Holmes so I could see going and coming

85

00:04:23,830 --> 00:04:19,519

into his office and Bonnie was such a

86

00:04:25,870 --> 00:04:23,840

wonderful mentor it was just fabulous

87

00:04:29,170 --> 00:04:25,880

you know a lot of people say well I was

88

00:04:33,700 --> 00:04:29,180

just a secretary but to be a secretary I

89

00:04:36,339 --> 00:04:33,710  
was a secretary from 1960 to about 1970

90

00:04:38,209 --> 00:04:36,349  
right after dr. Manley left I went into

91

00:04:44,659 --> 00:04:38,219  
the administrative field

92

00:04:47,299 --> 00:04:44,669  
but it was just fabulous oh we were busy

93

00:04:49,999 --> 00:04:47,309  
all the time I mean you never went home

94

00:04:53,389 --> 00:04:50,009  
with your desk cleaned off it was just

95

00:04:56,469 --> 00:04:53,399  
so much to do and I think our biggest

96

00:05:00,139 --> 00:04:56,479  
challenge in those days was

97

00:05:02,899 --> 00:05:00,149  
communication because all of all of our

98

00:05:07,489 --> 00:05:02,909  
bosses were at a level where they were

99

00:05:10,189 --> 00:05:07,499  
in meetings eight to nine hours a day

100

00:05:12,439 --> 00:05:10,199  
and most of our days were nine to ten

101

00:05:16,369 --> 00:05:12,449

you know if it was very easy to work a

102

00:05:18,709 --> 00:05:16,379

10 hour day but what they depended on us

103

00:05:21,290 --> 00:05:18,719

to do was more than just we had to have

104

00:05:24,469 --> 00:05:21,300

the basic clerical skills of course but

105

00:05:27,290 --> 00:05:24,479

what they dependent on us so much would

106

00:05:30,529 --> 00:05:27,300

be facilitating you know get this done

107

00:05:33,739 --> 00:05:30,539

this has got to be done and you learn

108

00:05:37,129 --> 00:05:33,749

right away what your boss is delegating

109

00:05:39,799 --> 00:05:37,139

to you to do on your own and no I mean I

110

00:05:42,159 --> 00:05:39,809

would say sometimes my job is whatever

111

00:05:44,239 --> 00:05:42,169

needs to be done it's my job to do it

112

00:05:46,219 --> 00:05:44,249

because they would they were that

113

00:05:49,459 --> 00:05:46,229

trusting they were busy you know trying

114

00:05:52,759 --> 00:05:49,469

to get to the moon and that's all we had

115

00:05:55,459 --> 00:05:52,769

to do what we could to help them so free

116

00:06:00,139 --> 00:05:55,469

up their time any way we could and they

117

00:06:02,600 --> 00:06:00,149

trusted us so much too I mean you might

118

00:06:05,149 --> 00:06:02,610

get a telephone call from a site and

119

00:06:07,519 --> 00:06:05,159

pass this on to Jim Shepherd so he can

120

00:06:09,290 --> 00:06:07,529

tell doctor from brown well you know

121

00:06:11,089 --> 00:06:09,300

what I would do how to go ahead we used

122

00:06:14,029 --> 00:06:11,099

a little what we called the red routing

123

00:06:16,069 --> 00:06:14,039

slips and that was an interoffice memo

124

00:06:21,379 --> 00:06:16,079

so I would just go ahead and type it up

125

00:06:23,449 --> 00:06:21,389

you know dr. Brown Jim Joe Blow call

126

00:06:25,909 --> 00:06:23,459

today to give us the report on the test

127

00:06:28,759 --> 00:06:25,919

firing at Mississippi test facility and

128

00:06:30,230 --> 00:06:28,769

then I put safety Shepherd and so it was

129

00:06:32,089 --> 00:06:30,240

ready to go in when he got there you

130

00:06:34,189 --> 00:06:32,099

know he didn't have to but it was ready

131

00:06:36,199 --> 00:06:34,199

to go they docked from Brown was such a

132

00:06:38,299 --> 00:06:36,209

good communicator and he had dumped the

133

00:06:40,279 --> 00:06:38,309

weekly notes he also had a daily journal

134

00:06:43,279 --> 00:06:40,289

we had access to that it might in case

135

00:06:45,109 --> 00:06:43,289

this my boss the assistant he was really

136

00:06:47,239 --> 00:06:45,119

his responsibility really was to shatter

137

00:06:49,159 --> 00:06:47,249

the center director he attended meetings

138

00:06:50,809 --> 00:06:49,169

with him and his job was to make sure

139

00:06:51,440 --> 00:06:50,819

that the center director was offloaded

140

00:06:54,050 --> 00:06:51,450

from

141

00:06:56,420 --> 00:06:54,060

anything he could do and then of course

142

00:06:58,760 --> 00:06:56,430

my opportunity there was to pick up

143

00:07:01,520 --> 00:06:58,770

there see but we got to see the Daily

144

00:07:03,740 --> 00:07:01,530

Journal which had my boss would since he

145

00:07:06,320 --> 00:07:03,750

was shadowing him so he would go in and

146

00:07:08,990 --> 00:07:06,330

dictate to the Daily Journal about all

147

00:07:10,580 --> 00:07:09,000

the activities he was part of so we got

148

00:07:12,470 --> 00:07:10,590

to see the Daily Journal we got to see

149

00:07:14,210 --> 00:07:12,480

the weekly notes we saw what was going

150

00:07:16,750 --> 00:07:14,220

on around the center from the weekly

151

00:07:18,830 --> 00:07:16,760

notes and then we saw dr. ron brown's

152

00:07:22,970 --> 00:07:18,840

reaction to the senator knows a great

153

00:07:26,270 --> 00:07:22,980

part of my job was to receive the weekly

154

00:07:27,860 --> 00:07:26,280

notes on monday and i make copies they

155

00:07:29,150 --> 00:07:27,870

would bring me the originals from all

156

00:07:31,550 --> 00:07:29,160

the Blockheads I call them the

157

00:07:34,280 --> 00:07:31,560

Blockheads but but all the block ads for

158

00:07:37,750 --> 00:07:34,290

bringing me their weekly notes and I

159

00:07:39,680 --> 00:07:37,760

would copy them and then they would be

160

00:07:41,900 --> 00:07:39,690

though you get a copy of everybody

161

00:07:43,880 --> 00:07:41,910

else's them go back to them then the

162

00:07:46,400 --> 00:07:43,890

same thing when dark from Brown made his

163

00:07:48,710 --> 00:07:46,410

notes I'd make copies and those were

164

00:07:50,330 --> 00:07:48,720

sent out so all around the center the

165

00:07:52,610 --> 00:07:50,340

communications were the same everybody

166

00:07:54,740 --> 00:07:52,620

pretty much knew what was going on now

167

00:08:01,489 --> 00:07:54,750

the daily journal was naughty Oh shared

168

00:08:06,879 --> 00:08:03,879

her parents and my parents were friends

169

00:08:09,079 --> 00:08:06,889

and they used to play rope together so

170

00:08:11,570 --> 00:08:09,089

Bonnie just took me right under her wing

171

00:08:14,419 --> 00:08:11,580

when I came up but and she was the same

172

00:08:19,129 --> 00:08:14,429

that with all of the secretaries she was

173

00:08:22,519 --> 00:08:19,139

she came to work in the 50s and with

174

00:08:26,619 --> 00:08:22,529

ABMA and when the van Brown team came

175

00:08:28,879 --> 00:08:26,629

she was already more working there and

176

00:08:31,820 --> 00:08:28,889

they advertised for doctor from brand

177

00:08:33,409 --> 00:08:31,830

secretary asked her to apply and she

178

00:08:36,110 --> 00:08:33,419

didn't coerce she was selected and she

179

00:08:39,529 --> 00:08:36,120

was the perfect person she was she had

180

00:08:43,850 --> 00:08:39,539

been to business school she was trusted

181

00:08:45,889 --> 00:08:43,860

by him so much she was pretty much less

182

00:08:48,470 --> 00:08:45,899

I was saying how I did for Jim Shepherd

183

00:08:50,829 --> 00:08:48,480

she could you know anticipate what he

184

00:08:53,900 --> 00:08:50,839

needed and make sure that he had it and

185

00:08:56,689 --> 00:08:53,910

she said she and I worked so closely

186

00:08:58,340 --> 00:08:56,699

together she taught me how to put

187

00:09:00,710 --> 00:08:58,350

together the pack the briefcase

188

00:09:02,449 --> 00:09:00,720

briefcase packages every night our

189

00:09:06,069 --> 00:09:02,459

bosses would go home with a briefcase

190

00:09:09,230 --> 00:09:06,079

with anything they needed to know

191

00:09:12,350 --> 00:09:09,240

anything needed to approve or concur in

192

00:09:14,629 --> 00:09:12,360

and of course most everything didn't go

193

00:09:17,600 --> 00:09:14,639

into up and Brown's desk safe from there

194

00:09:20,569 --> 00:09:17,610

so and if they were traveling there

195

00:09:23,780 --> 00:09:20,579

would be a folder with an agenda on top

196

00:09:26,870 --> 00:09:23,790

and a tab for almost every agenda item

197

00:09:27,410 --> 00:09:26,880

and that part of our job and this is how

198

00:09:29,629 --> 00:09:27,420

bunny

199

00:09:32,090 --> 00:09:29,639

trained us to do we would take each

200

00:09:34,069 --> 00:09:32,100

agenda item we called the manager that

201  
00:09:36,679 --> 00:09:34,079  
had the information on that particular

202  
00:09:38,090 --> 00:09:36,689  
subject and ask for whatever we thought

203  
00:09:40,460 --> 00:09:38,100  
would be appropriate you know white

204  
00:09:42,559 --> 00:09:40,470  
paper you've got any issues you want to

205  
00:09:46,240 --> 00:09:42,569  
bring up anything you need then you want

206  
00:09:48,860 --> 00:09:46,250  
him to request or whatever and know so

207  
00:09:50,720 --> 00:09:48,870  
when he got to his meeting everything

208  
00:09:51,980 --> 00:09:50,730  
was there we hoped that he needed I'm

209  
00:09:52,999 --> 00:09:51,990  
sure there were times he would say when

210  
00:09:57,259 --> 00:09:53,009  
I wish they'd ask some more questions

211  
00:10:00,499 --> 00:09:57,269  
but and but the the managers had a lot

212  
00:10:03,590 --> 00:10:00,509  
of respect for us and they would if if

213  
00:10:06,769 --> 00:10:03,600

we call they would respond most likely

214

00:10:10,400 --> 00:10:06,779

immediately I mean I was teasing one of

215

00:10:12,020 --> 00:10:10,410

my friends saw recently who used to work

216

00:10:14,210 --> 00:10:12,030

for the shuttle office

217

00:10:16,760 --> 00:10:14,220

I said Deemer if I called you and asked

218

00:10:18,230 --> 00:10:16,770

for a new graph of the Eiffel Tower I

219

00:10:20,690 --> 00:10:18,240

said you would have had it there in 30

220

00:10:21,860 --> 00:10:20,700

minutes and I said not only that you

221

00:10:24,050 --> 00:10:21,870

would have probably said and here's a

222

00:10:26,360 --> 00:10:24,060

night view as well you know it was just

223

00:10:28,970 --> 00:10:26,370

that kind of support that we got and it

224

00:10:31,010 --> 00:10:28,980

it was just that made our jobs easier

225

00:10:35,420 --> 00:10:31,020

but that's part of the facilitation that

226

00:10:37,670 --> 00:10:35,430

we did and in the book ed but this late

227

00:10:39,620 --> 00:10:37,680

book that I wrote this about Bonnie I

228

00:10:41,180 --> 00:10:39,630

think on a tip they wanted to know what

229

00:10:44,540 --> 00:10:41,190

was a typical day well there's not was

230

00:10:45,800 --> 00:10:44,550

not a typical day but oh just say for

231

00:10:47,510 --> 00:10:45,810

instance I said she would get a

232

00:10:49,220 --> 00:10:47,520

telephone call from maybe the

233

00:10:51,260 --> 00:10:49,230

administrator's office and said we need

234

00:10:53,290 --> 00:10:51,270

doctor around here tomorrow for a

235

00:10:56,000 --> 00:10:53,300

meeting of the budget

236

00:10:59,840 --> 00:10:56,010

well money would have to call home have

237

00:11:02,120 --> 00:10:59,850

the wife pack a bag it's in the courier

238

00:11:03,680 --> 00:11:02,130

for the bag and she'd have a note past a

239

00:11:05,150 --> 00:11:03,690

doctor from around where he was and

240

00:11:08,450 --> 00:11:05,160

saying you got to be in Washington

241

00:11:10,850 --> 00:11:08,460

tomorrow at 8 o'clock she called but the

242

00:11:12,890 --> 00:11:10,860

pilot get the plane set up then she

243

00:11:14,300 --> 00:11:12,900

would call transportation and say we've

244

00:11:16,310 --> 00:11:14,310

got a plane going up tomorrow we got

245

00:11:21,650 --> 00:11:16,320

five empty seats if you have someone you

246

00:11:25,130 --> 00:11:21,660

can take off an airplane be you can put

247

00:11:27,320 --> 00:11:25,140

him on the cup stream and then we put

248

00:11:29,420 --> 00:11:27,330

the package together you know whatever

249

00:11:31,880 --> 00:11:29,430

the agenda was about and something

250

00:11:35,060 --> 00:11:31,890

everything was ready and so that would

251  
00:11:37,220 --> 00:11:35,070  
be the way we would work on nothing

252  
00:11:38,990 --> 00:11:37,230  
wasn't the same as yesterday it was and

253  
00:11:41,840 --> 00:11:39,000  
that's what made it so much fun and you

254  
00:11:45,079 --> 00:11:41,850  
loved coming to work she was just bonnie

255  
00:11:48,980 --> 00:11:45,089  
was so she was well-rounded person to

256  
00:11:52,430 --> 00:11:48,990  
you she would come in talk about family

257  
00:11:54,590 --> 00:11:52,440  
and sports over the weekend and then but

258  
00:11:56,360 --> 00:11:54,600  
she was very dedicated doctor from Brown

259  
00:11:59,600 --> 00:11:56,370  
came into work about nine o'clock which

260  
00:12:03,260 --> 00:11:59,610  
gave us about an hour to get our coffee

261  
00:12:06,440 --> 00:12:03,270  
and get settled and then he would leave

262  
00:12:08,800 --> 00:12:06,450  
between 5:30 and 6 and that was pretty

263  
00:12:12,590 --> 00:12:08,810

much oh and of course in those days

264

00:12:15,320 --> 00:12:12,600

another thing with the communications we

265

00:12:17,090 --> 00:12:15,330

monitored their telephone calls and of

266

00:12:19,220 --> 00:12:17,100

course dr. brennan's definitely were

267

00:12:21,320 --> 00:12:19,230

monitored and transcribed and added to

268

00:12:23,720 --> 00:12:21,330

the daily journal and of course mr. I

269

00:12:25,630 --> 00:12:23,730

wouldn't monitor mr. Shepherds of course

270

00:12:28,180 --> 00:12:25,640

that was just so that I could

271

00:12:30,640 --> 00:12:28,190

pick up on any actions or anything that

272

00:12:31,930 --> 00:12:30,650

needed to be done Jack Bosch was the

273

00:12:34,990 --> 00:12:31,940

director at the Mississippi test

274

00:12:39,280 --> 00:12:35,000

facility and I believe it was Hurricane

275

00:12:44,800 --> 00:12:39,290

Camille but he was calling dr. Brown and

276

00:12:46,420 --> 00:12:44,810

telling how bad it was and his voice you

277

00:12:49,210 --> 00:12:46,430

could just tell I mean he was almost in

278

00:12:51,700 --> 00:12:49,220

tears for his employees and the impact

279

00:12:55,120 --> 00:12:51,710

on his employees and what could we do

280

00:12:57,340 --> 00:12:55,130

you know it's just it was those those

281

00:12:59,920 --> 00:12:57,350

kind that when I remember very well you

282

00:13:03,190 --> 00:12:59,930

know he was so he but dark jack-bots

283

00:13:05,110 --> 00:13:03,200

what he spoke very loudly a minute but

284

00:13:06,760 --> 00:13:05,120

it wasn't so much I mean he wasn't mad

285

00:13:10,000 --> 00:13:06,770

it was just that he was so sympathetic

286

00:13:13,450 --> 00:13:10,010

and and heartbroken of the damage that

287

00:13:17,629 --> 00:13:13,460

Camille had done to hit the residents

288

00:13:21,859 --> 00:13:20,059

you know I did not know him and when I

289

00:13:24,109 --> 00:13:21,869

came up to the office I mean of course I

290

00:13:27,710 --> 00:13:24,119

knew he was center director and no but I

291

00:13:29,929 --> 00:13:27,720

did not he was a gentleman on the way

292

00:13:33,939 --> 00:13:29,939

through I never heard any kind of slang

293

00:13:38,150 --> 00:13:33,949

words I mean no level of slang there was

294

00:13:43,669 --> 00:13:38,160

we were treated very respectfully by him

295

00:13:47,030 --> 00:13:43,679

he but he was very curious I remember

296

00:13:48,859 --> 00:13:47,040

one day we used the our ribbons on

297

00:13:51,799 --> 00:13:48,869

typewriters where those carbon ribbons

298

00:13:53,269 --> 00:13:51,809

that you only used one time and so when

299

00:13:56,290 --> 00:13:53,279

you took them off you could see the

300

00:13:59,929 --> 00:13:56,300

imprint of the letters on the ribbon and

301  
00:14:01,939 --> 00:13:59,939  
the bonny had an assistant secretary she

302  
00:14:05,419 --> 00:14:01,949  
had laid her discarded ribbon on her

303  
00:14:07,609 --> 00:14:05,429  
desk and dr. Ron came in picked it up

304  
00:14:10,249 --> 00:14:07,619  
forever and ever and he said did

305  
00:14:12,859 --> 00:14:10,259  
somebody leave me a message I mean but

306  
00:14:14,660 --> 00:14:12,869  
he wanted he wanted to he's here if it's

307  
00:14:16,669 --> 00:14:14,670  
here for me I wanted you know I want to

308  
00:14:19,249 --> 00:14:16,679  
know and that was it he wanted to know

309  
00:14:22,160 --> 00:14:19,259  
that all signs of everything well he was

310  
00:14:26,539 --> 00:14:22,170  
just so busy he did not change too much

311  
00:14:28,249 --> 00:14:26,549  
oh that I recall now he I don't know if

312  
00:14:31,189 --> 00:14:28,259  
he wanted to go to Washington you know

313  
00:14:33,350 --> 00:14:31,199

at the end we certainly didn't want him

314

00:14:35,269 --> 00:14:33,360

to go and that I don't know that it was

315

00:14:38,449 --> 00:14:35,279

a mistake but it would seem like a

316

00:14:39,949 --> 00:14:38,459

missed assignment from him but he's

317

00:14:46,579 --> 00:14:39,959

thought you know he's the one that had

318

00:14:49,850 --> 00:14:46,589

the dream and the start and all of his

319

00:14:52,489 --> 00:14:49,860

team from Peenemunde a they just revered

320

00:14:54,769 --> 00:14:52,499

him they would do anything and of course

321

00:14:56,960 --> 00:14:54,779

we would too I mean and we loved him

322

00:15:00,049 --> 00:14:56,970

that much I mean he was just whatever we

323

00:15:02,269 --> 00:15:00,059

can do to make this easy and meet this

324

00:15:07,379 --> 00:15:02,279

goal we wanted to do it we wanted to be

325

00:15:12,389 --> 00:15:10,499

it was exploding really it was exploding

326

00:15:18,079 --> 00:15:12,399

in though you know housing was an issue

327

00:15:21,389 --> 00:15:18,089

and those you know dr. brennan's

328

00:15:23,759 --> 00:15:21,399

probably responsible for a lot of the

329

00:15:26,460 --> 00:15:23,769

young I worked in facilities off of us

330

00:15:31,379 --> 00:15:26,470

before 65 I stayed in their facilities

331

00:15:35,100 --> 00:15:31,389

office of course we had Hans

332

00:15:37,319 --> 00:15:35,110

I know if Hans Hilton and a mr. Larson

333

00:15:39,720 --> 00:15:37,329

and a Heinrich Schultz they from that

334

00:15:43,079 --> 00:15:39,730

team in there and I remember it was

335

00:15:45,479 --> 00:15:43,089

Larson and Hilton I believe who even

336

00:15:48,329 --> 00:15:45,489

worked with the city as they were

337

00:15:52,470 --> 00:15:48,339

expanding with the roadways in the

338

00:15:54,780 --> 00:15:52,480

parkway and said build them wider build

339

00:15:57,509 --> 00:15:54,790

them wider you know that was that was

340

00:15:59,389 --> 00:15:57,519

thing because they from Germany they had

341

00:16:02,400 --> 00:15:59,399

already been through the pains of

342

00:16:05,039 --> 00:16:02,410

exploding areas and the roadways were so

343

00:16:07,139 --> 00:16:05,049

important and so we can be thankful to

344

00:16:11,730 --> 00:16:07,149

them for more than just getting to the

345

00:16:15,630 --> 00:16:13,710

you know you don't want to change that

346

00:16:16,920 --> 00:16:15,640

come in this electric typewriter where

347

00:16:18,540 --> 00:16:16,930

you really don't want to change but oh

348

00:16:21,090 --> 00:16:18,550

it's fabulous you didn't have to erase

349

00:16:22,889 --> 00:16:21,100

anymore and then when the computers came

350

00:16:26,220 --> 00:16:22,899

and then that was just wonderful one of

351  
00:16:27,810 --> 00:16:26,230  
my basic jobs was my boss Jim Shepherd

352  
00:16:31,079 --> 00:16:27,820  
wanted me to initial off on all

353  
00:16:32,670 --> 00:16:31,089  
concurrent sheets and see I so my job

354  
00:16:34,860 --> 00:16:32,680  
was to go through the package making

355  
00:16:36,320 --> 00:16:34,870  
sure that if you were replying to a

356  
00:16:38,910 --> 00:16:36,330  
letter that all issues were addressed

357  
00:16:41,220 --> 00:16:38,920  
and you'd have all the proper

358  
00:16:43,290 --> 00:16:41,230  
concurrences was there anything in there

359  
00:16:46,019 --> 00:16:43,300  
if I couldn't understand it he'd say it

360  
00:16:46,949 --> 00:16:46,029  
needs to be rewritten and so you know a

361  
00:16:48,840 --> 00:16:46,959  
lot of times you have to go back and

362  
00:16:50,639 --> 00:16:48,850  
rewrite it but and so those computers

363  
00:16:52,440 --> 00:16:50,649

made that so easy all I had to do some

364

00:16:56,070 --> 00:16:52,450

call the secretary at the division level

365

00:16:59,790 --> 00:16:56,080

and say you know email me that letter

366

00:17:02,220 --> 00:16:59,800

and I'll make these changes and make and

367

00:17:04,770 --> 00:17:02,230

then you make sure everybody who has a

368

00:17:07,319 --> 00:17:04,780

need to know he's getting a copy of this

369

00:17:09,540 --> 00:17:07,329

letter when he's signed and and that

370

00:17:12,329 --> 00:17:09,550

made it you know those computers made

371

00:17:13,620 --> 00:17:12,339

that job very easy it was exciting it

372

00:17:15,329 --> 00:17:13,630

really was it and that's why you just

373

00:17:16,650 --> 00:17:15,339

love to come to work and see what's

374

00:17:18,510 --> 00:17:16,660

gonna happen today but it was very

375

00:17:21,270 --> 00:17:18,520

exciting and and of course if there were

376

00:17:23,579 --> 00:17:21,280

anomalies we were always you know sad

377

00:17:24,870 --> 00:17:23,589

but we knew that somebody was gonna get

378

00:17:29,640 --> 00:17:24,880

to the bottom of that and that's gonna

379

00:17:35,730 --> 00:17:33,210

I was just beginning to realize that you

380

00:17:38,220 --> 00:17:35,740

know I'm a part of that I never thought

381

00:17:42,450 --> 00:17:38,230

I'd be a part of history like that you

382

00:17:45,480 --> 00:17:42,460

know it's just it was wonderful I got to

383

00:17:49,440 --> 00:17:45,490

see a Saturn one and seven 1b and I also

384

00:17:51,600 --> 00:17:49,450

I was there for Apollo I was I got to

385

00:17:53,760 --> 00:17:51,610

work in the press office at the Cape for

386

00:17:57,690 --> 00:17:53,770

a week got to take my family down my

387

00:17:59,340 --> 00:17:57,700

husband we had an 18 month old son and

388

00:18:02,250 --> 00:17:59,350

then my sister went down with us so she

389

00:18:05,250 --> 00:18:02,260

could babysit and know and that was fact

390

00:18:07,799 --> 00:18:05,260

the anticipation of the launch I think

391

00:18:11,100 --> 00:18:07,809

was it was just in the atmosphere there

392

00:18:13,139 --> 00:18:11,110

was just you know electric and of course

393

00:18:17,490 --> 00:18:13,149

to see it go off you just you know you

394

00:18:19,380 --> 00:18:17,500

have a pride itself in fact even with

395

00:18:21,330 --> 00:18:19,390

you've been through the shuttle period I

396

00:18:24,090 --> 00:18:21,340

got to see several shuttles as well and

397

00:18:27,810 --> 00:18:24,100

I got to see one of the Skylab Skylab

398

00:18:31,680 --> 00:18:27,820

launches and know it's like you it's

399

00:18:32,909 --> 00:18:31,690

like a patriotic feeling when I go to a

400

00:18:35,880 --> 00:18:32,919

football game and they raise the

401  
00:18:37,710 --> 00:18:35,890  
American flag you know I can I can tears

402  
00:18:39,680 --> 00:18:37,720  
can well in my eyes whether the same

403  
00:18:41,880 --> 00:18:39,690  
thing would happen with a lift off of

404  
00:18:44,669 --> 00:18:41,890  
something that we had been a part of

405  
00:18:47,669 --> 00:18:44,679  
it's just you know I have an interest in

406  
00:18:51,240 --> 00:18:47,679  
that and you just feel a pride that it's

407  
00:18:55,710 --> 00:18:51,250  
going off successfully to look back to

408  
00:18:57,810 --> 00:18:55,720  
Apollo 11 that to be first I mean that

409  
00:19:00,480 --> 00:18:57,820  
was the first thing you think of we won

410  
00:19:04,039 --> 00:19:00,490  
that we are first in space we have our

411  
00:19:08,700 --> 00:19:04,049  
flag is their footprint on the moon and

412  
00:19:12,120 --> 00:19:08,710  
just how fabulous it was we had had so

413  
00:19:14,250 --> 00:19:12,130

much success there was some apathy I

414

00:19:16,139 --> 00:19:14,260

think even among the employees you know

415

00:19:19,789 --> 00:19:16,149

if things had been kind of routine

416

00:19:25,110 --> 00:19:19,799

where's Apollo 13 kind of woke us up and

417

00:19:26,760 --> 00:19:25,120

there was that risk reward was high high

418

00:19:29,280 --> 00:19:26,770

subject again you know is it really

419

00:19:32,490 --> 00:19:29,290

worth going on you know and

420

00:19:35,040 --> 00:19:32,500

and the people it's the person on the

421

00:19:36,420 --> 00:19:35,050

street you know I think they thought

422

00:19:37,830 --> 00:19:36,430

wouldn't you know is this really worth

423

00:19:41,130 --> 00:19:37,840

it what are we really getting out of

424

00:19:45,030 --> 00:19:41,140

this and my personal opinion is that

425

00:19:48,300 --> 00:19:45,040

NASA was not as good as they should have

426  
00:19:49,650 --> 00:19:48,310  
been in communicating the benefits of

427  
00:19:52,500 --> 00:19:49,660  
the space program

428  
00:19:56,700 --> 00:19:52,510  
even from the launches to tell the

429  
00:20:00,150 --> 00:19:56,710  
ordinary person how this is building to

430  
00:20:03,060 --> 00:20:00,160  
a greater achievement but you know

431  
00:20:06,870 --> 00:20:03,070  
Apollo 11 in my opinion is the greatest

432  
00:20:09,060 --> 00:20:06,880  
American achievement ever if it had not

433  
00:20:11,730 --> 00:20:09,070  
been for dr. around in his Peenemunde

434  
00:20:14,940 --> 00:20:11,740  
a-team we would not have been on the

435  
00:20:17,610 --> 00:20:14,950  
moon in 69 we might have been working on

436  
00:20:18,680 --> 00:20:17,620  
some field of it but we would not have

437  
00:20:21,840 --> 00:20:18,690  
been on the moon

438  
00:20:22,700 --> 00:20:21,850

Huntsville would not have be what it is

439

00:20:29,400 --> 00:20:22,710

today

440

00:20:32,640 --> 00:20:29,410

and employees like me I mean it was my

441

00:20:35,700 --> 00:20:32,650

life I mean I owe him so much to provide

442

00:20:37,650 --> 00:20:35,710

that opportunity to work with them and

443

00:20:41,370 --> 00:20:37,660

own such a mission that was so rewarding

444

00:20:44,690 --> 00:20:41,380

and so rewarding to the country but I

445

00:20:46,770 --> 00:20:44,700

was so grateful because and NASA and

446

00:20:48,990 --> 00:20:46,780

this started with Dawn from Rand you

447

00:20:51,210 --> 00:20:49,000

know there were no limits you know I

448

00:20:53,100 --> 00:20:51,220

mean whatever you can do you you do it

449

00:20:55,650 --> 00:20:53,110

you show us you can do it and you know

450

00:20:57,870 --> 00:20:55,660

you you could get promoted because if

451

00:21:00,090 --> 00:20:57,880

you if you really were sincere and tried

452

00:21:02,100 --> 00:21:00,100

hard and did your job