



# The NACA Centenary

A Symposium on 100 Years of Aerospace Research and Development

1  
00:00:06,309 --> 00:00:03,030  
well good morning and welcome back to

2  
00:00:08,310 --> 00:00:06,319  
our first panel session at the naca uh

3  
00:00:09,110 --> 00:00:08,320  
centennial symposium

4  
00:00:11,030 --> 00:00:09,120  
um

5  
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:11,040  
after that great start which not only

6  
00:00:15,669 --> 00:00:13,200  
got us ahead of schedule slightly but uh

7  
00:00:17,990 --> 00:00:15,679  
also it gave us a great introduction to

8  
00:00:19,269 --> 00:00:18,000  
the nac model of research

9  
00:00:21,029 --> 00:00:19,279  
we're actually going to take a step

10  
00:00:22,790 --> 00:00:21,039  
backward for the next hour and a half

11  
00:00:25,109 --> 00:00:22,800  
for the rest of the morning here and

12  
00:00:27,269 --> 00:00:25,119  
look at setting the stage

13  
00:00:29,109 --> 00:00:27,279

the time before the naca happened and

14

00:00:31,910 --> 00:00:29,119

things that fed into the development of

15

00:00:33,990 --> 00:00:31,920

the naca and how it came about we've got

16

00:00:35,830 --> 00:00:34,000

three really interesting papers today by

17

00:00:37,190 --> 00:00:35,840

three great researchers

18

00:00:39,670 --> 00:00:37,200

and

19

00:00:40,869 --> 00:00:39,680

we'll start with simmons short

20

00:00:42,630 --> 00:00:40,879

simmon actually has an engineering

21

00:00:44,150 --> 00:00:42,640

background before she became an aviation

22

00:00:45,430 --> 00:00:44,160

researcher and historian so she knows of

23

00:00:46,869 --> 00:00:45,440

what she speaks when she talks about

24

00:00:49,510 --> 00:00:46,879

engineering

25

00:00:50,389 --> 00:00:49,520

she's also the co-editor of bungee cord

26

00:00:52,150 --> 00:00:50,399

which

27

00:00:55,270 --> 00:00:52,160

is the vintage sailplane association

28

00:00:57,029 --> 00:00:55,280

magazine which i actually have read so

29

00:00:58,470 --> 00:00:57,039

it's a small circulation magazine but

30

00:00:59,750 --> 00:00:58,480

well worth reading if you're interested

31

00:01:01,910 --> 00:00:59,760

in sail planes

32

00:01:04,229 --> 00:01:01,920

uh and uh her latest book is called

33

00:01:06,469 --> 00:01:04,239

locomotive to aeromotive octave chinoot

34

00:01:08,310 --> 00:01:06,479

and the transportation revolution uh

35

00:01:09,270 --> 00:01:08,320

octave chinook's a specialty version

36

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:09,280

that's what she's going to be talking

37

00:01:12,870 --> 00:01:10,960

about for us this morning

38

00:01:15,350 --> 00:01:12,880

flight not improbable octave chanute

39

00:01:23,270 --> 00:01:15,360

tackles aeronautics as a civil engineer

40

00:01:23,280 --> 00:01:28,230

do i move forward

41

00:01:32,630 --> 00:01:31,030

i'm reasonably reasonably sure that i do

42

00:01:35,030 --> 00:01:32,640

not have to

43

00:01:37,270 --> 00:01:35,040

explain the name of the person that i'm

44

00:01:38,950 --> 00:01:37,280

going to be talking about but i am

45

00:01:41,830 --> 00:01:38,960

hoping that i will bring you a few

46

00:01:45,429 --> 00:01:41,840

things that you may not know

47

00:01:47,510 --> 00:01:45,439

you all know the united states capital

48

00:01:49,990 --> 00:01:47,520

are you aware of the fact that there's a

49

00:01:53,109 --> 00:01:50,000

freeze around the top

50

00:01:56,069 --> 00:01:53,119

that shows the painting of

51  
00:01:59,109 --> 00:01:56,079  
what made who may all help make the

52  
00:02:01,109 --> 00:01:59,119  
united states what it is

53  
00:02:04,230 --> 00:02:01,119  
and the last picture on the freeze is

54  
00:02:07,190 --> 00:02:04,240  
the develop the birth of aviation

55  
00:02:09,669 --> 00:02:07,200  
and i don't have a pointer but

56  
00:02:14,070 --> 00:02:09,679  
it's just da vinci on the left-hand side

57  
00:02:16,070 --> 00:02:14,080  
langley and sanut and wilbur and orwell

58  
00:02:17,670 --> 00:02:16,080  
and i wondered what made him such a

59  
00:02:22,229 --> 00:02:17,680  
pivotal person in the quest for

60  
00:02:24,470 --> 00:02:23,670  
okay machine

61  
00:02:26,470 --> 00:02:24,480  
okay

62  
00:02:29,030 --> 00:02:26,480  
after chanut finished high school he had

63  
00:02:30,229 --> 00:02:29,040

to be deciding what he wanted to do with

64

00:02:32,470 --> 00:02:30,239

his future

65

00:02:33,509 --> 00:02:32,480

he had two choices help dig the area

66

00:02:37,350 --> 00:02:33,519

canal

67

00:02:39,270 --> 00:02:37,360

or help build railroads and he decided

68

00:02:41,670 --> 00:02:39,280

building railroads is probably more a

69

00:02:44,630 --> 00:02:41,680

gentleman job than digging in the mud in

70

00:02:46,790 --> 00:02:44,640

the railroad in the airy canal

71

00:02:49,110 --> 00:02:46,800

but at that time of course nobody knew

72

00:02:53,190 --> 00:02:49,120

which was the choice

73

00:02:57,270 --> 00:02:53,200

of progress in the united states

74

00:03:00,229 --> 00:02:57,280

in 1853 chanute came to illinois with a

75

00:03:01,030 --> 00:03:00,239

strong hope that he would make himself a

76

00:03:06,229 --> 00:03:01,040

name

77

00:03:11,110 --> 00:03:08,229

he helped lay out the road between

78

00:03:14,470 --> 00:03:11,120

chicago and between joliet and lake

79

00:03:18,070 --> 00:03:14,480

station and the purpose was to avoid

80

00:03:21,270 --> 00:03:18,080

paying taxes to the city of chicago

81

00:03:24,070 --> 00:03:21,280

the next job was a chicago alton

82

00:03:26,229 --> 00:03:24,080

and then what made him now as a real

83

00:03:29,270 --> 00:03:26,239

civil engineer he became the chief

84

00:03:32,390 --> 00:03:29,280

engineer of the peoria and aquaculture

85

00:03:37,270 --> 00:03:32,400

going from peru to the indiana state

86

00:03:40,630 --> 00:03:39,350

boston and west had heard

87

00:03:43,990 --> 00:03:40,640

about

88

00:03:46,229 --> 00:03:44,000

cent and how he did the

89

00:03:49,190 --> 00:03:46,239

union will and

90

00:03:52,070 --> 00:03:49,200

the stockyard in chicago they hired him

91

00:03:55,830 --> 00:03:52,080

for five thousand dollars to build

92

00:03:59,110 --> 00:03:55,840

a railroad across the united states that

93

00:04:01,509 --> 00:03:59,120

would not require transferring the train

94

00:04:03,990 --> 00:04:01,519

and ferry it over the missouri

95

00:04:05,910 --> 00:04:04,000

they wanted a bridge

96

00:04:09,270 --> 00:04:05,920

that's the bridge in kansas city and

97

00:04:12,309 --> 00:04:09,280

i've always found it kind of interesting

98

00:04:15,589 --> 00:04:12,319

when people in the 1860s and 1870s

99

00:04:18,870 --> 00:04:15,599

talked about progress they put in lots

100

00:04:21,189 --> 00:04:18,880

of smoke and black steam and whatever

101

00:04:24,070 --> 00:04:21,199

was needed to show that

102

00:04:26,150 --> 00:04:24,080

this is progress

103

00:04:28,710 --> 00:04:26,160

but this bridge was the very first one

104

00:04:30,950 --> 00:04:28,720

and basically opened up the road to the

105

00:04:32,870 --> 00:04:30,960

west

106

00:04:34,150 --> 00:04:32,880

and that's the bridge and the three

107

00:04:35,909 --> 00:04:34,160

engineers

108

00:04:38,790 --> 00:04:35,919

and i always thought it was kind of

109

00:04:41,270 --> 00:04:38,800

interesting that the lawrence kansas

110

00:04:44,070 --> 00:04:41,280

paper called it all things considered

111

00:04:51,270 --> 00:04:44,080

this bridge is the most splendid triumph

112

00:04:57,270 --> 00:04:54,469

the various forces of nature always

113

00:04:59,590 --> 00:04:57,280

challenged engineers civil engineers

114

00:05:01,590 --> 00:04:59,600

and the kinzu bridge in pennsylvania was

115

00:05:04,070 --> 00:05:01,600

just such a bridge

116

00:05:06,550 --> 00:05:04,080

that was a little bit

117

00:05:09,029 --> 00:05:06,560

trying to tackle all the problems that a

118

00:05:09,830 --> 00:05:09,039

civil engineer had to handle when

119

00:05:13,110 --> 00:05:09,840

they're

120

00:05:16,390 --> 00:05:13,120

dabbling with mother nature

121

00:05:19,590 --> 00:05:16,400

the bridge was built in three months

122

00:05:21,749 --> 00:05:19,600

it was 301 feet high

123

00:05:24,790 --> 00:05:21,759

and 2 000 feet long

124

00:05:26,150 --> 00:05:24,800

and was for a decade the longest and the

125

00:05:27,909 --> 00:05:26,160

highest bridge

126

00:05:30,070 --> 00:05:27,919

in the whole world

127

00:05:31,350 --> 00:05:30,080

the bridge collapsed about a decade

128

00:05:32,629 --> 00:05:31,360

earlier

129

00:05:34,629 --> 00:05:32,639

from today

130

00:05:37,749 --> 00:05:34,639

and it was the

131

00:05:39,909 --> 00:05:37,759

cups that held the foundation to the

132

00:05:43,990 --> 00:05:39,919

to the concrete blocks that chanutz

133

00:05:48,710 --> 00:05:46,870

chinoot's philosophy was rather simple

134

00:05:50,870 --> 00:05:48,720

the busy men who are developing this

135

00:05:53,510 --> 00:05:50,880

country have to keep up with new

136

00:05:55,430 --> 00:05:53,520

discoveries and progress

137

00:05:57,830 --> 00:05:55,440

and the engineers also owed to

138

00:06:00,469 --> 00:05:57,840

themselves to acquaint others with

139

00:06:02,950 --> 00:06:00,479

whatever new facts they have acquired

140

00:06:09,189 --> 00:06:02,960

outside of the routine profession

141

00:06:15,029 --> 00:06:11,749

shannon became interested in

142

00:06:16,870 --> 00:06:15,039

aviation but it was kind of a tacky

143

00:06:18,710 --> 00:06:16,880

situation because

144

00:06:20,870 --> 00:06:18,720

most people thought people that are

145

00:06:22,309 --> 00:06:20,880

interested in aviation and flying are a

146

00:06:24,309 --> 00:06:22,319

little crazy

147

00:06:26,390 --> 00:06:24,319

therefore he decided to become the us

148

00:06:28,230 --> 00:06:26,400

delegate in paris

149

00:06:30,710 --> 00:06:28,240

because he was sure that none of the

150

00:06:32,870 --> 00:06:30,720

neighbors would find out about it and

151  
00:06:34,390 --> 00:06:32,880  
nobody would point fingers at his family

152  
00:06:36,469 --> 00:06:34,400  
in the grocery store

153  
00:06:39,270 --> 00:06:36,479  
and at that meeting he also met gustav

154  
00:06:42,150 --> 00:06:39,280  
aiple and had started the good working

155  
00:06:47,029 --> 00:06:44,550  
a friend of chanute was matthias fawning

156  
00:06:49,350 --> 00:06:47,039  
he bought the american railroad journal

157  
00:06:51,350 --> 00:06:49,360  
and he wanted to expand his leadership

158  
00:06:55,589 --> 00:06:51,360  
he suggested to chanute to write

159  
00:06:58,309 --> 00:06:55,599  
articles about the progress of aviation

160  
00:07:00,950 --> 00:06:58,319  
the 27 articles were then published as a

161  
00:07:03,110 --> 00:07:00,960  
book form in book format

162  
00:07:06,230 --> 00:07:03,120  
and there's no question about it it

163  
00:07:08,230 --> 00:07:06,240

became the must read to anybody who was

164

00:07:11,189 --> 00:07:08,240

interested in aviation

165

00:07:14,150 --> 00:07:11,199

and in this book chanut also formalized

166

00:07:16,469 --> 00:07:14,160

the words aeroplane lift drag

167

00:07:18,710 --> 00:07:16,479

and aeronautical engineer

168

00:07:20,230 --> 00:07:18,720

and we all use these words all the time

169

00:07:22,469 --> 00:07:20,240

now

170

00:07:25,270 --> 00:07:22,479

the conference on aerial navigation in

171

00:07:27,589 --> 00:07:25,280

chicago in 1893

172

00:07:29,749 --> 00:07:27,599

was definitely a groundbreaking

173

00:07:31,909 --> 00:07:29,759

conference

174

00:07:33,270 --> 00:07:31,919

and the discussion that followed each of

175

00:07:34,230 --> 00:07:33,280

the papers

176  
00:07:37,830 --> 00:07:34,240  
was

177  
00:07:40,150 --> 00:07:37,840  
very exciting and brought out new people

178  
00:07:42,710 --> 00:07:40,160  
and new topics

179  
00:07:45,110 --> 00:07:42,720  
and what was important is that chanute

180  
00:07:47,670 --> 00:07:45,120  
was working with a team of western

181  
00:07:50,390 --> 00:07:47,680  
society of civil engineers

182  
00:07:51,589 --> 00:07:50,400  
and approved each paper

183  
00:07:53,350 --> 00:07:51,599  
if it was

184  
00:07:55,670 --> 00:07:53,360  
a good paper or if it would have been

185  
00:07:57,990 --> 00:07:55,680  
better off not to be included because

186  
00:08:01,110 --> 00:07:58,000  
they were concerned about being called

187  
00:08:06,390 --> 00:08:03,670  
and that conference chanut also

188  
00:08:07,670 --> 00:08:06,400

determined or made it known that

189

00:08:09,110 --> 00:08:07,680

aviation

190

00:08:12,230 --> 00:08:09,120

is actually

191

00:08:14,070 --> 00:08:12,240

ten different problems that have to be

192

00:08:16,150 --> 00:08:14,080

combined into one

193

00:08:18,309 --> 00:08:16,160

which is good for a civil engineer

194

00:08:19,430 --> 00:08:18,319

because a civil engineer ought to be

195

00:08:22,390 --> 00:08:19,440

able to

196

00:08:23,990 --> 00:08:22,400

use his common sense on top of his

197

00:08:25,749 --> 00:08:24,000

knowledge

198

00:08:28,469 --> 00:08:25,759

and these are the ten

199

00:08:33,190 --> 00:08:28,479

solutions that he assumed were an

200

00:08:35,430 --> 00:08:33,200

absolutely necessity to be figuring out

201  
00:08:37,430 --> 00:08:35,440  
and the maintenance of the equilibrium

202  
00:08:38,630 --> 00:08:37,440  
number seven he thought was the most

203  
00:08:40,790 --> 00:08:38,640  
important

204  
00:08:46,949 --> 00:08:40,800  
and i thought it was kind of cute that

205  
00:08:51,350 --> 00:08:48,790  
not really knowing what makes an

206  
00:08:53,910 --> 00:08:51,360  
airplane fly or if it flies and how it

207  
00:08:57,430 --> 00:08:53,920  
flies he was watching the seagulls and

208  
00:09:00,070 --> 00:08:57,440  
admired how they were turning and flight

209  
00:09:02,630 --> 00:09:00,080  
as a civil engineer he assumed it would

210  
00:09:03,750 --> 00:09:02,640  
be the same as a railroad on a on a

211  
00:09:05,829 --> 00:09:03,760  
curve

212  
00:09:08,949 --> 00:09:05,839  
and therefore he thought that one way or

213  
00:09:11,030 --> 00:09:08,959

another the new airplane should be

214

00:09:13,590 --> 00:09:11,040

handled that the

215

00:09:18,070 --> 00:09:13,600

wings should be lower on one side and

216

00:09:20,150 --> 00:09:18,080

maybe a break or something like that

217

00:09:22,710 --> 00:09:20,160

the newt began corresponding with

218

00:09:25,350 --> 00:09:22,720

mollyart in 1890

219

00:09:27,430 --> 00:09:25,360

and too late two years later they

220

00:09:28,790 --> 00:09:27,440

applied for patent

221

00:09:32,070 --> 00:09:28,800

including

222

00:09:34,389 --> 00:09:32,080

how to turn the flying machine around

223

00:09:36,630 --> 00:09:34,399

like applying a break to one wing and

224

00:09:39,990 --> 00:09:36,640

going around the curve

225

00:09:44,070 --> 00:09:42,389

aerial navigation was simply an

226

00:09:46,790 --> 00:09:44,080

engineering problem

227

00:09:49,990 --> 00:09:46,800

and for sunu to reach his personal goal

228

00:09:52,310 --> 00:09:50,000

he had to experiment with flying machine

229

00:09:54,389 --> 00:09:52,320

but how do you do that

230

00:09:56,870 --> 00:09:54,399

he came up with three different wing

231

00:09:59,030 --> 00:09:56,880

shapes and asked augustus hearing to

232

00:10:01,750 --> 00:09:59,040

build them and then test them

233

00:10:03,990 --> 00:10:01,760

and he suggested to use a bicycle and

234

00:10:05,030 --> 00:10:04,000

then take a straight road and

235

00:10:12,069 --> 00:10:05,040

to

236

00:10:15,829 --> 00:10:12,079

but he chanut also read about uttar lil

237

00:10:16,630 --> 00:10:15,839

natal and had this particular pamphlet

238

00:10:19,670 --> 00:10:16,640

which

239

00:10:21,910 --> 00:10:19,680

showed how a flying machine ought to be

240

00:10:25,910 --> 00:10:21,920

built

241

00:10:28,470 --> 00:10:25,920

the newt learned from this gentleman

242

00:10:30,230 --> 00:10:28,480

and put down the points that he thought

243

00:10:32,150 --> 00:10:30,240

he learned

244

00:10:33,829 --> 00:10:32,160

and this piece of paper is in the

245

00:10:35,910 --> 00:10:33,839

library of congress and if you look at

246

00:10:39,030 --> 00:10:35,920

the very bottom one

247

00:10:41,110 --> 00:10:39,040

he says there's no mystery about flight

248

00:10:43,350 --> 00:10:41,120

and then see the footnote about the

249

00:10:45,990 --> 00:10:43,360

goose i have no idea what he means with

250

00:10:49,590 --> 00:10:46,000

that but i thought it's kind of cute

251

00:10:51,990 --> 00:10:49,600

after all he was just a human being

252

00:10:55,750 --> 00:10:52,000

the dunes along the southern shore of

253

00:10:58,550 --> 00:10:55,760

lake michigan seemed perfect and remote

254

00:11:01,750 --> 00:10:58,560

for experimenting with colitis

255

00:11:02,949 --> 00:11:01,760

and he came in the june to to fly at

256

00:11:05,430 --> 00:11:02,959

millers

257

00:11:07,670 --> 00:11:05,440

and then in august september in dune

258

00:11:09,670 --> 00:11:07,680

park a little bit further up

259

00:11:11,350 --> 00:11:09,680

for the up north that's what the dune

260

00:11:14,710 --> 00:11:11,360

country looked like

261

00:11:16,150 --> 00:11:14,720

in 1896 the dunes are about a hundred

262

00:11:19,910 --> 00:11:16,160

feet high

263

00:11:23,269 --> 00:11:19,920

and hardly any civilization

264

00:11:26,230 --> 00:11:23,279

herein's leeland type glider was flown

265

00:11:27,590 --> 00:11:26,240

forth but proved rather cranky

266

00:11:31,829 --> 00:11:27,600

and it broke

267

00:11:37,829 --> 00:11:35,030

body shifting just was too dangerous

268

00:11:40,790 --> 00:11:37,839

and chanut wrote in a in his lecture to

269

00:11:43,190 --> 00:11:40,800

sibley at sibley that the machines have

270

00:11:45,590 --> 00:11:43,200

always come to grief for lack of stable

271

00:11:47,269 --> 00:11:45,600

aquapois which the world can do all the

272

00:11:49,430 --> 00:11:47,279

time

273

00:11:51,590 --> 00:11:49,440

simply without assured equilibrium

274

00:11:54,150 --> 00:11:51,600

safety is uncertain and without a

275

00:11:56,310 --> 00:11:54,160

reasonable degree of safety flight

276

00:11:59,590 --> 00:11:56,320

whether for pleasure or business is out

277

00:12:03,670 --> 00:12:01,590

chanut incorporated his knowledge and

278

00:12:05,269 --> 00:12:03,680

bridge building and the research that he

279

00:12:06,389 --> 00:12:05,279

did for the book progress and flying

280

00:12:07,590 --> 00:12:06,399

machine

281

00:12:10,230 --> 00:12:07,600

and used

282

00:12:11,829 --> 00:12:10,240

francis oneham's glider as a starting

283

00:12:13,750 --> 00:12:11,839

point

284

00:12:16,150 --> 00:12:13,760

what is interesting is you to see the

285

00:12:19,269 --> 00:12:16,160

picture on the right on the left hand

286

00:12:22,389 --> 00:12:19,279

side chanut sent that to wenham

287

00:12:25,269 --> 00:12:22,399

and basically asked for his approval

288

00:12:27,110 --> 00:12:25,279

always working with other people and

289

00:12:29,910 --> 00:12:27,120

just you can't just do everything by

290

00:12:34,550 --> 00:12:33,350

in the next half a few months

291

00:12:37,430 --> 00:12:34,560

chanut

292

00:12:39,990 --> 00:12:37,440

altered the glider architecture in the

293

00:12:41,910 --> 00:12:40,000

step-by-step process to ascertain the

294

00:12:44,310 --> 00:12:41,920

most efficient grouping

295

00:12:47,590 --> 00:12:44,320

of the wings to achieve maximum lift and

296

00:12:51,910 --> 00:12:49,190

because many of the pictures are a

297

00:12:53,990 --> 00:12:51,920

little bit odd at least for if you don't

298

00:12:56,230 --> 00:12:54,000

really know what you're looking for a

299

00:12:58,230 --> 00:12:56,240

friend of mine made a drawing and now i

300

00:12:59,910 --> 00:12:58,240

could recognize what he was actually

301  
00:13:01,350 --> 00:12:59,920  
supposed to be showing

302  
00:13:03,590 --> 00:13:01,360  
you see six

303  
00:13:06,069 --> 00:13:03,600  
three sets of two wings

304  
00:13:08,949 --> 00:13:06,079  
and he played with a position of these

305  
00:13:13,350 --> 00:13:11,829  
and not having a wind tunnel as people

306  
00:13:15,910 --> 00:13:13,360  
had a little later

307  
00:13:18,550 --> 00:13:15,920  
he used feather nouns and put them in

308  
00:13:21,190 --> 00:13:18,560  
front of the leading edge and see

309  
00:13:24,389 --> 00:13:21,200  
what the feather downs what how they

310  
00:13:30,790 --> 00:13:24,399  
were flowing over the the wing and

311  
00:13:35,190 --> 00:13:32,790  
he started out with four wings in the

312  
00:13:37,350 --> 00:13:35,200  
front and eight behind

313  
00:13:39,110 --> 00:13:37,360

and found this really easier to handle

314

00:13:43,750 --> 00:13:39,120

than the lily tie

315

00:13:48,870 --> 00:13:45,829

and then he took the upper back wings

316

00:13:50,389 --> 00:13:48,880

off and moved to the front and called it

317

00:13:52,550 --> 00:13:50,399

the katy did

318

00:13:54,790 --> 00:13:52,560

and you can see the five sets of wings

319

00:13:55,829 --> 00:13:54,800

now in the front and the tail and the

320

00:13:58,389 --> 00:13:55,839

back

321

00:14:00,230 --> 00:13:58,399

and the beauty of the katy did was and i

322

00:14:02,629 --> 00:14:00,240

don't know exactly if this was

323

00:14:05,030 --> 00:14:02,639

intentional or not on chanute all the

324

00:14:07,430 --> 00:14:05,040

wing surfaces were the same size

325

00:14:13,189 --> 00:14:07,440

therefore you had a good solid

326

00:14:13,199 --> 00:14:18,790

and here's another picture of the did

327

00:14:23,590 --> 00:14:20,230

and the

328

00:14:26,470 --> 00:14:23,600

the best one was by william airway of 78

329

00:14:27,509 --> 00:14:26,480

feet and by herring by 82 and a half

330

00:14:29,269 --> 00:14:27,519

feet

331

00:14:30,870 --> 00:14:29,279

and then they packed up they achieved

332

00:14:33,829 --> 00:14:30,880

what they wanted to achieve and went

333

00:14:35,750 --> 00:14:33,839

back to chicago

334

00:14:38,710 --> 00:14:35,760

a month and a half later

335

00:14:41,350 --> 00:14:38,720

shannon's team went to dune park which

336

00:14:44,710 --> 00:14:41,360

is just a little bit further to the east

337

00:14:45,829 --> 00:14:44,720

a little bit more remote the the dunes

338

00:14:47,110 --> 00:14:45,839

are higher

339

00:14:48,790 --> 00:14:47,120

and also

340

00:14:50,389 --> 00:14:48,800

because they are

341

00:14:52,310 --> 00:14:50,399

like pup shaped

342

00:14:55,430 --> 00:14:52,320

you can catch the north wind a little

343

00:15:01,269 --> 00:14:59,590

the next this machine was a triplane

344

00:15:04,790 --> 00:15:01,279

and there's some of the

345

00:15:06,470 --> 00:15:04,800

engineering numbers that were available

346

00:15:08,069 --> 00:15:06,480

at the library of congress in the

347

00:15:10,150 --> 00:15:08,079

chanute papers

348

00:15:12,949 --> 00:15:10,160

but the bottom ring always got caught in

349

00:15:14,870 --> 00:15:12,959

the sand and therefore it was removed

350

00:15:18,310 --> 00:15:14,880

and then it became

351

00:15:22,629 --> 00:15:20,150

this is probably a little long to read

352

00:15:27,910 --> 00:15:22,639

but it's basically that the sport of

353

00:15:30,710 --> 00:15:27,920

soaring begins in september of 1896.

354

00:15:33,030 --> 00:15:30,720

the reporter from the chicago tribune

355

00:15:35,590 --> 00:15:33,040

wrote one wholly new freak of the air

356

00:15:38,389 --> 00:15:35,600

was experienced by mr herring when his

357

00:15:40,310 --> 00:15:38,399

machine rose was a sudden gust 40 feet

358

00:15:43,030 --> 00:15:40,320

higher than the starting point then

359

00:15:45,590 --> 00:15:43,040

coming to a sudden poise balancing like

360

00:15:47,829 --> 00:15:45,600

a bird swooping at a right angle

361

00:15:50,150 --> 00:15:47,839

traveling a long journey and delighted

362

00:15:54,230 --> 00:15:50,160

grace fully upon the health side

363

00:15:55,430 --> 00:15:54,240

the long journey was about 250 feet

364

00:15:57,110 --> 00:15:55,440

but

365

00:16:00,310 --> 00:15:57,120

just we should mention that that

366

00:16:03,350 --> 00:16:00,320

reporter was allowed to do

367

00:16:05,749 --> 00:16:03,360

his own flight the next day

368

00:16:07,749 --> 00:16:05,759

and so were two other reporters

369

00:16:09,749 --> 00:16:07,759

it was not like he wanted to keep it all

370

00:16:11,590 --> 00:16:09,759

to himself

371

00:16:13,269 --> 00:16:11,600

because most people don't really know

372

00:16:15,110 --> 00:16:13,279

exactly

373

00:16:17,749 --> 00:16:15,120

how many flights were there and there's

374

00:16:19,990 --> 00:16:17,759

no correct number

375

00:16:23,829 --> 00:16:20,000

i'm making the assumption of how many

376

00:16:27,110 --> 00:16:23,839

jumps and flights cheneux did

377

00:16:30,389 --> 00:16:27,120

and chanut clearly differentiates

378

00:16:33,030 --> 00:16:30,399

between a jump and a glide and a flight

379

00:16:37,749 --> 00:16:33,040

but it's about 330 flights were made in

380

00:16:39,509 --> 00:16:37,759

1896 by a variety of people over of

381

00:16:42,629 --> 00:16:39,519

various distances

382

00:16:44,509 --> 00:16:42,639

and the longest flight was by every

383

00:16:48,389 --> 00:16:44,519

oh it's cutting out some of the button

384

00:16:53,430 --> 00:16:48,399

256 flight was everybody watching

385

00:16:56,150 --> 00:16:53,440

and by hearing was almost 360 feet but

386

00:16:58,710 --> 00:16:56,160

in hearing standard fashion nobody was

387

00:17:05,990 --> 00:17:00,870

just to show you that chanute was an

388

00:17:10,549 --> 00:17:08,390

the primitive biplane of chanute

389

00:17:13,110 --> 00:17:10,559

provided better stability and control

390

00:17:16,789 --> 00:17:13,120

than any of its predecessor and it

391

00:17:23,029 --> 00:17:20,390

the leading glider design to start with

392

00:17:26,150 --> 00:17:23,039

and of course people asked

393

00:17:30,710 --> 00:17:26,160

it was weighing 23 pounds only

394

00:17:32,470 --> 00:17:30,720

and had a wingspan of 16 16 feet

395

00:17:35,029 --> 00:17:32,480

some people were wondering could the

396

00:17:37,990 --> 00:17:35,039

chinook glider actually saw

397

00:17:39,430 --> 00:17:38,000

because how else could you fly for 300

398

00:17:40,310 --> 00:17:39,440

some feet

399

00:17:42,789 --> 00:17:40,320

and

400

00:17:46,710 --> 00:17:42,799

I bowers from nasa dryden did the

401  
00:17:50,230 --> 00:17:46,720  
calculation comparing the 1896 chanute

402  
00:17:52,710 --> 00:17:50,240  
glider was a 1902 white glider which was

403  
00:17:55,270 --> 00:17:52,720  
almost the same performance and compared

404  
00:18:00,390 --> 00:17:55,280  
it with a rogallo and a quicksilver

405  
00:18:02,630 --> 00:18:00,400  
the hang gliders of choice in the 1970s

406  
00:18:04,630 --> 00:18:02,640  
so lutz omitted the biplane design for

407  
00:18:06,789 --> 00:18:04,640  
patent in england together was a

408  
00:18:08,310 --> 00:18:06,799  
motorized tripline that tearing wanted

409  
00:18:11,110 --> 00:18:08,320  
patented

410  
00:18:13,270 --> 00:18:11,120  
and yes chanut believed firmly in

411  
00:18:15,669 --> 00:18:13,280  
patenting his ideas

412  
00:18:18,070 --> 00:18:15,679  
because he knew that this was the only

413  
00:18:19,830 --> 00:18:18,080

way to make it known throughout the

414

00:18:22,630 --> 00:18:19,840

world because they didn't have an

415

00:18:24,630 --> 00:18:22,640

internet to do what was being done now

416

00:18:27,510 --> 00:18:24,640

and how else would other people know

417

00:18:29,750 --> 00:18:27,520

about it because everybody received the

418

00:18:34,390 --> 00:18:29,760

information from the patent officers

419

00:18:38,310 --> 00:18:36,150

i thought this statement was kind of

420

00:18:40,789 --> 00:18:38,320

nice it is a prospect of a flying

421

00:18:43,029 --> 00:18:40,799

machine that makes flying worthwhile to

422

00:18:45,590 --> 00:18:43,039

search after it is the effortless

423

00:18:47,430 --> 00:18:45,600

soaring of the conda not the fussy

424

00:18:49,750 --> 00:18:47,440

flapping of the sparrow that must be

425

00:18:52,310 --> 00:18:49,760

taken as a model

426  
00:18:54,230 --> 00:18:52,320  
and in the next decade chanute freely

427  
00:18:56,390 --> 00:18:54,240  
shared this knowledge in hopes that

428  
00:18:58,950 --> 00:18:56,400  
someone just anyone

429  
00:19:03,029 --> 00:18:58,960  
would find the solution to the problem

430  
00:19:06,390 --> 00:19:05,029  
in the next decade

431  
00:19:08,710 --> 00:19:06,400  
his design

432  
00:19:13,270 --> 00:19:08,720  
provided many pilots was a safe starting

433  
00:19:18,230 --> 00:19:16,070  
the 1897 glider the fireball glider the

434  
00:19:19,510 --> 00:19:18,240  
archdeacon glider

435  
00:19:21,590 --> 00:19:19,520  
the white

436  
00:19:25,350 --> 00:19:21,600  
flyer of 1904

437  
00:19:30,630 --> 00:19:25,360  
the aea red wing the kodi airplane and

438  
00:19:30,640 --> 00:19:34,230

and in closing

439

00:19:38,950 --> 00:19:37,029

sunud was always of the dead of progress

440

00:19:41,350 --> 00:19:38,960

he was one of those whom duties and

441

00:19:44,310 --> 00:19:41,360

fought to the fore were unaided and

442

00:19:46,390 --> 00:19:44,320

lonesome they mocked their landmarks and

443

00:19:49,590 --> 00:19:46,400

begging their fellows to follow

444

00:19:51,190 --> 00:19:49,600

and when the world comes up then and not

445

00:19:53,909 --> 00:19:51,200

until then

446

00:19:56,390 --> 00:19:53,919

their landmarks seem to be true and the

447

00:19:59,029 --> 00:19:56,400

labor found to be worthwhile

448

00:20:00,549 --> 00:19:59,039

always it has been a devoted few who

449

00:20:03,350 --> 00:20:00,559

fought the heart

450

00:20:07,029 --> 00:20:03,360

fight of progress one of these few was

451  
00:20:09,270 --> 00:20:07,039  
shinood he belonged to the true nobility

452  
00:20:11,029 --> 00:20:09,280  
of brains

453  
00:20:13,029 --> 00:20:11,039  
and in closing i'd like to show you the

454  
00:20:17,190 --> 00:20:13,039  
plug that the western society of

455  
00:20:19,669 --> 00:20:17,200  
engineer erected in 1936 in the area

456  
00:20:20,630 --> 00:20:19,679  
where the fourth glider flights took

457  
00:20:22,950 --> 00:20:20,640  
place

458  
00:20:24,630 --> 00:20:22,960  
and just called it to shannoud an

459  
00:20:26,470 --> 00:20:24,640  
eminent engineer

460  
00:20:29,750 --> 00:20:26,480  
father of aviation

461  
00:20:32,310 --> 00:20:29,760  
made the first successful

462  
00:20:35,110 --> 00:20:32,320  
flight and heavier than aircraft from

463  
00:20:37,909 --> 00:20:35,120

these dunes in 1896

464

00:20:39,270 --> 00:20:37,919

this boulder was dedicated to him in his

465

00:20:49,830 --> 00:20:39,280

memory

466

00:20:52,549 --> 00:20:51,590

thanks timmy that was great

467

00:20:54,549 --> 00:20:52,559

useful

468

00:20:56,789 --> 00:20:54,559

education about

469

00:20:58,310 --> 00:20:56,799

the very early days

470

00:20:59,510 --> 00:20:58,320

for our next paper we're going to move a

471

00:21:02,630 --> 00:20:59,520

little bit further ahead close to the

472

00:21:04,470 --> 00:21:02,640

beginning of the naca but

473

00:21:06,950 --> 00:21:04,480

what tom krause calls a false start the

474

00:21:09,270 --> 00:21:06,960

langley aerodynamical laboratory 1911

475

00:21:10,710 --> 00:21:09,280

and 1915. now

476

00:21:11,990 --> 00:21:10,720

tom's a guy in this building

477

00:21:13,669 --> 00:21:12,000

particularly probably doesn't need any

478

00:21:15,669 --> 00:21:13,679

introduction at all but i'm going to

479

00:21:17,029 --> 00:21:15,679

give him a little bit one anyway

480

00:21:19,029 --> 00:21:17,039

he's of course the senior curator of

481

00:21:20,549 --> 00:21:19,039

aeronautics here at the smithsonian and

482

00:21:22,470 --> 00:21:20,559

so well known in

483

00:21:23,990 --> 00:21:22,480

the knowledge of early flight that he

484

00:21:25,350 --> 00:21:24,000

was a presidential appointee to the

485

00:21:27,909 --> 00:21:25,360

first flight advisory board for the

486

00:21:30,230 --> 00:21:27,919

centennial flight back in 2003 so

487

00:21:31,510 --> 00:21:30,240

having led that centennial celebration

488

00:21:32,630 --> 00:21:31,520

we've invited him here to talk to us a

489

00:21:45,350 --> 00:21:32,640

little bit about this centennial

490

00:21:45,360 --> 00:21:49,190

thanks bill

491

00:21:54,470 --> 00:21:51,909

those of you who are familiar with the

492

00:21:56,230 --> 00:21:54,480

prehistory of the naca

493

00:21:58,070 --> 00:21:56,240

and i know there are a lot of faces in

494

00:22:00,390 --> 00:21:58,080

the audience who are familiar with the

495

00:22:03,350 --> 00:22:00,400

pre-history of the naca

496

00:22:05,590 --> 00:22:03,360

know what a complicated one might even

497

00:22:09,350 --> 00:22:05,600

say tangled story

498

00:22:13,350 --> 00:22:09,360

it is taking place in a few years with

499

00:22:15,990 --> 00:22:13,360

missteps and and problems and

500

00:22:17,270 --> 00:22:16,000

all sorts of difficulties

501  
00:22:20,149 --> 00:22:17,280  
and

502  
00:22:22,950 --> 00:22:20,159  
to trace those takes a very long paper

503  
00:22:24,830 --> 00:22:22,960  
and i'm never going to be able to get

504  
00:22:27,669 --> 00:22:24,840  
all of that

505  
00:22:29,350 --> 00:22:27,679  
into 20 minutes

506  
00:22:32,470 --> 00:22:29,360  
so

507  
00:22:34,870 --> 00:22:32,480  
i'm going to start with biography

508  
00:22:38,870 --> 00:22:34,880  
the fellow you see on the screen

509  
00:22:42,230 --> 00:22:38,880  
is undeniably the man most responsible

510  
00:22:44,630 --> 00:22:42,240  
for creating the naca

511  
00:22:47,350 --> 00:22:44,640  
charles doolittle walcott

512  
00:22:49,830 --> 00:22:47,360  
he was an extraordinary character sort

513  
00:22:53,110 --> 00:22:49,840

of a forgotten figure today

514

00:22:54,470 --> 00:22:53,120

in the history of american science

515

00:22:57,590 --> 00:22:54,480

but absolutely

516

00:22:58,870 --> 00:22:57,600

the leading manager of science in his

517

00:23:00,149 --> 00:22:58,880

own time

518

00:23:02,149 --> 00:23:00,159

he was

519

00:23:05,350 --> 00:23:02,159

um

520

00:23:07,270 --> 00:23:05,360

a self-trained paleontologist and spent

521

00:23:09,750 --> 00:23:07,280

the early part of his career working for

522

00:23:11,750 --> 00:23:09,760

the geological survey

523

00:23:14,310 --> 00:23:11,760

but he contributed during the course of

524

00:23:16,630 --> 00:23:14,320

his career to the establishment of the

525

00:23:18,950 --> 00:23:16,640

u.s reclamation service

526

00:23:21,029 --> 00:23:18,960

the bureau of mines the forest service

527

00:23:22,870 --> 00:23:21,039

the national park service

528

00:23:25,830 --> 00:23:22,880

he was a charter member of the board of

529

00:23:28,630 --> 00:23:25,840

trustees of the carnegie institution of

530

00:23:31,110 --> 00:23:28,640

washington and helped to establish its

531

00:23:33,350 --> 00:23:31,120

research council he was president of the

532

00:23:34,630 --> 00:23:33,360

american association for the advancement

533

00:23:36,549 --> 00:23:34,640

of science

534

00:23:38,950 --> 00:23:36,559

and led the way to the creation of the

535

00:23:41,029 --> 00:23:38,960

washington academy of science

536

00:23:44,310 --> 00:23:41,039

he was a guiding spirit of the national

537

00:23:46,870 --> 00:23:44,320

academy of science serving as treasurer

538

00:23:49,510 --> 00:23:46,880

a member of the council vice president

539

00:23:53,510 --> 00:23:49,520

and president of that organization

540

00:23:55,909 --> 00:23:53,520

with george hillary hale he helped to

541

00:23:58,070 --> 00:23:55,919

create the national research council

542

00:24:01,269 --> 00:23:58,080

during world war one

543

00:24:03,590 --> 00:24:01,279

he was indeed the leading

544

00:24:06,789 --> 00:24:03,600

administrator of science in his

545

00:24:08,070 --> 00:24:06,799

generation and he was interested in

546

00:24:11,669 --> 00:24:08,080

flight

547

00:24:13,669 --> 00:24:11,679

why should someone like a paleontologist

548

00:24:15,510 --> 00:24:13,679

like charles do little walking be

549

00:24:17,669 --> 00:24:15,520

interested in flight

550

00:24:19,909 --> 00:24:17,679

well for the most part

551  
00:24:21,990 --> 00:24:19,919  
he recognized that

552  
00:24:26,950 --> 00:24:22,000  
there were real problems in american

553  
00:24:29,510 --> 00:24:26,960  
aviation by 1910 1911 12 13 the

554  
00:24:33,269 --> 00:24:29,520  
europeans had forged far ahead of the

555  
00:24:34,390 --> 00:24:33,279  
americans and for the most part that was

556  
00:24:37,350 --> 00:24:34,400  
because

557  
00:24:41,669 --> 00:24:37,360  
of the problem of investment

558  
00:24:44,149 --> 00:24:41,679  
by 1913 the united states was 14th among

559  
00:24:45,269 --> 00:24:44,159  
the world's nations in terms of

560  
00:24:47,830 --> 00:24:45,279  
investment

561  
00:24:50,149 --> 00:24:47,840  
private and public in aviation that

562  
00:24:52,549 --> 00:24:50,159  
meant that countries like chile japan

563  
00:24:55,350 --> 00:24:52,559

and china were investing more money in

564

00:24:58,390 --> 00:24:55,360

aviation than the united states was

565

00:25:00,870 --> 00:24:58,400

and a big part of that was an investment

566

00:25:02,789 --> 00:25:00,880

in aeronautical research

567

00:25:04,950 --> 00:25:02,799

by 1913

568

00:25:08,390 --> 00:25:04,960

the major european countries as we'll

569

00:25:09,750 --> 00:25:08,400

see all had research establishments in

570

00:25:11,830 --> 00:25:09,760

aeronautics

571

00:25:14,390 --> 00:25:11,840

and in particular

572

00:25:16,870 --> 00:25:14,400

walcott like so many others was most

573

00:25:20,710 --> 00:25:16,880

impressed by the british advisory

574

00:25:22,630 --> 00:25:20,720

committee for aeronautics which was

575

00:25:24,070 --> 00:25:22,640

focused at the national physical

576  
00:25:27,990 --> 00:25:24,080  
laboratory

577  
00:25:30,310 --> 00:25:28,000  
but also was in charge of research at

578  
00:25:32,789 --> 00:25:30,320  
the royal aircraft factory at

579  
00:25:35,669 --> 00:25:32,799  
farnborough and other places in england

580  
00:25:37,510 --> 00:25:35,679  
it was a coordinating planning

581  
00:25:39,269 --> 00:25:37,520  
organization that helped to prevent

582  
00:25:43,830 --> 00:25:39,279  
duplication of effort

583  
00:25:50,870 --> 00:25:47,830  
and it really did impress walcott he had

584  
00:25:53,990 --> 00:25:50,880  
his own roots in aeronautics as well his

585  
00:25:56,070 --> 00:25:54,000  
predecessor samuel pierpont langley had

586  
00:25:59,190 --> 00:25:56,080  
conducted his own flying machine

587  
00:26:00,430 --> 00:25:59,200  
experiments beginning in 1887

588  
00:26:03,909 --> 00:26:00,440

and by

589

00:26:06,390 --> 00:26:03,919

1896 may 6 1896

590

00:26:08,950 --> 00:26:06,400

specifically

591

00:26:11,830 --> 00:26:08,960

langley had flown

592

00:26:13,909 --> 00:26:11,840

one of his steam-powered model ear drums

593

00:26:16,470 --> 00:26:13,919

for a distance of three-quarters of a

594

00:26:19,110 --> 00:26:16,480

mile pretty impressive and two years

595

00:26:21,590 --> 00:26:19,120

later during the spanish-american war

596

00:26:23,990 --> 00:26:21,600

langley actually sat down with walcott

597

00:26:25,830 --> 00:26:24,000

who was a close friend told him he'd be

598

00:26:26,950 --> 00:26:25,840

interested in building a full-scale

599

00:26:29,350 --> 00:26:26,960

aerodrome

600

00:26:31,750 --> 00:26:29,360

and it was in fact wildcat who went to

601  
00:26:34,149 --> 00:26:31,760  
president mckinley and then assistant

602  
00:26:37,029 --> 00:26:34,159  
secretary of the navy thomas or theodore

603  
00:26:38,870 --> 00:26:37,039  
roosevelt and convinced them

604  
00:26:43,909 --> 00:26:38,880  
to

605  
00:26:44,950 --> 00:26:43,919  
full-scale eardrum which as all of you

606  
00:26:47,990 --> 00:26:44,960  
know

607  
00:26:52,230 --> 00:26:48,000  
was complete by 1903

608  
00:26:55,510 --> 00:26:52,240  
tried to fly twice and failed twice and

609  
00:26:57,350 --> 00:26:55,520  
it always bothered walcott that langley

610  
00:26:59,029 --> 00:26:57,360  
sort of took it on the chin for the

611  
00:27:01,510 --> 00:26:59,039  
failure of

612  
00:27:04,390 --> 00:27:01,520  
the aerodrum he was always incredibly

613  
00:27:06,310 --> 00:27:04,400

loyal to langley's memory he put a

614

00:27:07,430 --> 00:27:06,320

plaque to langley on the wall of the

615

00:27:09,750 --> 00:27:07,440

castle

616

00:27:12,549 --> 00:27:09,760

at the smithsonian and in washington

617

00:27:14,390 --> 00:27:12,559

every may 6th was langley day the

618

00:27:16,789 --> 00:27:14,400

anniversary of the day when langley had

619

00:27:19,350 --> 00:27:16,799

made the flight with a little model he

620

00:27:24,149 --> 00:27:19,360

established a langley medal that was

621

00:27:28,070 --> 00:27:24,159

given for contributions to aeronautics

622

00:27:29,990 --> 00:27:28,080

he took it so far that as late as 1915

623

00:27:32,710 --> 00:27:30,000

he actually wrote a letter to the

624

00:27:35,590 --> 00:27:32,720

president of the aero club of america

625

00:27:37,830 --> 00:27:35,600

suggesting that since

626  
00:27:40,630 --> 00:27:37,840  
the word zeppelin was being applied to

627  
00:27:43,269 --> 00:27:40,640  
all rigid airships these days

628  
00:27:45,990 --> 00:27:43,279  
maybe we could apply the world langley

629  
00:27:48,070 --> 00:27:46,000  
to all heavier-than-air flying machines

630  
00:27:50,870 --> 00:27:48,080  
and i think it was only partly

631  
00:27:53,110 --> 00:27:50,880  
tongue-in-cheek he really was dedicated

632  
00:27:55,590 --> 00:27:53,120  
to the memory of

633  
00:27:59,110 --> 00:27:55,600  
of samuel langley and that was one of

634  
00:28:00,830 --> 00:27:59,120  
the reasons why he took up the cause of

635  
00:28:02,389 --> 00:28:00,840  
aeronautical

636  
00:28:03,269 --> 00:28:02,399  
research

637  
00:28:05,669 --> 00:28:03,279  
on

638  
00:28:08,389 --> 00:28:05,679

february 25th 1910

639

00:28:12,149 --> 00:28:08,399

walcott wrote to albert francis zom

640

00:28:14,389 --> 00:28:12,159

whose picture is on the screen now a

641

00:28:15,669 --> 00:28:14,399

professor of mechanics at catholic

642

00:28:18,470 --> 00:28:15,679

university

643

00:28:20,950 --> 00:28:18,480

and walcott told zom that

644

00:28:23,590 --> 00:28:20,960

the smithsonian had five thousand

645

00:28:26,710 --> 00:28:23,600

dollars that they weren't quite sure

646

00:28:29,909 --> 00:28:26,720

what to do with and he was asking zom

647

00:28:32,310 --> 00:28:29,919

for advice as to what particular line of

648

00:28:33,110 --> 00:28:32,320

aeronautical research the institution

649

00:28:34,710 --> 00:28:33,120

could

650

00:28:36,389 --> 00:28:34,720

profitably

651

00:28:39,350 --> 00:28:36,399

undertake

652

00:28:41,669 --> 00:28:39,360

he said that my own idea of the matter

653

00:28:45,029 --> 00:28:41,679

is to use it for the investigation of

654

00:28:46,950 --> 00:28:45,039

some definite problems or problems

655

00:28:50,630 --> 00:28:46,960

that would be a practical importance for

656

00:28:52,470 --> 00:28:50,640

aerial navigation and to promptly

657

00:28:55,909 --> 00:28:52,480

publish the results

658

00:28:59,909 --> 00:28:55,919

he went to zom because zom

659

00:29:02,789 --> 00:28:59,919

had a long history in aeronautics simon

660

00:29:05,430 --> 00:29:02,799

short just mentioned the fact that he

661

00:29:08,870 --> 00:29:05,440

with octave chanut had planned the

662

00:29:10,149 --> 00:29:08,880

chicago conference in 1893

663

00:29:12,789 --> 00:29:10,159

at the

664

00:29:15,909 --> 00:29:12,799

world's colombian exposition he was a

665

00:29:18,149 --> 00:29:15,919

notre dame graduate bs

666

00:29:21,750 --> 00:29:18,159

cornell graduate with a masters in

667

00:29:23,350 --> 00:29:21,760

engineering and a hopkins graduate 1898

668

00:29:26,870 --> 00:29:23,360

with a phd

669

00:29:29,190 --> 00:29:26,880

in physics as early as his notre dame

670

00:29:32,389 --> 00:29:29,200

career he was making experiments with

671

00:29:36,070 --> 00:29:32,399

flying models and testing a glider on

672

00:29:38,950 --> 00:29:36,080

what we would call a zip line today

673

00:29:41,510 --> 00:29:38,960

as a graduate student at cornell he was

674

00:29:43,669 --> 00:29:41,520

doing pioneering wind tunnel work with a

675

00:29:45,029 --> 00:29:43,679

testing with a variety of instruments

676  
00:29:47,029 --> 00:29:45,039  
and so on

677  
00:29:49,669 --> 00:29:47,039  
and while completing his doctorate work

678  
00:29:51,350 --> 00:29:49,679  
at hopkins he had actually accepted a

679  
00:29:55,510 --> 00:29:51,360  
post-it catholic

680  
00:29:59,830 --> 00:29:55,520  
where he would remain until 1913.

681  
00:30:01,430 --> 00:29:59,840  
and it was in 1899 when an angel sort of

682  
00:30:03,590 --> 00:30:01,440  
knocked on his door

683  
00:30:04,870 --> 00:30:03,600  
in the person of a fellow named hugo

684  
00:30:06,789 --> 00:30:04,880  
moodilov

685  
00:30:10,310 --> 00:30:06,799  
moodileth was a flying machine

686  
00:30:11,750 --> 00:30:10,320  
experimenter who had a notion for really

687  
00:30:14,310 --> 00:30:11,760  
a pretty

688  
00:30:15,909 --> 00:30:14,320

incredible elephantine kind of flying

689

00:30:18,310 --> 00:30:15,919

machine that was never going to get off

690

00:30:20,310 --> 00:30:18,320

the ground but he had a lot of money and

691

00:30:23,110 --> 00:30:20,320

he was willing to invest it in

692

00:30:25,110 --> 00:30:23,120

aeronautical research and part of the

693

00:30:27,909 --> 00:30:25,120

money went to build this building on the

694

00:30:31,269 --> 00:30:27,919

catholic university campus it was the

695

00:30:34,230 --> 00:30:31,279

first aeronautical engineering research

696

00:30:37,909 --> 00:30:34,240

separate building in the united states

697

00:30:40,310 --> 00:30:37,919

and as part of it zom was able to build

698

00:30:42,630 --> 00:30:40,320

the first really large wind tunnel in

699

00:30:44,549 --> 00:30:42,640

the united states one of the largest in

700

00:30:45,510 --> 00:30:44,559

the world at the time

701  
00:30:47,750 --> 00:30:45,520  
and

702  
00:30:51,190 --> 00:30:47,760  
conducted all sorts of fairly

703  
00:30:55,029 --> 00:30:51,200  
sophisticated aerodynamic tests of

704  
00:30:57,430 --> 00:30:55,039  
various sorts mostly relating to

705  
00:30:59,590 --> 00:30:57,440  
relating to drag

706  
00:31:00,710 --> 00:30:59,600  
so

707  
00:31:02,710 --> 00:31:00,720  
he was

708  
00:31:05,350 --> 00:31:02,720  
a natural

709  
00:31:07,509 --> 00:31:05,360  
person for

710  
00:31:10,470 --> 00:31:07,519  
walkett to turn to

711  
00:31:12,789 --> 00:31:10,480  
in the spring of 1911

712  
00:31:15,509 --> 00:31:12,799  
the aero club of the aeronautical

713  
00:31:16,630 --> 00:31:15,519

society of new york announced that they

714

00:31:19,830 --> 00:31:16,640

were

715

00:31:22,710 --> 00:31:19,840

making uh arrangements for a big banquet

716

00:31:26,789 --> 00:31:22,720

in new york on april 27th and on that

717

00:31:29,590 --> 00:31:26,799

occasion they were going to announce uh

718

00:31:32,470 --> 00:31:29,600

the creation of a national aeronautical

719

00:31:35,509 --> 00:31:32,480

laboratory and the papers picked up the

720

00:31:38,389 --> 00:31:35,519

story and in most of the accounts the

721

00:31:40,549 --> 00:31:38,399

smithsonian was always involved

722

00:31:43,909 --> 00:31:40,559

in one way or another

723

00:31:45,750 --> 00:31:43,919

the military services weren't happy

724

00:31:47,669 --> 00:31:45,760

about it in particular

725

00:31:51,430 --> 00:31:47,679

the folks at the navy yard where they

726  
00:31:53,669 --> 00:31:51,440  
were constructing hydrodynamic tests and

727  
00:31:55,389 --> 00:31:53,679  
communicated to the secretary of the

728  
00:31:57,750 --> 00:31:55,399  
navy that gosh

729  
00:32:00,310 --> 00:31:57,760  
hydrodynamics and aerodynamics are

730  
00:32:02,630 --> 00:32:00,320  
obviously connected that's the kind of

731  
00:32:05,350 --> 00:32:02,640  
thing we could take part in

732  
00:32:06,230 --> 00:32:05,360  
talk to the president mr secretary

733  
00:32:07,990 --> 00:32:06,240  
and

734  
00:32:10,710 --> 00:32:08,000  
make sure this thing gets off on the

735  
00:32:13,269 --> 00:32:10,720  
right foot well perhaps as a result of

736  
00:32:16,149 --> 00:32:13,279  
that president taft didn't announce the

737  
00:32:19,110 --> 00:32:16,159  
creation of a laboratory but

738  
00:32:22,149 --> 00:32:19,120

secretary walcott in his remarks that

739

00:32:23,830 --> 00:32:22,159

that evening stood up and talked about

740

00:32:26,070 --> 00:32:23,840

the

741

00:32:27,830 --> 00:32:26,080

importance of creating a laboratory like

742

00:32:30,870 --> 00:32:27,840

the british advisory committee for

743

00:32:32,630 --> 00:32:30,880

aeronautics creating a committee

744

00:32:34,549 --> 00:32:32,640

like the british committee that would

745

00:32:37,269 --> 00:32:34,559

take care of duplication of effort

746

00:32:40,070 --> 00:32:37,279

between the army and the navy and other

747

00:32:42,710 --> 00:32:40,080

folks and simply said why not an

748

00:32:44,549 --> 00:32:42,720

advisory committee on aerial locomotion

749

00:32:46,389 --> 00:32:44,559

appointed by the president of the united

750

00:32:48,789 --> 00:32:46,399

states which would embrace

751  
00:32:50,310 --> 00:32:48,799  
representatives of the department's

752  
00:32:51,990 --> 00:32:50,320  
army navy

753  
00:32:53,190 --> 00:32:52,000  
the weather bureau the bureau of

754  
00:32:55,350 --> 00:32:53,200  
standards

755  
00:32:59,750 --> 00:32:55,360  
and so on so forth

756  
00:33:03,269 --> 00:32:59,760  
it didn't go anywhere immediately

757  
00:33:06,549 --> 00:33:03,279  
until 1912 when this fellow washington

758  
00:33:09,430 --> 00:33:06,559  
irving chambers picked up the notion and

759  
00:33:13,110 --> 00:33:09,440  
in an appendix to the annual report of

760  
00:33:14,789 --> 00:33:13,120  
the secretary of the navy for 1912.

761  
00:33:15,669 --> 00:33:14,799  
chambers did a

762  
00:33:54,149 --> 00:33:15,679  
a

763  
00:33:55,750 --> 00:33:54,159

suggestion

764

00:33:58,870 --> 00:33:55,760

went to the president

765

00:34:02,549 --> 00:33:58,880

and in fact in

766

00:34:05,990 --> 00:34:02,559

december of 1912 suggested that a

767

00:34:08,069 --> 00:34:06,000

an advisory a study panel be created

768

00:34:10,629 --> 00:34:08,079

looking at the the possibility of an

769

00:34:12,550 --> 00:34:10,639

american aeronautical research

770

00:34:15,349 --> 00:34:12,560

organization

771

00:34:17,349 --> 00:34:15,359

the president appointed 19 people to the

772

00:34:19,109 --> 00:34:17,359

commission which came to be called the

773

00:34:21,669 --> 00:34:19,119

woodward commission because it was

774

00:34:24,230 --> 00:34:21,679

headed by r.s woodward who was the

775

00:34:26,790 --> 00:34:24,240

president of the carnegie institution

776

00:34:29,750 --> 00:34:26,800

and the members included walcott and zom

777

00:34:31,669 --> 00:34:29,760

naval officers army officers leading

778

00:34:33,990 --> 00:34:31,679

academics and

779

00:34:35,349 --> 00:34:34,000

the usual government suspects weather

780

00:34:38,950 --> 00:34:35,359

bureau and

781

00:34:40,790 --> 00:34:38,960

and so on and so forth

782

00:34:43,990 --> 00:34:40,800

they met three times the woodward

783

00:34:47,030 --> 00:34:44,000

commission in january and february of

784

00:34:49,430 --> 00:34:47,040

1912 and with only two dissenting votes

785

00:34:51,829 --> 00:34:49,440

the commission recommended the creation

786

00:34:54,790 --> 00:34:51,839

of a laboratory again

787

00:34:57,190 --> 00:34:54,800

located at the smithsonian there were

788

00:34:58,470 --> 00:34:57,200

two dissenters one of them richard

789

00:35:02,390 --> 00:34:58,480

mclaren

790

00:35:04,630 --> 00:35:02,400

who was the president of mit

791

00:35:07,670 --> 00:35:04,640

suggested the obvious problem that the

792

00:35:10,390 --> 00:35:07,680

smithsonian no longer had a strong

793

00:35:12,870 --> 00:35:10,400

engineering lab or tradition

794

00:35:14,710 --> 00:35:12,880

and such a an aeronautical laboratory

795

00:35:17,670 --> 00:35:14,720

ought to be connected to a university

796

00:35:18,870 --> 00:35:17,680

with just such talent experience and

797

00:35:22,390 --> 00:35:18,880

equipment

798

00:35:25,109 --> 00:35:22,400

david w taylor on the left

799

00:35:29,190 --> 00:35:25,119

was a dissenter as well he actually

800

00:35:31,910 --> 00:35:29,200

referred the chambers as a cat's paw of

801  
00:35:35,030 --> 00:35:31,920  
charles doolittle walcott clearly he saw

802  
00:35:36,710 --> 00:35:35,040  
walcott as the figure that was pushing

803  
00:35:37,910 --> 00:35:36,720  
all of this stuff

804  
00:35:41,270 --> 00:35:37,920  
and

805  
00:35:44,470 --> 00:35:41,280  
again argued that the smithsonian was

806  
00:35:46,950 --> 00:35:44,480  
not the best place to establish

807  
00:35:49,190 --> 00:35:46,960  
such a such a library

808  
00:35:50,790 --> 00:35:49,200  
the the

809  
00:35:51,829 --> 00:35:50,800  
members of the commission or some of

810  
00:35:54,310 --> 00:35:51,839  
them

811  
00:35:57,510 --> 00:35:54,320  
actually

812  
00:35:59,670 --> 00:35:57,520  
put in legislation first to create the

813  
00:36:02,310 --> 00:35:59,680

commission which had only been appointed

814

00:36:05,030 --> 00:36:02,320

by the president to get congressional

815

00:36:07,270 --> 00:36:05,040

creation and to get congress to pay for

816

00:36:09,990 --> 00:36:07,280

it now the congress sort of went through

817

00:36:12,870 --> 00:36:10,000

the roof you had this commission that

818

00:36:15,829 --> 00:36:12,880

not only met but completed its business

819

00:36:17,030 --> 00:36:15,839

before congress had created it

820

00:36:18,870 --> 00:36:17,040

and

821

00:36:21,510 --> 00:36:18,880

it looked as though these folks had just

822

00:36:23,510 --> 00:36:21,520

sort of run russia over correct

823

00:36:25,270 --> 00:36:23,520

procedures and so on

824

00:36:27,750 --> 00:36:25,280

and so

825

00:36:28,950 --> 00:36:27,760

nothing happened all of the legislation

826

00:36:31,109 --> 00:36:28,960

both

827

00:36:33,750 --> 00:36:31,119

to create and pay the woodward

828

00:36:35,829 --> 00:36:33,760

commission and to create

829

00:36:37,510 --> 00:36:35,839

an aeronautical

830

00:36:40,950 --> 00:36:37,520

advisory board

831

00:36:43,109 --> 00:36:40,960

died with the end of the 62nd congress

832

00:36:46,550 --> 00:36:43,119

undeterred

833

00:36:48,710 --> 00:36:46,560

walcott came up with an alternate plan

834

00:36:53,430 --> 00:36:48,720

at a regular meeting of the board of

835

00:36:55,990 --> 00:36:53,440

regents in february of 1913 he suggested

836

00:36:58,390 --> 00:36:56,000

that the smithsonian just create this

837

00:37:01,349 --> 00:36:58,400

thing on its own it was going to be

838

00:37:04,069 --> 00:37:01,359

named obviously after samuel langley it

839

00:37:06,550 --> 00:37:04,079

was going to be the langley originally

840

00:37:08,310 --> 00:37:06,560

aerodromical laboratory the word that

841

00:37:11,589 --> 00:37:08,320

langley had applied to his flying

842

00:37:13,990 --> 00:37:11,599

machines but common sense prevailed

843

00:37:16,470 --> 00:37:14,000

and the members of the board of regents

844

00:37:19,030 --> 00:37:16,480

convinced him that aerodynamical

845

00:37:21,990 --> 00:37:19,040

laboratory was the word they should use

846

00:37:23,190 --> 00:37:22,000

the board created a three-man committee

847

00:37:26,390 --> 00:37:23,200

to look

848

00:37:30,870 --> 00:37:29,270

walcott's recommendations to create a

849

00:37:36,230 --> 00:37:30,880

smithsonian

850

00:37:39,030 --> 00:37:36,240

laboratory and the laboratory was to be

851  
00:37:41,430 --> 00:37:39,040  
governed by an advisory board of the

852  
00:37:43,510 --> 00:37:41,440  
sort that everyone

853  
00:37:45,270 --> 00:37:43,520  
saw as being necessary

854  
00:37:48,150 --> 00:37:45,280  
they hoped that

855  
00:37:51,589 --> 00:37:48,160  
this laboratory would do work for the

856  
00:38:01,190 --> 00:37:51,599  
army and the navy and everybody else

857  
00:38:06,230 --> 00:38:03,589  
and board of regents gave langley

858  
00:38:07,829 --> 00:38:06,240  
permission to go ahead and name an

859  
00:38:10,630 --> 00:38:07,839  
advisory board to the langley

860  
00:38:13,349 --> 00:38:10,640  
aerodynamic laboratory and there they

861  
00:38:15,510 --> 00:38:13,359  
are military officers

862  
00:38:18,230 --> 00:38:15,520  
walkett was the chairman zom was the

863  
00:38:22,150 --> 00:38:18,240

recording secretary

864

00:38:24,950 --> 00:38:22,160

three private members john hayes hammond

865

00:38:27,910 --> 00:38:24,960

orville wright and glenn

866

00:38:30,150 --> 00:38:27,920

hammond curtis how wright and curtis

867

00:38:31,990 --> 00:38:30,160

were who were locked in

868

00:38:35,109 --> 00:38:32,000

a patent suit were supposed to get along

869

00:38:37,030 --> 00:38:35,119

wasn't completely clear and in fact the

870

00:38:38,630 --> 00:38:37,040

two of them only attended the first

871

00:38:42,310 --> 00:38:38,640

meeting together

872

00:38:44,230 --> 00:38:42,320

the first meeting of the advisory board

873

00:38:46,630 --> 00:38:44,240

together

874

00:38:53,910 --> 00:38:46,640

the

875

00:38:55,030 --> 00:38:53,920

laboratory had been

876

00:38:56,390 --> 00:38:55,040

walked

877

00:38:58,310 --> 00:38:56,400

new langley

878

00:39:01,349 --> 00:38:58,320

aerodynamical laboratory was going to

879

00:39:03,030 --> 00:39:01,359

have 16 subcommittees

880

00:39:05,589 --> 00:39:03,040

everything from

881

00:39:08,150 --> 00:39:05,599

hydrodynamic experiments to aircraft

882

00:39:10,710 --> 00:39:08,160

design to

883

00:39:12,150 --> 00:39:10,720

aircraft appliances

884

00:39:15,349 --> 00:39:12,160

mathematics

885

00:39:17,430 --> 00:39:15,359

all sorts of things one of the few

886

00:39:20,150 --> 00:39:17,440

really fruitful

887

00:39:21,190 --> 00:39:20,160

things that occurred early on as a

888

00:39:26,069 --> 00:39:21,200

result

889

00:39:29,109 --> 00:39:26,079

but at least in part of the lang of the

890

00:39:32,310 --> 00:39:29,119

langley lab richard mclaren had

891

00:39:34,790 --> 00:39:32,320

convinced the navy to send jerome

892

00:39:36,390 --> 00:39:34,800

hunsaker the bald fellow in the bottom

893

00:39:39,109 --> 00:39:36,400

middle there

894

00:39:43,030 --> 00:39:39,119

on a research trip to europe to look at

895

00:39:46,230 --> 00:39:43,040

european aeronautical laboratories

896

00:39:48,790 --> 00:39:46,240

and he was at that point an mit graduate

897

00:39:51,270 --> 00:39:48,800

student who mclaren was going to put in

898

00:39:53,670 --> 00:39:51,280

charge of creating an aeronautical

899

00:39:56,870 --> 00:39:53,680

engineering course at mit

900

00:39:59,510 --> 00:39:56,880

walcott was able to

901  
00:40:03,109 --> 00:39:59,520  
talk everyone into including the langley

902  
00:40:06,150 --> 00:40:03,119  
lab in this project and zom

903  
00:40:07,349 --> 00:40:06,160  
went with hunsaker and as you can see

904  
00:40:10,230 --> 00:40:07,359  
they

905  
00:40:12,710 --> 00:40:10,240  
visited the major folks in england

906  
00:40:15,430 --> 00:40:12,720  
france and germany

907  
00:40:18,630 --> 00:40:15,440  
and it was an extraordinarily important

908  
00:40:22,390 --> 00:40:18,640  
trip especially for hunsaker and mit

909  
00:40:25,030 --> 00:40:22,400  
in fact you can practically you can date

910  
00:40:27,670 --> 00:40:25,040  
the introduction of sophisticated

911  
00:40:30,390 --> 00:40:27,680  
european aerodynamic theory into the

912  
00:40:32,710 --> 00:40:30,400  
united states with what hunsaker was

913  
00:40:36,550 --> 00:40:32,720

going to do at mit when

914

00:40:42,230 --> 00:40:40,150

the advisory board for the the

915

00:40:43,990 --> 00:40:42,240

langley aerodynamical laboratory only

916

00:40:46,630 --> 00:40:44,000

met three times

917

00:40:49,349 --> 00:40:46,640

uh at the second meeting

918

00:40:52,630 --> 00:40:49,359

walcott actually announced that he was

919

00:40:54,710 --> 00:40:52,640

going to go one step farther and create

920

00:40:56,150 --> 00:40:54,720

an aeronautical bureau at the

921

00:40:59,670 --> 00:40:56,160

smithsonian

922

00:41:03,030 --> 00:40:59,680

and go to congress and request a hundred

923

00:41:06,870 --> 00:41:03,040

thousand dollars ultimately

924

00:41:08,710 --> 00:41:06,880

but money was actually quite short and

925

00:41:11,349 --> 00:41:08,720

that was always one of their one of

926  
00:41:15,750 --> 00:41:11,359  
their problems at the third meeting of

927  
00:41:21,270 --> 00:41:15,760  
the advisory board on december 1st 1913

928  
00:41:25,510 --> 00:41:23,030  
walket uh

929  
00:41:28,390 --> 00:41:25,520  
decided that

930  
00:41:30,710 --> 00:41:28,400  
in fact the time had come to to go to

931  
00:41:31,990 --> 00:41:30,720  
congress and he announced he was going

932  
00:41:32,790 --> 00:41:32,000  
to do that

933  
00:41:39,750 --> 00:41:32,800  
and

934  
00:41:42,710 --> 00:41:39,760  
that was

935  
00:41:45,030 --> 00:41:42,720  
what he took to or what he was going to

936  
00:41:46,790 --> 00:41:45,040  
take to

937  
00:41:49,750 --> 00:41:46,800  
the congress

938  
00:41:51,109 --> 00:41:49,760

what happened was that in this

939

00:41:53,109 --> 00:41:51,119  
discussion

940

00:41:56,309 --> 00:41:53,119  
with government officials about the

941

00:41:58,230 --> 00:41:56,319  
expansion of the smithsonian lab

942

00:42:02,470 --> 00:41:58,240  
walcott actually discovered that what he

943

00:42:03,510 --> 00:42:02,480  
was doing was not legal it was illegal

944

00:42:06,230 --> 00:42:03,520  
for

945

00:42:08,870 --> 00:42:06,240  
federal officials to serve on a

946

00:42:11,190 --> 00:42:08,880  
committee commission not created by the

947

00:42:14,069 --> 00:42:11,200  
congress of the united states

948

00:42:17,430 --> 00:42:14,079  
and recognizing that problem

949

00:42:19,349 --> 00:42:17,440  
walcott stopped the meetings of

950

00:42:22,790 --> 00:42:19,359  
the langley advisory board that's why

951  
00:42:24,150 --> 00:42:22,800  
there are only three he didn't halt

952  
00:42:27,270 --> 00:42:24,160  
the history of the

953  
00:42:29,270 --> 00:42:27,280  
work of the laboratory itself

954  
00:42:31,829 --> 00:42:29,280  
but he did have to halt the commission

955  
00:42:35,670 --> 00:42:31,839  
he went back to the house appropriations

956  
00:42:38,550 --> 00:42:35,680  
committee and asked for authorization

957  
00:42:40,710 --> 00:42:38,560  
to continue operating the langley lab

958  
00:42:43,190 --> 00:42:40,720  
and he asked for an appropriation

959  
00:42:45,270 --> 00:42:43,200  
initially of

960  
00:42:46,150 --> 00:42:45,280  
fifty thousand dollars

961  
00:42:49,030 --> 00:42:46,160  
the

962  
00:42:55,030 --> 00:42:53,109  
congress just simply did not take action

963  
00:42:58,150 --> 00:42:55,040

on any of it

964

00:43:01,349 --> 00:42:58,160

the langley lab continued to operate for

965

00:43:04,150 --> 00:43:01,359

a while and in fact langley and walcott

966

00:43:07,270 --> 00:43:04,160

were quite convinced that they could

967

00:43:11,670 --> 00:43:07,280

continue to make it go you can see this

968

00:43:16,630 --> 00:43:14,069

frank russell of the bridges company who

969

00:43:19,349 --> 00:43:16,640

wants the langley lab to conduct

970

00:43:23,430 --> 00:43:19,359

aeronautical experiments for him and

971

00:43:26,150 --> 00:43:23,440

what the smithsonian folks are saying is

972

00:43:28,630 --> 00:43:26,160

we can't do it right now but we hope we

973

00:43:30,470 --> 00:43:28,640

will have the equipment even a flying

974

00:43:33,670 --> 00:43:30,480

field and so on so that when those

975

00:43:36,950 --> 00:43:33,680

airplanes are ready we'll be ready to do

976

00:43:38,630 --> 00:43:36,960

the do the test for you the other

977

00:43:40,390 --> 00:43:38,640

unfortunate thing

978

00:43:42,390 --> 00:43:40,400

that the langley

979

00:43:45,750 --> 00:43:42,400

lab

980

00:43:51,829 --> 00:43:49,349

were the tests of the 1914

981

00:43:54,630 --> 00:43:51,839

langley eardrum again

982

00:43:56,470 --> 00:43:54,640

the idea came from glenn hammond curtis

983

00:43:59,190 --> 00:43:56,480

who was locked in a patent suit with the

984

00:44:00,390 --> 00:43:59,200

wright brothers and who thought that if

985

00:44:02,550 --> 00:44:00,400

he could get

986

00:44:04,150 --> 00:44:02,560

rebuild the old langley machine and get

987

00:44:05,910 --> 00:44:04,160

it into the air

988

00:44:08,790 --> 00:44:05,920

he would be able to go back to the

989

00:44:11,910 --> 00:44:08,800

courts and say well you see this machine

990

00:44:14,309 --> 00:44:11,920

which failed to fly was actually capable

991

00:44:16,069 --> 00:44:14,319

of flight and

992

00:44:17,829 --> 00:44:16,079

moved forward from

993

00:44:21,030 --> 00:44:17,839

from there

994

00:44:23,990 --> 00:44:21,040

in fact the smithsonian had actually

995

00:44:27,270 --> 00:44:24,000

refurbished the central fuselage for the

996

00:44:30,150 --> 00:44:27,280

airplane but when it went to hammond's

997

00:44:33,190 --> 00:44:30,160

port curtis had to build the wings and

998

00:44:35,510 --> 00:44:33,200

the tail most of the wooden sections of

999

00:44:37,910 --> 00:44:35,520

the airplane

1000

00:44:39,670 --> 00:44:37,920

alfred zham who went to him in support

1001  
00:44:41,030 --> 00:44:39,680  
to take commands of this part of the

1002  
00:44:44,550 --> 00:44:41,040  
operation

1003  
00:44:46,870 --> 00:44:44,560  
for the smithsonian

1004  
00:44:51,349 --> 00:44:46,880  
simply was dishonest about the whole

1005  
00:44:53,910 --> 00:44:51,359  
business he in published accounts would

1006  
00:44:56,309 --> 00:44:53,920  
note that all curtis did was to

1007  
00:44:59,510 --> 00:44:56,319  
re-canvas the wings and that kind of

1008  
00:45:02,870 --> 00:44:59,520  
thing he would say that no substantial

1009  
00:45:05,349 --> 00:45:02,880  
work had to be done on the old eardrum

1010  
00:45:08,470 --> 00:45:05,359  
and

1011  
00:45:11,190 --> 00:45:08,480  
that simply wasn't true the eardrum did

1012  
00:45:16,470 --> 00:45:11,200  
fly on may 28

1013  
00:45:18,790 --> 00:45:16,480

190 1913 1914 rather and flew a couple

1014

00:45:20,550 --> 00:45:18,800

of times after that

1015

00:45:21,349 --> 00:45:20,560

um of course

1016

00:45:32,710 --> 00:45:21,359

the

1017

00:45:36,309 --> 00:45:32,720

in 1927

1018

00:45:39,510 --> 00:45:36,319

and dogging the smithsonian as well

1019

00:45:40,870 --> 00:45:39,520

ultimately just skipping to the end here

1020

00:45:42,630 --> 00:45:40,880

walcott

1021

00:45:45,349 --> 00:45:42,640

walked away from the langley

1022

00:45:47,510 --> 00:45:45,359

aerodynamical laboratory he recognized

1023

00:45:50,710 --> 00:45:47,520

that the best thing to do

1024

00:45:53,670 --> 00:45:50,720

was to create a separate and distinct

1025

00:45:56,390 --> 00:45:53,680

aeronautical research advisory board

1026

00:45:58,550 --> 00:45:56,400

forget the laboratory just the advisory

1027

00:46:01,349 --> 00:45:58,560

board that would sort of reduce

1028

00:46:04,230 --> 00:46:01,359

duplication and set a course for

1029

00:46:05,670 --> 00:46:04,240

aeronautical research in america

1030

00:46:09,030 --> 00:46:05,680

and

1031

00:46:11,750 --> 00:46:09,040

he arranged for the legislation to be

1032

00:46:13,430 --> 00:46:11,760

introduced when it became apparent that

1033

00:46:16,390 --> 00:46:13,440

the congress

1034

00:46:18,630 --> 00:46:16,400

was going to come to an end before that

1035

00:46:21,510 --> 00:46:18,640

legislation could be passed

1036

00:46:26,309 --> 00:46:21,520

the ultimate insider walcott

1037

00:46:30,710 --> 00:46:28,470

the advisory board to be attached to the

1038

00:46:31,670 --> 00:46:30,720

naval appropriations act

1039

00:46:34,390 --> 00:46:31,680

and

1040

00:46:35,829 --> 00:46:34,400

it passed as we all know 100 years ago

1041

00:46:38,630 --> 00:46:35,839

today

1042

00:46:41,109 --> 00:46:38,640

just in closing

1043

00:46:43,430 --> 00:46:41,119

i want to read what hunter duprey

1044

00:46:45,589 --> 00:46:43,440

who was the author of the classic study

1045

00:46:47,510 --> 00:46:45,599

science and the federal government had

1046

00:46:49,270 --> 00:46:47,520

to say about all this

1047

00:46:51,109 --> 00:46:49,280

the national advisory committee for

1048

00:46:53,510 --> 00:46:51,119

aeronautics was the capstone of the

1049

00:46:55,829 --> 00:46:53,520

federal establishment the ancient

1050

00:46:58,470 --> 00:46:55,839

smithsonian sheltered its embryonic

1051  
00:47:01,030 --> 00:46:58,480  
stages and the long experience of the

1052  
00:47:03,589 --> 00:47:01,040  
geological survey provided the trick

1053  
00:47:06,390 --> 00:47:03,599  
that accomplished its creation yet the

1054  
00:47:09,589 --> 00:47:06,400  
naca was the kind of organization for a

1055  
00:47:12,309 --> 00:47:09,599  
new problem it was the last product of a

1056  
00:47:14,390 --> 00:47:12,319  
profoundly peaceful fertile period of

1057  
00:47:17,349 --> 00:47:14,400  
bureau building and the first war

1058  
00:47:18,950 --> 00:47:17,359  
research agency of

1059  
00:47:21,270 --> 00:47:18,960  
world war one

1060  
00:47:23,510 --> 00:47:21,280  
for all of the problems all of the

1061  
00:47:25,349 --> 00:47:23,520  
missteps and so on

1062  
00:47:28,549 --> 00:47:25,359  
it finally came to be

1063  
00:47:31,750 --> 00:47:28,559

on march 3rd 1915

1064

00:47:41,750 --> 00:47:31,760

and in large measure that was thanks to

1065

00:47:46,710 --> 00:47:44,150

thanks tom for a fascinating paper on uh

1066

00:47:49,510 --> 00:47:46,720

that early stage

1067

00:47:52,630 --> 00:47:49,520

for the final uh presentation of uh this

1068

00:47:55,349 --> 00:47:52,640

panel on setting the stage for the naca

1069

00:47:57,030 --> 00:47:55,359

we've we go from one of our

1070

00:47:59,030 --> 00:47:57,040

more senior scholars to one of our more

1071

00:48:00,309 --> 00:47:59,040

junior scholars dr larry burke i

1072

00:48:01,670 --> 00:48:00,319

emphasize doctor because he just

1073

00:48:03,990 --> 00:48:01,680

received his doctorate from carnegie

1074

00:48:05,990 --> 00:48:04,000

mellon in december so one of the newest

1075

00:48:07,910 --> 00:48:06,000

doctors we have here

1076

00:48:09,670 --> 00:48:07,920

did his dissertation on history

1077

00:48:11,270 --> 00:48:09,680

technology dissertation on the sources

1078

00:48:13,270 --> 00:48:11,280

of military doctrine

1079

00:48:14,470 --> 00:48:13,280

for the new technology of the airplane

1080

00:48:17,589 --> 00:48:14,480

in the

1081

00:48:19,109 --> 00:48:17,599

early part of the last century

1082

00:48:21,030 --> 00:48:19,119

and he's going to be talking to us about

1083

00:48:35,349 --> 00:48:21,040

the u.s military and the creation of the

1084

00:48:39,670 --> 00:48:36,950

all right

1085

00:48:41,670 --> 00:48:39,680

well uh thank you all for coming out uh

1086

00:48:43,030 --> 00:48:41,680

as you might suspect from my title i'm

1087

00:48:45,270 --> 00:48:43,040

here to tell you about the significant

1088

00:48:47,030 --> 00:48:45,280

influence that the military had on the

1089

00:48:48,230 --> 00:48:47,040

establishment and early shaping of the

1090

00:48:49,510 --> 00:48:48,240

national advisory committee for

1091

00:48:51,829 --> 00:48:49,520

aeronautics

1092

00:48:55,109 --> 00:48:51,839

now i do not intend to

1093

00:48:56,470 --> 00:48:55,119

present any startling information

1094

00:48:58,950 --> 00:48:56,480

i'm not challenging the existing

1095

00:49:00,790 --> 00:48:58,960

narrative of how it came about rather

1096

00:49:02,549 --> 00:49:00,800

what i want to do is tell the story from

1097

00:49:04,390 --> 00:49:02,559

the perspective of the military looking

1098

00:49:06,230 --> 00:49:04,400

not simply at whether or not the

1099

00:49:08,870 --> 00:49:06,240

services supported

1100

00:49:11,430 --> 00:49:08,880

its creation but also why they did or in

1101

00:49:13,109 --> 00:49:11,440

some cases did not do so and i hope that

1102

00:49:15,109 --> 00:49:13,119

my presentation will add context and

1103

00:49:16,870 --> 00:49:15,119

complexity to the existing historical

1104

00:49:18,790 --> 00:49:16,880

narrative as well as the basis for

1105

00:49:20,950 --> 00:49:18,800

deeper understanding of events to be

1106

00:49:22,390 --> 00:49:20,960

addressed in later panels

1107

00:49:24,549 --> 00:49:22,400

now to be clear i'm speaking of the

1108

00:49:26,950 --> 00:49:24,559

military today and i mean both the army

1109

00:49:29,109 --> 00:49:26,960

and the navy but not as monolithic

1110

00:49:32,549 --> 00:49:29,119

blocks rather i will be addressing

1111

00:49:34,950 --> 00:49:32,559

individual officers within the services

1112

00:49:37,670 --> 00:49:34,960

who usually had their own motivations

1113

00:49:39,589 --> 00:49:37,680

for why they did what they did

1114

00:49:41,750 --> 00:49:39,599

usually with the best interests of their

1115

00:49:42,829 --> 00:49:41,760

service at heart at least as they saw

1116

00:49:45,349 --> 00:49:42,839

those

1117

00:49:48,790 --> 00:49:45,359

interests uh now initially i'll be

1118

00:49:51,910 --> 00:49:48,800

talking about some officers who

1119

00:49:55,829 --> 00:49:51,920

saw need for broader government research

1120

00:49:57,910 --> 00:49:55,839

that is not just a military research lab

1121

00:49:59,430 --> 00:49:57,920

later however these men were replaced by

1122

00:50:01,990 --> 00:49:59,440

officers who were a bit more parochial

1123

00:50:03,670 --> 00:50:02,000

in their outlook uh interested in

1124

00:50:06,390 --> 00:50:03,680

capturing this government research for

1125

00:50:09,109 --> 00:50:06,400

the advantage of their own service

1126

00:50:09,910 --> 00:50:09,119

as we shall see however there was danger

1127

00:50:14,870 --> 00:50:09,920

in

1128

00:50:18,790 --> 00:50:15,990

now the first gentleman i want to

1129

00:50:20,150 --> 00:50:18,800

introduce you to if it comes up

1130

00:50:22,549 --> 00:50:20,160

there we go

1131

00:50:24,470 --> 00:50:22,559

uh major later general georgio and

1132

00:50:26,230 --> 00:50:24,480

square now square was a scientist

1133

00:50:28,710 --> 00:50:26,240

inventor serving with the army signal

1134

00:50:31,349 --> 00:50:28,720

corps which quite early on claimed

1135

00:50:33,030 --> 00:50:31,359

aviation square himself had already done

1136

00:50:35,990 --> 00:50:33,040

much important research in electrical

1137

00:50:38,390 --> 00:50:36,000

communications particularly radio

1138

00:50:40,710 --> 00:50:38,400

and began taking an interest in aviation

1139

00:50:42,390 --> 00:50:40,720

in 1906.

1140

00:50:44,390 --> 00:50:42,400

uh and in fact he went on to serve as

1141

00:50:47,430 --> 00:50:44,400

head of the army's acceptance committee

1142

00:50:51,829 --> 00:50:47,440

for the testing of the baldwin airship

1143

00:50:54,549 --> 00:50:51,839

and wright airplane in 1908 and 1909.

1144

00:50:57,030 --> 00:50:54,559

now in april 1910 uh smithsonian

1145

00:50:59,190 --> 00:50:57,040

secretary charles walcott asked squeeer

1146

00:51:01,670 --> 00:50:59,200

alexander graham bell and albert zam to

1147

00:51:03,270 --> 00:51:01,680

discuss research that needed to be done

1148

00:51:05,670 --> 00:51:03,280

in the u.s in order to advance

1149

00:51:07,270 --> 00:51:05,680

aeronautical knowledge the three quickly

1150

00:51:09,190 --> 00:51:07,280

agreed that there was a need for a

1151

00:51:10,470 --> 00:51:09,200

national aeronautical lab as tom

1152

00:51:12,630 --> 00:51:10,480

mentioned

1153

00:51:14,870 --> 00:51:12,640

square himself recommended the existence

1154

00:51:16,549 --> 00:51:14,880

or the creation rather of a committee

1155

00:51:19,030 --> 00:51:16,559

to be operated under the smithsonian

1156

00:51:21,670 --> 00:51:19,040

umbrella to coordinate the research of

1157

00:51:23,430 --> 00:51:21,680

the lab with other labs in the u.s

1158

00:51:25,750 --> 00:51:23,440

now this resembled a similar arrangement

1159

00:51:27,030 --> 00:51:25,760

for research and radio with which we

1160

00:51:29,430 --> 00:51:27,040

would have been very familiar and that

1161

00:51:32,069 --> 00:51:29,440

was u.s board on wireless telegraphy

1162

00:51:34,230 --> 00:51:32,079

which had been established in 1904 as

1163

00:51:35,510 --> 00:51:34,240

well as as has been said the advisory

1164

00:51:37,270 --> 00:51:35,520

committee on aeronautics in great

1165

00:51:40,150 --> 00:51:37,280

britain which had been established the

1166

00:51:41,990 --> 00:51:40,160

year before april 1909

1167

00:51:43,910 --> 00:51:42,000

now with this group's recommendations in

1168

00:51:46,230 --> 00:51:43,920

hand secretary walcott saw a meeting

1169

00:51:48,390 --> 00:51:46,240

with president taft but nothing came of

1170

00:51:50,710 --> 00:51:48,400

it meanwhile square himself was assigned

1171

00:51:52,309 --> 00:51:50,720

to other duties in the signal corps

1172

00:51:54,390 --> 00:51:52,319

and while he continued to take an

1173

00:51:55,510 --> 00:51:54,400

interest in aviation his assignment away

1174

00:51:57,670 --> 00:51:55,520

from

1175

00:51:59,109 --> 00:51:57,680

aviation and eventually washington he

1176

00:52:00,790 --> 00:51:59,119

was sent to london as the military

1177

00:52:03,109 --> 00:52:00,800

attache

1178

00:52:07,349 --> 00:52:03,119

seemed to mark an end to army advocacy

1179

00:52:12,549 --> 00:52:08,870

now the next person i want to talk about

1180

00:52:14,230 --> 00:52:12,559

is captain washington irving chambers

1181

00:52:16,230 --> 00:52:14,240

who is something of a mirror image to

1182

00:52:19,510 --> 00:52:16,240

square not only being a navy officer to

1183

00:52:21,190 --> 00:52:19,520

squares army officer chambers was also

1184

00:52:23,910 --> 00:52:21,200

an inventor but he was much more of a

1185

00:52:26,150 --> 00:52:23,920

practical engineer than square who was

1186

00:52:28,710 --> 00:52:26,160

very much scientifically minded

1187

00:52:30,790 --> 00:52:28,720

in any event in 1910 chambers was

1188

00:52:33,190 --> 00:52:30,800

serving as an assistant to the secretary

1189

00:52:34,950 --> 00:52:33,200

of the navy's aid for material which was

1190

00:52:36,549 --> 00:52:34,960

responsible for supervising the navy's

1191

00:52:38,870 --> 00:52:36,559

technical bureaus

1192

00:52:40,390 --> 00:52:38,880

when in september of 1910 the aero club

1193

00:52:42,950 --> 00:52:40,400

of america wrote to the secretary of the

1194

00:52:45,030 --> 00:52:42,960

navy george von langerke meyer asking

1195

00:52:47,829 --> 00:52:45,040

him for a point of contact within the

1196

00:52:50,150 --> 00:52:47,839

navy on aeronautical issues

1197

00:52:51,990 --> 00:52:50,160

chambers was soon given this assignment

1198

00:52:53,750 --> 00:52:52,000

now chambers himself had no previous

1199

00:52:55,270 --> 00:52:53,760

interest or knowledge of aviation but

1200

00:52:57,349 --> 00:52:55,280

began reading everything he could get

1201  
00:52:59,349 --> 00:52:57,359  
his hands on in order to better prepare

1202  
00:53:01,349 --> 00:52:59,359  
himself for these new duties in the

1203  
00:53:02,950 --> 00:53:01,359  
process he became an enthusiast for

1204  
00:53:04,549 --> 00:53:02,960  
aviation

1205  
00:53:05,990 --> 00:53:04,559  
now one month later the chiefs of the

1206  
00:53:07,990 --> 00:53:06,000  
navy's bureau of engineering and the

1207  
00:53:09,510 --> 00:53:08,000  
bureau of construction and repair each

1208  
00:53:11,589 --> 00:53:09,520  
separately requested authority to

1209  
00:53:14,069 --> 00:53:11,599  
purchase an airplane for the navy

1210  
00:53:16,390 --> 00:53:14,079  
myers denied both requests but oddly

1211  
00:53:18,630 --> 00:53:16,400  
ordered both bureaus to coordinate his

1212  
00:53:20,710 --> 00:53:18,640  
words on aviation developments with

1213  
00:53:22,950 --> 00:53:20,720

chambers now this gave chambers some

1214

00:53:24,069 --> 00:53:22,960

vague responsibility and essentially no

1215

00:53:26,790 --> 00:53:24,079

authority

1216

00:53:28,630 --> 00:53:26,800

however chambers leveraged this

1217

00:53:32,230 --> 00:53:28,640

in order to coordinate the first flights

1218

00:53:34,870 --> 00:53:32,240

on and off ships by an airplane uh both

1219

00:53:37,190 --> 00:53:34,880

of these flown by uh curtis pilot eugene

1220

00:53:43,030 --> 00:53:37,200

ely

1221

00:53:44,870 --> 00:53:43,040

him about the possibilities of a job

1222

00:53:46,630 --> 00:53:44,880

with the navy

1223

00:53:49,990 --> 00:53:46,640

and in his response

1224

00:53:52,069 --> 00:53:50,000

chambers actually outlined his ideas for

1225

00:53:53,109 --> 00:53:52,079

a naval aviation organization remember

1226

00:53:55,190 --> 00:53:53,119

there was

1227

00:53:57,670 --> 00:53:55,200

navy did not have its own airplane yet

1228

00:53:59,829 --> 00:53:57,680

all of this was sort of proof of concept

1229

00:54:02,150 --> 00:53:59,839

in any event uh in this letter what is

1230

00:54:03,910 --> 00:54:02,160

of importance today is the statement

1231

00:54:05,589 --> 00:54:03,920

which you can see on the slide which

1232

00:54:07,430 --> 00:54:05,599

indicates that chambers was already

1233

00:54:10,069 --> 00:54:07,440

thinking of the need for some sort of

1234

00:54:11,750 --> 00:54:10,079

experimental work to advance aeronautics

1235

00:54:13,589 --> 00:54:11,760

and his statement that it might not be

1236

00:54:15,510 --> 00:54:13,599

the navy seems to imply that he was

1237

00:54:17,349 --> 00:54:15,520

thinking of the need for a broader

1238

00:54:19,270 --> 00:54:17,359

government lab

1239

00:54:21,270 --> 00:54:19,280

uh in any event soon after this letter

1240

00:54:23,349 --> 00:54:21,280

he did indeed join walcott in supporting

1241

00:54:25,589 --> 00:54:23,359

the reopening of langley's aeronautical

1242

00:54:27,430 --> 00:54:25,599

lab and chambers was apparently the

1243

00:54:30,470 --> 00:54:27,440

author of a proposal reported in the

1244

00:54:32,390 --> 00:54:30,480

papers in april 1911 for the langley lab

1245

00:54:33,750 --> 00:54:32,400

to reopen under bureau of standards

1246

00:54:35,349 --> 00:54:33,760

control

1247

00:54:37,030 --> 00:54:35,359

others in the navy opposed the lab

1248

00:54:39,750 --> 00:54:37,040

however saying that it would duplicate

1249

00:54:41,270 --> 00:54:39,760

the existing navy facilities

1250

00:54:43,670 --> 00:54:41,280

in the bureau of construction repair

1251

00:54:45,670 --> 00:54:43,680

captain david taylor who had recently

1252

00:54:48,150 --> 00:54:45,680

established and was running the model

1253

00:54:50,230 --> 00:54:48,160

basin which would later be named for him

1254

00:54:51,829 --> 00:54:50,240

uh taylor believed that the model basin

1255

00:54:54,230 --> 00:54:51,839

could indeed conduct the necessary

1256

00:54:56,549 --> 00:54:54,240

aeronautical research for the government

1257

00:54:58,230 --> 00:54:56,559

while the bureau of engineering likewise

1258

00:54:59,829 --> 00:54:58,240

arguing that their own experimental

1259

00:55:02,309 --> 00:54:59,839

engine station near annapolis could

1260

00:55:04,390 --> 00:55:02,319

easily expand to research aeronautical

1261

00:55:06,150 --> 00:55:04,400

propulsion and propellers and i

1262

00:55:07,990 --> 00:55:06,160

apologize i cannot get a better picture

1263

00:55:09,829 --> 00:55:08,000

of the building

1264

00:55:11,270 --> 00:55:09,839

uh in any event this dispute was

1265

00:55:12,950 --> 00:55:11,280

referred to president william task

1266

00:55:15,270 --> 00:55:12,960

committee on economy and efficiency in

1267

00:55:17,430 --> 00:55:15,280

the government and this committee sided

1268

00:55:19,510 --> 00:55:17,440

with taylor and in fact drafted an

1269

00:55:21,910 --> 00:55:19,520

executive order saying that the navy's

1270

00:55:24,789 --> 00:55:21,920

model basin should be formally assigned

1271

00:55:26,230 --> 00:55:24,799

to do national aeronautic research

1272

00:55:27,990 --> 00:55:26,240

now with this in mind secretary of the

1273

00:55:30,630 --> 00:55:28,000

navy meyer wrote to his counterpart

1274

00:55:32,309 --> 00:55:30,640

secretary of war jacob dickinson

1275

00:55:34,069 --> 00:55:32,319

suggesting that the two services should

1276

00:55:35,349 --> 00:55:34,079

begin coordinating their aeronautical

1277

00:55:37,589 --> 00:55:35,359

research

1278

00:55:39,030 --> 00:55:37,599

uh dickinson however replied that the

1279

00:55:40,789 --> 00:55:39,040

two services would be better off

1280

00:55:43,829 --> 00:55:40,799

conducting their own experiments he did

1281

00:55:45,109 --> 00:55:43,839

not see the need for this coordination

1282

00:55:47,349 --> 00:55:45,119

now this disagreement between the

1283

00:55:49,670 --> 00:55:47,359

service chiefs may have contributed to

1284

00:55:51,670 --> 00:55:49,680

the idea petering out but whatever the

1285

00:55:54,950 --> 00:55:51,680

reason the idea never got past the

1286

00:55:56,549 --> 00:55:54,960

committee on economy and efficiency

1287

00:55:58,470 --> 00:55:56,559

now despite the setback chambers and

1288

00:56:00,549 --> 00:55:58,480

walcott continued to push for a national

1289

00:56:02,470 --> 00:56:00,559

aeronautical lab of some sort

1290

00:56:03,990 --> 00:56:02,480

they were joined by albert zam who among

1291

00:56:05,670 --> 00:56:04,000

other things was now the consulting

1292

00:56:07,270 --> 00:56:05,680

editor to the euro club of america's

1293

00:56:10,150 --> 00:56:07,280

monthly bulletin

1294

00:56:11,990 --> 00:56:10,160

in 1911 and 1912 zom used this position

1295

00:56:14,710 --> 00:56:12,000

to publish many articles his own and

1296

00:56:16,870 --> 00:56:14,720

others in favor of such a laboratory

1297

00:56:19,270 --> 00:56:16,880

chambers himself penned a main 1912

1298

00:56:22,069 --> 00:56:19,280

article proposing reopening langley's

1299

00:56:23,990 --> 00:56:22,079

lab as the national lab

1300

00:56:25,829 --> 00:56:24,000

uh now interestingly for this group

1301  
00:56:28,069 --> 00:56:25,839  
sometime after wilbur wright's death on

1302  
00:56:29,589 --> 00:56:28,079  
may 30th 1912.

1303  
00:56:31,270 --> 00:56:29,599  
coming up there we go

1304  
00:56:33,030 --> 00:56:31,280  
uh chambers drafted a proposal

1305  
00:56:35,430 --> 00:56:33,040  
apparently intended to be inserted in a

1306  
00:56:37,829 --> 00:56:35,440  
secretary of the navy's speech to name a

1307  
00:56:39,109 --> 00:56:37,839  
research building at the langley lab for

1308  
00:56:40,630 --> 00:56:39,119  
wilbur wright

1309  
00:56:42,829 --> 00:56:40,640  
apparently in an attempt to get public

1310  
00:56:45,990 --> 00:56:42,839  
support behind the national laboratory

1311  
00:56:48,150 --> 00:56:46,000  
proposal now i don't know if myers ever

1312  
00:56:49,910 --> 00:56:48,160  
indeed included this in any of his

1313  
00:56:52,069 --> 00:56:49,920

speeches but i could find no further

1314

00:56:53,510 --> 00:56:52,079

mention of the idea which given

1315

00:56:54,870 --> 00:56:53,520

langley's role in the later

1316

00:56:58,230 --> 00:56:54,880

long-standing right smithsonian

1317

00:57:01,190 --> 00:56:58,240

disagreement is probably just as well

1318

00:57:04,950 --> 00:57:01,200

in any event uh as tom has told us

1319

00:57:06,950 --> 00:57:04,960

chambers fiscal year 1912

1320

00:57:08,309 --> 00:57:06,960

uh report on aviation concluded with a

1321

00:57:11,109 --> 00:57:08,319

seven page

1322

00:57:13,589 --> 00:57:11,119

uh outline of an idea for a national

1323

00:57:15,430 --> 00:57:13,599

aeronautical lab this would include not

1324

00:57:16,230 --> 00:57:15,440

only a physical laboratory which would

1325

00:57:19,349 --> 00:57:16,240

do

1326

00:57:21,109 --> 00:57:19,359

standards as well as basic research

1327

00:57:22,950 --> 00:57:21,119

but also a council to establish and

1328

00:57:25,430 --> 00:57:22,960

monitor a program of research to be

1329

00:57:27,030 --> 00:57:25,440

executed by the lab this council would

1330

00:57:28,390 --> 00:57:27,040

include representatives the army and

1331

00:57:30,069 --> 00:57:28,400

navy along with other government

1332

00:57:31,270 --> 00:57:30,079

departments having aeronautical

1333

00:57:33,030 --> 00:57:31,280

interests

1334

00:57:36,230 --> 00:57:33,040

and despite chambers extensive

1335

00:57:37,829 --> 00:57:36,240

recommendations in this uh report he

1336

00:57:39,270 --> 00:57:37,839

concluded with a suggestion that the

1337

00:57:40,710 --> 00:57:39,280

president should appoint a commission to

1338

00:57:44,950 --> 00:57:40,720

review the issue

1339

00:57:49,510 --> 00:57:47,109

now the fiscal year at the time ended in

1340

00:57:52,549 --> 00:57:49,520

the middle of the summer so fy 1912

1341

00:57:54,870 --> 00:57:52,559

ended on june 30th 1912. thus chambers

1342

00:57:56,390 --> 00:57:54,880

report on the fiscal year was submitted

1343

00:57:57,990 --> 00:57:56,400

late in the year

1344

00:57:59,829 --> 00:57:58,000

secretary of the navy meyer quickly

1345

00:58:00,870 --> 00:57:59,839

forwarded chambers report to president

1346

00:58:06,230 --> 00:58:00,880

taft

1347

00:58:08,069 --> 00:58:06,240

the 19-member national aeronautic

1348

00:58:10,309 --> 00:58:08,079

laboratory commission under leadership

1349

00:58:11,349 --> 00:58:10,319

of dr robert s woodward the woodward

1350

00:58:13,190 --> 00:58:11,359

commission

1351

00:58:14,950 --> 00:58:13,200

it included two officers each from the

1352

00:58:16,390 --> 00:58:14,960

army and navy on the commission and

1353

00:58:18,230 --> 00:58:16,400

interestingly the two navy

1354

00:58:21,349 --> 00:58:18,240

representatives were the opponents on

1355

00:58:23,030 --> 00:58:21,359

this issue chambers and taylor

1356

00:58:24,950 --> 00:58:23,040

uh now the woodward commission had

1357

00:58:27,030 --> 00:58:24,960

something of a sort of damocles hanging

1358

00:58:29,109 --> 00:58:27,040

over it and that was that it was

1359

00:58:31,030 --> 00:58:29,119

endangered by a law which congress had

1360

00:58:32,870 --> 00:58:31,040

passed a few years earlier which

1361

00:58:34,630 --> 00:58:32,880

prohibited presidential commissions from

1362

00:58:37,109 --> 00:58:34,640

using public funds or government

1363

00:58:38,390 --> 00:58:37,119

employees to support their work unless

1364

00:58:40,950 --> 00:58:38,400

the commission had congressional

1365

00:58:43,589 --> 00:58:40,960

approval which as we've already heard

1366

00:58:45,270 --> 00:58:43,599

the woodward commission did not

1367

00:58:47,430 --> 00:58:45,280

nevertheless the commission met on

1368

00:58:49,190 --> 00:58:47,440

january 23 and over the next two days

1369

00:58:51,270 --> 00:58:49,200

hammered out a proposal for a national

1370

00:58:54,069 --> 00:58:51,280

lab in washington along the line

1371

00:58:55,589 --> 00:58:54,079

suggested in chamber's 1912 report

1372

00:58:57,829 --> 00:58:55,599

the one exception to this was a

1373

00:59:00,390 --> 00:58:57,839

modification written written by army

1374

00:59:02,390 --> 00:59:00,400

officer chief signal officer james allen

1375

00:59:05,270 --> 00:59:02,400

which was that this laboratory was to be

1376

00:59:07,270 --> 00:59:05,280

independent of both the smithsonian and

1377

00:59:08,950 --> 00:59:07,280

the bureau of standards

1378

00:59:10,710 --> 00:59:08,960

now i believe alan was perhaps beginning

1379

00:59:12,470 --> 00:59:10,720

to see the possibilities of capturing

1380

00:59:15,109 --> 00:59:12,480

the work of this lab for the army

1381

00:59:17,030 --> 00:59:15,119

benefit and that this would be easier to

1382

00:59:19,430 --> 00:59:17,040

do if it was not associated with either

1383

00:59:21,589 --> 00:59:19,440

of these organizations

1384

00:59:23,990 --> 00:59:21,599

when draft legislation circulated a few

1385

00:59:26,069 --> 00:59:24,000

days later however it omitted

1386

00:59:28,390 --> 00:59:26,079

this independence wording

1387

00:59:30,789 --> 00:59:28,400

and on february 5th when a quorum of 10

1388

00:59:33,030 --> 00:59:30,799

members met again to discuss the issue

1389

00:59:34,630 --> 00:59:33,040

they voted to add wording back into it

1390

00:59:37,349 --> 00:59:34,640

this time however putting the national

1391

00:59:38,950 --> 00:59:37,359

lab specifically under the smithsonian

1392

00:59:42,390 --> 00:59:38,960

the remaining three members of this

1393

00:59:44,150 --> 00:59:42,400

committee at this meeting abstained

1394

00:59:46,309 --> 00:59:44,160

uh in any event the woodward commission

1395

00:59:47,910 --> 00:59:46,319

fell apart partly because of the law and

1396

00:59:50,230 --> 00:59:47,920

partly over the issue of tying the

1397

00:59:51,910 --> 00:59:50,240

national lab to the smithsonian

1398

00:59:54,309 --> 00:59:51,920

taylor still felt that the navy model

1399

00:59:56,230 --> 00:59:54,319

basin could do the work stratton wanted

1400

00:59:58,069 --> 00:59:56,240

it in his own bureau of standards and

1401

00:59:59,349 --> 00:59:58,079

mclaren wanted it near an engineering

1402

01:00:01,829 --> 00:59:59,359

school like

1403

01:00:04,069 --> 01:00:01,839

mit for instance and we will undoubtedly

1404

01:00:05,510 --> 01:00:04,079

hear more about this in the next session

1405

01:00:07,430 --> 01:00:05,520

now the bill was submitted to congress

1406

01:00:11,030 --> 01:00:07,440

but faced opposition in both chambers

1407

01:00:13,750 --> 01:00:12,309

now while the woodward commission was

1408

01:00:15,270 --> 01:00:13,760

falling apart walcott went to the

1409

01:00:17,030 --> 01:00:15,280

smithsonian regions to get them to

1410

01:00:19,750 --> 01:00:17,040

reopen the langley aeronautical

1411

01:00:21,270 --> 01:00:19,760

laboratory as described by tom crouch

1412

01:00:23,109 --> 01:00:21,280

now i won't go over this again the

1413

01:00:25,430 --> 01:00:23,119

important part to my narrative is that

1414

01:00:26,950 --> 01:00:25,440

the langley lab was expected to only do

1415

01:00:28,470 --> 01:00:26,960

u.s government work

1416

01:00:30,710 --> 01:00:28,480

and since the army and navy were the

1417

01:00:32,390 --> 01:00:30,720

biggest government users two officers

1418

01:00:34,950 --> 01:00:32,400

from each service would serve on the

1419

01:00:36,870 --> 01:00:34,960

advisory committee guiding the research

1420

01:00:38,549 --> 01:00:36,880

once again we see chambers for the navy

1421

01:00:40,549 --> 01:00:38,559

this time along with naval constructor

1422

01:00:42,549 --> 01:00:40,559

holden richardson from the bureau of

1423

01:00:44,150 --> 01:00:42,559

construction repair

1424

01:00:46,150 --> 01:00:44,160

from the army the new chief signal

1425

01:00:47,910 --> 01:00:46,160

officer general george scriven and the

1426

01:00:49,990 --> 01:00:47,920

new head of the aeronautical division

1427

01:00:51,829 --> 01:00:50,000

major edgar russell

1428

01:00:54,390 --> 01:00:51,839

now the langley lab disbanded in may

1429

01:00:56,470 --> 01:00:54,400

1914 for problems which tom has already

1430

01:00:58,069 --> 01:00:56,480

talked about so we can move on

1431

01:01:00,950 --> 01:00:58,079

in any event by this time there had been

1432

01:01:02,549 --> 01:01:00,960

a change in naval aviation leadership

1433

01:01:04,309 --> 01:01:02,559

chambers himself had been plucked that

1434

01:01:07,109 --> 01:01:04,319

is forcibly retired in the summer of

1435

01:01:08,309 --> 01:01:07,119

1913 for lack of time and sea going

1436

01:01:10,150 --> 01:01:08,319

command

1437

01:01:12,150 --> 01:01:10,160

following this plucking however the navy

1438

01:01:14,630 --> 01:01:12,160

had no one to replace him

1439

01:01:17,349 --> 01:01:14,640

as head of naval aviation and so is

1440

01:01:20,549 --> 01:01:17,359

essentially forced to ask him to stay on

1441

01:01:23,030 --> 01:01:20,559

in an active duty but retired status

1442

01:01:24,950 --> 01:01:23,040

uh this changed again in january 1914

1443

01:01:27,829 --> 01:01:24,960

when admiral bradley fisk the aid for

1444

01:01:29,829 --> 01:01:27,839

operations took over naval aviation

1445

01:01:31,750 --> 01:01:29,839

although fisk kept chambers on staff he

1446

01:01:34,150 --> 01:01:31,760

replaced him as director of naval

1447

01:01:36,230 --> 01:01:34,160

aviation while chambers would remain

1448

01:01:38,710 --> 01:01:36,240

active in research

1449

01:01:40,549 --> 01:01:38,720

in aviation for the navy this move

1450

01:01:42,470 --> 01:01:40,559

finished chamber's influence within the

1451

01:01:45,750 --> 01:01:42,480

navy leaving him no more standing to

1452

01:01:47,349 --> 01:01:45,760

push for a national lab

1453

01:01:50,390 --> 01:01:47,359

now at the start of world war one in

1454

01:01:51,670 --> 01:01:50,400

august 1914 walcott decided that it was

1455

01:01:53,750 --> 01:01:51,680

time to make another attempt at

1456

01:01:56,150 --> 01:01:53,760

establishing this lab he believed that

1457

01:01:57,910 --> 01:01:56,160

the need for u.s preparedness in case we

1458

01:01:59,510 --> 01:01:57,920

should get into the war might tip the

1459

01:02:01,109 --> 01:01:59,520

political skills in favor of his

1460

01:02:02,789 --> 01:02:01,119

proposal this time

1461

01:02:04,789 --> 01:02:02,799

he led a subcommittee of smithsonian

1462

01:02:06,789 --> 01:02:04,799

research in creating draft legislation

1463

01:02:09,190 --> 01:02:06,799

which followed the forum established by

1464

01:02:11,589 --> 01:02:09,200

the various previous proposals this time

1465

01:02:13,270 --> 01:02:11,599

however walcott chose to concentrate on

1466

01:02:15,109 --> 01:02:13,280

the advisory committee to guide and

1467

01:02:18,069 --> 01:02:15,119

coordinate research and eliminate

1468

01:02:20,390 --> 01:02:18,079

duplication downplaying need for

1469

01:02:22,230 --> 01:02:20,400

independent laboratory facilities

1470

01:02:25,349 --> 01:02:22,240

the regents approved this draft bill on

1471

01:02:27,349 --> 01:02:25,359

january 1915 and with approval from

1472

01:02:29,190 --> 01:02:27,359

acting secretary of the navy franklin d

1473

01:02:31,190 --> 01:02:29,200

roosevelt the bill was quickly

1474

01:02:33,829 --> 01:02:31,200

introduced into the house and senate

1475

01:02:35,270 --> 01:02:33,839

naval affairs committees the reason for

1476

01:02:36,870 --> 01:02:35,280

this is because these committees were

1477

01:02:38,789 --> 01:02:36,880

known to be friendly to the bill and

1478

01:02:40,710 --> 01:02:38,799

indeed the bill quickly passed the floor

1479

01:02:41,910 --> 01:02:40,720

in both chambers

1480

01:02:43,990 --> 01:02:41,920

uh

1481

01:02:45,430 --> 01:02:44,000

to in order to beat the end of the 63rd

1482

01:02:47,430 --> 01:02:45,440

congress which would have happened on

1483

01:02:49,349 --> 01:02:47,440

march 4th the bill was attached to the

1484

01:02:53,109 --> 01:02:49,359

naval appropriations bill which has

1485

01:02:55,190 --> 01:02:53,119

already been said past march 3rd 1915

1486

01:02:57,430 --> 01:02:55,200

now as it was passed there was no money

1487

01:02:58,789 --> 01:02:57,440

for any lab facilities or any laboratory

1488

01:03:00,150 --> 01:02:58,799

operations

1489

01:03:02,069 --> 01:03:00,160

the bill uh

1490

01:03:03,029 --> 01:03:02,079

concentrated on the establishment of the

1491

01:03:05,430 --> 01:03:03,039

committee

1492

01:03:07,510 --> 01:03:05,440

of up to 14 members which would be two

1493

01:03:09,270 --> 01:03:07,520

members each from the army and navy

1494

01:03:11,270 --> 01:03:09,280

one each from the smithsonian the bureau

1495

01:03:13,589 --> 01:03:11,280

standards and the weather bureau and the

1496

01:03:14,710 --> 01:03:13,599

remaining seven members from men

1497

01:03:16,630 --> 01:03:14,720

acquainted with the needs of

1498

01:03:19,589 --> 01:03:16,640

aeronautical science or skilled in

1499

01:03:21,029 --> 01:03:19,599

aeronautical engineering

1500

01:03:22,870 --> 01:03:21,039

now assistant secretary of the navy

1501

01:03:24,710 --> 01:03:22,880

roosevelt convinced wilson to only

1502

01:03:26,549 --> 01:03:24,720

nominate 12 members of this committee

1503

01:03:28,309 --> 01:03:26,559

that is only five members from civil

1504

01:03:30,549 --> 01:03:28,319

life so that the government retained a

1505

01:03:31,990 --> 01:03:30,559

slight majority

1506

01:03:33,750 --> 01:03:32,000

now while the bill created what was

1507

01:03:36,069 --> 01:03:33,760

simply known as the advisory committee

1508

01:03:37,589 --> 01:03:36,079

for aeronautics the specifics of how the

1509

01:03:38,950 --> 01:03:37,599

new committee would work had yet to be

1510

01:03:41,109 --> 01:03:38,960

determined

1511

01:03:44,150 --> 01:03:41,119

now the army had been at best lukewarm

1512

01:03:46,789 --> 01:03:44,160

to previous proposals but with the aca

1513

01:03:48,710 --> 01:03:46,799

becoming more possibility chief signal

1514

01:03:51,510 --> 01:03:48,720

officer scriven began working to attempt

1515

01:03:53,109 --> 01:03:51,520

to mold the organization to his ideas

1516

01:03:54,390 --> 01:03:53,119

before the bill passed he had a

1517

01:03:56,710 --> 01:03:54,400

suggestion that the committee should

1518

01:03:58,950 --> 01:03:56,720

consist only of five members two from

1519

01:04:01,109 --> 01:03:58,960

the army two from the navy and one from

1520

01:04:02,950 --> 01:04:01,119

private life knowing this he was opposed

1521

01:04:05,589 --> 01:04:02,960

by the army chief of staff who believed

1522

01:04:09,349 --> 01:04:05,599

that the proposed aca should not only be

1523

01:04:13,829 --> 01:04:11,029

once the bill passed however scriven

1524

01:04:16,150 --> 01:04:13,839

continued to uh work on the rest of the

1525

01:04:18,150 --> 01:04:16,160

committee in fact on april 16th before

1526

01:04:19,510 --> 01:04:18,160

the committee met for the first time

1527

01:04:20,950 --> 01:04:19,520

scrivens sent a letter to the other

1528

01:04:22,549 --> 01:04:20,960

committee members

1529

01:04:24,789 --> 01:04:22,559

among other things he wanted this new

1530

01:04:26,950 --> 01:04:24,799

committee to use whatever authority it

1531

01:04:29,430 --> 01:04:26,960

might have to endorse sufficient

1532

01:04:30,150 --> 01:04:29,440

aeronautical appropriations for the army

1533

01:04:32,230 --> 01:04:30,160

and

1534

01:04:34,950 --> 01:04:32,240

the navy if they had to

1535

01:04:36,950 --> 01:04:34,960

uh but he also proposed an organization

1536

01:04:39,270 --> 01:04:36,960

for this new aca

1537

01:04:40,789 --> 01:04:39,280

he specified only three boards there

1538

01:04:42,710 --> 01:04:40,799

would be an administrative board made up

1539

01:04:44,549 --> 01:04:42,720

of the government representatives a

1540

01:04:46,710 --> 01:04:44,559

scientific board made up of the civilian

1541

01:04:48,150 --> 01:04:46,720

scientists and an executive council

1542

01:04:49,829 --> 01:04:48,160

which would handle the day-to-day

1543

01:04:51,349 --> 01:04:49,839

business of the group

1544

01:04:53,109 --> 01:04:51,359

now the committee met for the first time

1545

01:04:54,470 --> 01:04:53,119

on april 23rd

1546

01:04:56,390 --> 01:04:54,480

1915

1547

01:04:58,230 --> 01:04:56,400

significantly in the office of the

1548

01:04:59,670 --> 01:04:58,240

secretary of war

1549

01:05:01,589 --> 01:04:59,680

now the group agreed that charles

1550

01:05:03,670 --> 01:05:01,599

walcott deserved to be chair of this new

1551  
01:05:04,710 --> 01:05:03,680  
committee but walcott was absent he was

1552  
01:05:06,390 --> 01:05:04,720  
out of town attending his

1553  
01:05:08,630 --> 01:05:06,400  
father-in-law's funeral

1554  
01:05:11,109 --> 01:05:08,640  
and scriven the senior army officer was

1555  
01:05:12,630 --> 01:05:11,119  
elected temporary chair

1556  
01:05:14,630 --> 01:05:12,640  
uh now the first thing they did was

1557  
01:05:16,230 --> 01:05:14,640  
formally change the name to the national

1558  
01:05:17,910 --> 01:05:16,240  
advisory committee for aeronautics in

1559  
01:05:20,789 --> 01:05:17,920  
order to avoid confusion with the

1560  
01:05:22,230 --> 01:05:20,799  
british organization

1561  
01:05:24,150 --> 01:05:22,240  
now the second thing that happened was

1562  
01:05:27,270 --> 01:05:24,160  
to decide on the form of this new

1563  
01:05:29,990 --> 01:05:27,280

committee walcott was known to desire uh

1564

01:05:32,309 --> 01:05:30,000

subcommittees to be created as needed

1565

01:05:35,589 --> 01:05:32,319

which would be open to outside members

1566

01:05:37,670 --> 01:05:35,599

but chaired by members of the naca

1567

01:05:39,349 --> 01:05:37,680

scriven as evidenced by the earlier

1568

01:05:42,230 --> 01:05:39,359

letter was diametrically opposed to

1569

01:05:45,029 --> 01:05:42,240

these ideas he believed in only the

1570

01:05:47,349 --> 01:05:45,039

three subcommittees and with no outside

1571

01:05:50,069 --> 01:05:47,359

members on those committees he believed

1572

01:05:52,309 --> 01:05:50,079

that the naca would become too diffused

1573

01:05:54,230 --> 01:05:52,319

and not get anything done if it followed

1574

01:05:55,990 --> 01:05:54,240

walcott's plans

1575

01:05:58,789 --> 01:05:56,000

scriven succeeded in getting the rest of

1576

01:06:01,029 --> 01:05:58,799

the group to vote for his proposal in

1577

01:06:02,470 --> 01:06:01,039

this first meeting however walcott

1578

01:06:05,670 --> 01:06:02,480

successfully appealed to president

1579

01:06:08,150 --> 01:06:05,680

wilson before he signed off on the

1580

01:06:10,470 --> 01:06:08,160

organizational paperwork and got him to

1581

01:06:15,829 --> 01:06:10,480

restore the provisions for subcommittees

1582

01:06:19,109 --> 01:06:17,190

now one event demonstrates the

1583

01:06:22,230 --> 01:06:19,119

possibility of too much capture of the

1584

01:06:24,150 --> 01:06:22,240

naca in september 1915 wilson's

1585

01:06:26,549 --> 01:06:24,160

secretary of the navy josephus daniel

1586

01:06:27,990 --> 01:06:26,559

asked his own naval consulting board for

1587

01:06:30,150 --> 01:06:28,000

its opinion on establishing an

1588

01:06:31,430 --> 01:06:30,160

experimental research lab for naval

1589

01:06:33,510 --> 01:06:31,440

aviation

1590

01:06:34,950 --> 01:06:33,520

the board responded that such a lab was

1591

01:06:38,630 --> 01:06:34,960

needed but that it should be for the

1592

01:06:40,870 --> 01:06:38,640

whole navy not just naval aviation

1593

01:06:42,870 --> 01:06:40,880

this eventually led to what's now known

1594

01:06:45,190 --> 01:06:42,880

as the naval research lab

1595

01:06:47,270 --> 01:06:45,200

meanwhile army officer scriven had seen

1596

01:06:49,990 --> 01:06:47,280

daniel's letter to the

1597

01:06:53,190 --> 01:06:50,000

naval consulting board and cited it in

1598

01:06:55,109 --> 01:06:53,200

his own proposal to the naca in october

1599

01:06:57,589 --> 01:06:55,119

suggesting that the naca should request

1600

01:07:00,150 --> 01:06:57,599

money for its own lab

1601  
01:07:02,230 --> 01:07:00,160  
now since the naca had been authorized

1602  
01:07:03,670 --> 01:07:02,240  
under a naval appropriations act it

1603  
01:07:05,829 --> 01:07:03,680  
submitted its funding request for

1604  
01:07:07,990 --> 01:07:05,839  
laboratories back to daniels

1605  
01:07:09,910 --> 01:07:08,000  
now daniels believed that the naca

1606  
01:07:12,230 --> 01:07:09,920  
should not continue funding through the

1607  
01:07:14,309 --> 01:07:12,240  
navy bills that it should be separate

1608  
01:07:15,910 --> 01:07:14,319  
he was worried generally that the naca

1609  
01:07:17,510 --> 01:07:15,920  
was hurting navy requests for other

1610  
01:07:20,390 --> 01:07:17,520  
money particularly in a year that he

1611  
01:07:22,309 --> 01:07:20,400  
wanted uh to ask for funding for the

1612  
01:07:24,230 --> 01:07:22,319  
navy research lab

1613  
01:07:26,150 --> 01:07:24,240

uh but he was also concerned that with

1614

01:07:28,789 --> 01:07:26,160

such a move that the naca was moving

1615

01:07:31,430 --> 01:07:28,799

beyond its advisory status

1616

01:07:33,270 --> 01:07:31,440

and rejected the naca request

1617

01:07:35,109 --> 01:07:33,280

walcott and stratton however met with

1618

01:07:37,510 --> 01:07:35,119

daniels and convinced him to change his

1619

01:07:40,309 --> 01:07:37,520

mind and the funding for the naca was

1620

01:07:42,309 --> 01:07:40,319

eventually approved for fiscal year 1917

1621

01:07:43,910 --> 01:07:42,319

in the naval appropriations bill

1622

01:07:48,390 --> 01:07:43,920

although it would be years before this

1623

01:07:52,309 --> 01:07:50,309

thus we can see that the final form of

1624

01:07:54,789 --> 01:07:52,319

the naca as well as the timing of its

1625

01:07:56,630 --> 01:07:54,799

establishment was strongly influenced by

1626

01:07:58,789 --> 01:07:56,640

the military even if not always in the

1627

01:08:00,549 --> 01:07:58,799

ways the military expected

1628

01:08:02,549 --> 01:08:00,559

soon after the army purchased its first

1629

01:08:03,990 --> 01:08:02,559

airplane george owen square recognized

1630

01:08:05,670 --> 01:08:04,000

the need for the government to support

1631

01:08:07,349 --> 01:08:05,680

fundamental research

1632

01:08:10,069 --> 01:08:07,359

research that would benefit the aviation

1633

01:08:11,670 --> 01:08:10,079

industry broadly not just the army

1634

01:08:13,190 --> 01:08:11,680

square proposed the committee to guide

1635

01:08:14,950 --> 01:08:13,200

research at a national aeronautical

1636

01:08:17,669 --> 01:08:14,960

laboratory drawing on his own knowledge

1637

01:08:19,590 --> 01:08:17,679

of other scientific advisory committees

1638

01:08:21,590 --> 01:08:19,600

independently navy officer washington

1639

01:08:23,590 --> 01:08:21,600

irving chambers also saw the need to do

1640

01:08:25,269 --> 01:08:23,600

fundamental research in aviation even

1641

01:08:26,470 --> 01:08:25,279

before the navy had purchased its first

1642

01:08:28,229 --> 01:08:26,480

plane

1643

01:08:30,229 --> 01:08:28,239

like square chambers modeled his own

1644

01:08:31,990 --> 01:08:30,239

proposal for a national aeronautical lab

1645

01:08:33,349 --> 01:08:32,000

on the uk's advisory committee for

1646

01:08:35,269 --> 01:08:33,359

aeronautics

1647

01:08:37,189 --> 01:08:35,279

along with walcott and alfred zham

1648

01:08:39,430 --> 01:08:37,199

chambers became a prime promoter of some

1649

01:08:41,030 --> 01:08:39,440

sort of national lab serving as one of

1650

01:08:42,789 --> 01:08:41,040

the navy representatives on both the

1651  
01:08:44,550 --> 01:08:42,799  
board of woodward commission and the

1652  
01:08:45,749 --> 01:08:44,560  
short-lived langley labs advisory

1653  
01:08:47,510 --> 01:08:45,759  
committee

1654  
01:08:49,269 --> 01:08:47,520  
chambers and square both considered the

1655  
01:08:51,510 --> 01:08:49,279  
needs of the country ahead of the needs

1656  
01:08:53,110 --> 01:08:51,520  
of their own services though it is true

1657  
01:08:56,070 --> 01:08:53,120  
that the military would benefit greatly

1658  
01:08:57,590 --> 01:08:56,080  
from such a national lab

1659  
01:08:59,269 --> 01:08:57,600  
now with the reassignment of square in

1660  
01:09:00,630 --> 01:08:59,279  
chambers walcott became the driving

1661  
01:09:03,030 --> 01:09:00,640  
force in the creation of a national

1662  
01:09:04,950 --> 01:09:03,040  
aeronautic lab while other officers in

1663  
01:09:07,030 --> 01:09:04,960

the services with more parochial

1664

01:09:09,430 --> 01:09:07,040

attitudes became increasingly interested

1665

01:09:10,950 --> 01:09:09,440

in capturing the work of such a lab

1666

01:09:12,470 --> 01:09:10,960

david taylor for instance wanted the

1667

01:09:14,470 --> 01:09:12,480

model basin he had built to have the

1668

01:09:15,829 --> 01:09:14,480

prestige and the budget of being the

1669

01:09:17,430 --> 01:09:15,839

national lab

1670

01:09:19,269 --> 01:09:17,440

general scriven on the other hand likely

1671

01:09:21,269 --> 01:09:19,279

saw the benefits of having a lab working

1672

01:09:23,189 --> 01:09:21,279

for the army without the expense coming

1673

01:09:25,030 --> 01:09:23,199

out of the army budget

1674

01:09:27,189 --> 01:09:25,040

secretary of the navy josephus daniels

1675

01:09:29,269 --> 01:09:27,199

was on the other side of this equation

1676

01:09:31,349 --> 01:09:29,279

he was worried that the naca budget was

1677

01:09:33,110 --> 01:09:31,359

in fact coming out of the navy's pockets

1678

01:09:35,749 --> 01:09:33,120

and that the navy was thus subsidizing

1679

01:09:37,669 --> 01:09:35,759

the army and private industry

1680

01:09:39,590 --> 01:09:37,679

in the end the naca budget did not take

1681

01:09:42,070 --> 01:09:39,600

away from daniel's naval research lab

1682

01:09:43,430 --> 01:09:42,080

and the naca eventually did begin to get

1683

01:09:45,590 --> 01:09:43,440

funding separate from the navy's

1684

01:09:47,349 --> 01:09:45,600

appropriations

1685

01:09:48,709 --> 01:09:47,359

so as a final thought i hope i have

1686

01:09:50,229 --> 01:09:48,719

convinced you that while military

1687

01:09:51,669 --> 01:09:50,239

interest alone was not enough to bring

1688

01:09:53,829 --> 01:09:51,679

about the creation of the national

1689

01:09:55,430 --> 01:09:53,839

advisory committee for aeronautics said

1690

01:09:57,750 --> 01:09:55,440

interest is important to understanding

1691

01:10:00,070 --> 01:09:57,760

how and why the naca came about when it

1692

01:10:09,669 --> 01:10:00,080

did taking the forum that it did

1693

01:10:13,270 --> 01:10:11,189

well thank you very much to all three of

1694

01:10:15,189 --> 01:10:13,280

our panelists um and now

1695

01:10:16,709 --> 01:10:15,199

time for some questions and answers if

1696

01:10:19,030 --> 01:10:16,719

you're interested there on any of the

1697

01:10:20,790 --> 01:10:19,040

three papers or general topics about the

1698

01:10:22,229 --> 01:10:20,800

setting of the stage for the

1699

01:10:23,590 --> 01:10:22,239

national advisory committee foreign i

1700

01:10:24,630 --> 01:10:23,600

remind you that

1701

01:10:27,430 --> 01:10:24,640

you should please walk up to the

1702

01:10:28,790 --> 01:10:27,440

microphone there to ask questions and

1703

01:10:30,070 --> 01:10:28,800

because we're taping this and

1704

01:10:32,149 --> 01:10:30,080

broadcasting it there'll be a release

1705

01:10:33,830 --> 01:10:32,159

format you need to sign to do as well so

1706

01:10:34,630 --> 01:10:33,840

expect a little bit of paperwork

1707

01:10:36,630 --> 01:10:34,640

but

1708

01:10:37,910 --> 01:10:36,640

welcome company

1709

01:10:42,470 --> 01:10:37,920

and ask whatever questions you might

1710

01:10:46,229 --> 01:10:43,990

and we're going to start with a question

1711

01:10:48,149 --> 01:10:46,239

from our online audience

1712

01:10:50,790 --> 01:10:48,159

uh the question is why did the langley

1713

01:10:52,390 --> 01:10:50,800

aerodrome fail twice

1714

01:10:54,470 --> 01:10:52,400

why did the langley airdrome fail on

1715

01:10:55,830 --> 01:10:54,480

this flight she wants the

1716

01:10:59,030 --> 01:10:55,840

the language

1717

01:11:00,229 --> 01:10:59,040

aerodrome failed twice oh

1718

01:11:04,229 --> 01:11:00,239

um

1719

01:11:05,510 --> 01:11:04,239

that's actually in the paper as well

1720

01:11:08,630 --> 01:11:05,520

it failed

1721

01:11:11,030 --> 01:11:08,640

because of structural frailty

1722

01:11:13,910 --> 01:11:11,040

for years the argument went back and

1723

01:11:16,950 --> 01:11:13,920

forth was it capable wasn't it capable

1724

01:11:20,470 --> 01:11:16,960

in fact at one point walcott even

1725

01:11:23,110 --> 01:11:20,480

uh sort of twisted david taylor and and

1726

01:11:25,590 --> 01:11:23,120

ames arms to do

1727

01:11:27,510 --> 01:11:25,600

a report that said well

1728

01:11:30,149 --> 01:11:27,520

the rights were the first to fly but

1729

01:11:32,310 --> 01:11:30,159

langley was close behind they

1730

01:11:35,750 --> 01:11:32,320

sort of ignored the issue

1731

01:11:38,870 --> 01:11:35,760

but it was really only over the past two

1732

01:11:42,070 --> 01:11:38,880

decades that engineers have taken a hard

1733

01:11:45,590 --> 01:11:42,080

look at whether or not it was capable of

1734

01:11:46,630 --> 01:11:45,600

flight i think the bottom line is in

1735

01:11:50,310 --> 01:11:46,640

a

1736

01:11:53,350 --> 01:11:50,320

toronto

1737

01:11:55,430 --> 01:11:53,360

an engineering dissertation but it's on

1738

01:11:57,910 --> 01:11:55,440

the whole question of the capability of

1739

01:12:00,550 --> 01:11:57,920

the langley era drone to fly

1740

01:12:03,910 --> 01:12:00,560

and the bottom line that the student

1741

01:12:07,030 --> 01:12:03,920

came up with was that it was not capable

1742

01:12:09,350 --> 01:12:07,040

of flight and that was because of

1743

01:12:10,950 --> 01:12:09,360

again the structural basic structural

1744

01:12:18,550 --> 01:12:10,960

weakness of uh

1745

01:12:18,560 --> 01:12:24,310

roger please hi i'm roger lanius

1746

01:12:27,510 --> 01:12:25,350

langley

1747

01:12:29,590 --> 01:12:27,520

got some money from the war department

1748

01:12:32,550 --> 01:12:29,600

to do the aerodrome

1749

01:12:36,070 --> 01:12:32,560

50k something like that

1750

01:12:37,510 --> 01:12:36,080

and it was a failure

1751

01:12:39,830 --> 01:12:37,520

the

1752

01:12:42,709 --> 01:12:39,840

mythology and maybe it's just mythology

1753

01:12:45,030 --> 01:12:42,719

is that this so turned off

1754

01:12:47,750 --> 01:12:45,040

the government in terms of funding any

1755

01:12:49,350 --> 01:12:47,760

other activities that it really wasn't

1756

01:12:51,590 --> 01:12:49,360

until you get

1757

01:12:53,270 --> 01:12:51,600

into the naca arena where they're

1758

01:12:55,990 --> 01:12:53,280

starting to talk about an advisory

1759

01:12:57,990 --> 01:12:56,000

committee that that there was a desire

1760

01:12:59,830 --> 01:12:58,000

or even any kind of willingness to

1761

01:13:01,830 --> 01:12:59,840

continue to support

1762

01:13:04,709 --> 01:13:01,840

aeronautical research

1763

01:13:06,149 --> 01:13:04,719

how true or false is that how widespread

1764

01:13:09,110 --> 01:13:06,159

was the

1765

01:13:13,189 --> 01:13:09,120

animosity toward government investment

1766

01:13:15,910 --> 01:13:13,199

through that 10 to 12 year period

1767

01:13:18,390 --> 01:13:15,920

well roger's right of course the

1768

01:13:21,270 --> 01:13:18,400

board of ordinance and fortification

1769

01:13:23,750 --> 01:13:21,280

had in fact given langley when the day

1770

01:13:27,430 --> 01:13:23,760

was done fifty thousand dollars

1771

01:13:31,189 --> 01:13:27,440

to uh spend on the great eardrum and the

1772

01:13:32,870 --> 01:13:31,199

smithsonian both from the hodgkin's fund

1773

01:13:35,910 --> 01:13:32,880

and from other

1774

01:13:38,070 --> 01:13:35,920

trust funds in the smithsonian coffers

1775

01:13:40,149 --> 01:13:38,080

put in even more money

1776

01:13:42,790 --> 01:13:40,159

for the air drone and of course the

1777

01:13:44,470 --> 01:13:42,800

failure of the eardrum

1778

01:13:47,110 --> 01:13:44,480

you know was in front of the new york

1779

01:13:47,990 --> 01:13:47,120

times and everyone langley as i said

1780

01:13:49,990 --> 01:13:48,000

really

1781

01:13:53,350 --> 01:13:50,000

took it on the chin

1782

01:13:56,229 --> 01:13:53,360

and so it's really

1783

01:14:00,070 --> 01:13:56,239

when the wright brothers come back

1784

01:14:02,310 --> 01:14:00,080

beginning in 1907 looking to sell their

1785

01:14:05,350 --> 01:14:02,320

aerodrome

1786

01:14:08,630 --> 01:14:05,360

the war department gets a letter on pale

1787

01:14:11,350 --> 01:14:08,640

blue stationary with a bicycle on top

1788

01:14:14,310 --> 01:14:11,360

from these two guys who say they've done

1789

01:14:16,950 --> 01:14:14,320

it they can provide you with an airplane

1790

01:14:19,350 --> 01:14:16,960

and here's what it'll do and so on

1791

01:14:21,510 --> 01:14:19,360

what hadn't occurred to the rights is

1792

01:14:24,630 --> 01:14:21,520

that that letter was going to land on

1793

01:14:26,310 --> 01:14:24,640

the same desk that had funded the

1794

01:14:31,510 --> 01:14:26,320

langley eardrum

1795

01:14:33,750 --> 01:14:31,520

and so um at least initially 1907-1908

1796

01:14:36,550 --> 01:14:33,760

there was a reluctance on the part of

1797

01:14:41,350 --> 01:14:36,560

the army to um

1798

01:14:44,149 --> 01:14:41,360

invest in aeronautics to that extent

1799

01:14:46,470 --> 01:14:44,159

the problem though um

1800

01:14:48,790 --> 01:14:46,480

is deeper than that obviously the

1801  
01:14:49,590 --> 01:14:48,800  
military the army and the navy got over

1802  
01:14:52,870 --> 01:14:49,600  
their

1803  
01:14:54,790 --> 01:14:52,880  
reluctance to spend money on aviation

1804  
01:14:56,470 --> 01:14:54,800  
the real problem

1805  
01:14:58,950 --> 01:14:56,480  
um

1806  
01:15:02,310 --> 01:14:58,960  
the real reason that american

1807  
01:15:03,669 --> 01:15:02,320  
aeronautics was as i said it

1808  
01:15:05,510 --> 01:15:03,679  
really isn't

1809  
01:15:08,390 --> 01:15:05,520  
even the right patent suit it is the

1810  
01:15:10,630 --> 01:15:08,400  
whole question of investment

1811  
01:15:13,270 --> 01:15:10,640  
with war on the horizon the european

1812  
01:15:16,790 --> 01:15:13,280  
nations are investing in aeronautics the

1813  
01:15:18,470 --> 01:15:16,800

united states just absolutely is not

1814

01:15:20,550 --> 01:15:18,480

and um

1815

01:15:24,390 --> 01:15:20,560

you know as the character and the right

1816

01:15:25,189 --> 01:15:24,400

stuff says no bucks no buck rogers and

1817

01:15:28,550 --> 01:15:25,199

that

1818

01:15:31,590 --> 01:15:28,560

really is what sets the stage for

1819

01:15:34,070 --> 01:15:31,600

everyone's recognition of the need for a

1820

01:15:35,430 --> 01:15:34,080

national advisory board in the national

1821

01:15:37,910 --> 01:15:35,440

laboratory

1822

01:15:39,750 --> 01:15:37,920

if i can just jump in briefly from the

1823

01:15:41,750 --> 01:15:39,760

the government perspective

1824

01:15:43,590 --> 01:15:41,760

uh certainly the the board of ordinance

1825

01:15:44,470 --> 01:15:43,600

and fortification was

1826

01:15:46,070 --> 01:15:44,480

uh

1827

01:15:47,750 --> 01:15:46,080

certainly a little bit gun shy having

1828

01:15:50,070 --> 01:15:47,760

taken a shellacking from the public in

1829

01:15:52,470 --> 01:15:50,080

congress over spending all of this money

1830

01:15:54,470 --> 01:15:52,480

which was about equivalent of a quarter

1831

01:15:57,590 --> 01:15:54,480

of their year budget

1832

01:15:59,350 --> 01:15:57,600

on such an obvious failure failure

1833

01:16:01,110 --> 01:15:59,360

the second crash occurred

1834

01:16:03,270 --> 01:16:01,120

just outside of washington here and it

1835

01:16:04,630 --> 01:16:03,280

was a field day everyone went down to

1836

01:16:06,149 --> 01:16:04,640

see it happen

1837

01:16:08,390 --> 01:16:06,159

um

1838

01:16:10,870 --> 01:16:08,400

interestingly uh looking through the

1839

01:16:13,590 --> 01:16:10,880

board of ordnance fortification records

1840

01:16:16,630 --> 01:16:13,600

uh they are less gun shy

1841

01:16:18,950 --> 01:16:16,640

about uh further investment in this the

1842

01:16:20,470 --> 01:16:18,960

problem is they sort of stepped up what

1843

01:16:21,990 --> 01:16:20,480

they needed to see before they were

1844

01:16:24,870 --> 01:16:22,000

willing to

1845

01:16:26,470 --> 01:16:24,880

spend any more money and as you say the

1846

01:16:28,149 --> 01:16:26,480

interesting thing is this pale blue

1847

01:16:29,350 --> 01:16:28,159

letter appears

1848

01:16:31,350 --> 01:16:29,360

the rights

1849

01:16:33,590 --> 01:16:31,360

were interested in preserving their

1850

01:16:35,590 --> 01:16:33,600

their intellectual property rights and

1851

01:16:36,870 --> 01:16:35,600

did not want to give much away

1852

01:16:38,630 --> 01:16:36,880

and the interesting thing is when you

1853

01:16:40,390 --> 01:16:38,640

compare that to the other letters that

1854

01:16:42,149 --> 01:16:40,400

were landing on the board of ordinances

1855

01:16:43,750 --> 01:16:42,159

fortifications

1856

01:16:45,990 --> 01:16:43,760

table at the time

1857

01:16:47,510 --> 01:16:46,000

and there's really nothing to say that

1858

01:16:48,630 --> 01:16:47,520

no these two wright brothers had

1859

01:16:52,229 --> 01:16:48,640

something

1860

01:16:54,709 --> 01:16:52,239

the the rights as larry knows would not

1861

01:16:55,910 --> 01:16:54,719

even send a photograph of their airplane

1862

01:16:58,709 --> 01:16:55,920

in the air

1863

01:17:04,310 --> 01:16:58,719

just the letters saying here's what we

1864

01:17:07,830 --> 01:17:06,070

hi i'm glenn bugos um i'd like to ask

1865

01:17:10,709 --> 01:17:07,840

the three speakers to comment on the

1866

01:17:12,070 --> 01:17:10,719

tension between secrecy and openness it

1867

01:17:13,750 --> 01:17:12,080

doesn't seem to have been an issue when

1868

01:17:15,590 --> 01:17:13,760

you were talking about the military

1869

01:17:17,910 --> 01:17:15,600

interest in the naca but ximena i'd like

1870

01:17:20,229 --> 01:17:17,920

to start with you because octavia nude

1871

01:17:22,390 --> 01:17:20,239

especially seems to be swimming against

1872

01:17:24,310 --> 01:17:22,400

the tide of very private personal action

1873

01:17:25,270 --> 01:17:24,320

in the development of flight that might

1874

01:17:26,709 --> 01:17:25,280

be

1875

01:17:28,630 --> 01:17:26,719

evident in his correspondence with the

1876

01:17:30,630 --> 01:17:28,640

wright brothers but you said that he

1877

01:17:32,870 --> 01:17:30,640

insisted to always share what you know

1878

01:17:35,669 --> 01:17:32,880

which seems to reflect very well

1879

01:17:38,709 --> 01:17:35,679

what we know about the naca and its uh

1880

01:17:41,590 --> 01:17:38,719

publications and outreach program

1881

01:17:42,790 --> 01:17:41,600

well chanute's philosophy as civil

1882

01:17:46,709 --> 01:17:42,800

engineer

1883

01:17:52,070 --> 01:17:49,430

training at the university or whatever

1884

01:17:52,950 --> 01:17:52,080

he knew that the only way for him to

1885

01:17:55,350 --> 01:17:52,960

learn

1886

01:17:57,669 --> 01:17:55,360

was to pick somebody else's brain who

1887

01:18:00,470 --> 01:17:57,679

knew more than he did

1888

01:18:03,910 --> 01:18:00,480

and throughout his life he

1889

01:18:04,870 --> 01:18:03,920

stayed with that because he wanted other

1890

01:18:07,990 --> 01:18:04,880

people

1891

01:18:11,270 --> 01:18:08,000

to know what he knew so that they cannot

1892

01:18:13,110 --> 01:18:11,280

take it to the next level

1893

01:18:16,149 --> 01:18:13,120

and therefore to him that was just

1894

01:18:18,390 --> 01:18:16,159

something very natural and there came a

1895

01:18:20,709 --> 01:18:18,400

blue letter to his house

1896

01:18:21,830 --> 01:18:20,719

and when he came back home and opened

1897

01:18:23,910 --> 01:18:21,840

the mail

1898

01:18:24,709 --> 01:18:23,920

okay there was another guy that wanted

1899

01:18:28,630 --> 01:18:24,719

help

1900

01:18:29,910 --> 01:18:28,640

i to give it to him simple as that

1901

01:18:32,790 --> 01:18:29,920

why are you tom do you want to comment

1902

01:18:35,830 --> 01:18:32,800

on this uh yeah certainly from the uh

1903

01:18:38,229 --> 01:18:35,840

the military perspective uh

1904

01:18:40,709 --> 01:18:38,239

at least up until world war one whether

1905

01:18:44,229 --> 01:18:40,719

you count 1914 or

1906

01:18:46,229 --> 01:18:44,239

1917 when the us gets into the war

1907

01:18:48,070 --> 01:18:46,239

yeah there's there's not much of a

1908

01:18:50,470 --> 01:18:48,080

concern about secrecy

1909

01:18:52,950 --> 01:18:50,480

with aeronautical research and i think a

1910

01:18:55,669 --> 01:18:52,960

big part of that is that

1911

01:18:58,470 --> 01:18:55,679

both services recognize that

1912

01:19:03,750 --> 01:18:58,480

they're not going to be making any of

1913

01:19:07,830 --> 01:19:06,470

industry the way that they do today

1914

01:19:10,070 --> 01:19:07,840

they don't have that they did not have

1915

01:19:11,990 --> 01:19:10,080

that sort of control over what aviation

1916

01:19:15,830 --> 01:19:12,000

industry existed at the time

1917

01:19:18,630 --> 01:19:15,840

and so uh the only way to improve things

1918

01:19:20,310 --> 01:19:18,640

was for this research to be uh given as

1919

01:19:21,990 --> 01:19:20,320

broadly as possible at least within the

1920

01:19:23,510 --> 01:19:22,000

u.s

1921

01:19:25,910 --> 01:19:23,520

they were not terribly concerned about

1922

01:19:27,590 --> 01:19:25,920

this research going overseas but neither

1923

01:19:29,430 --> 01:19:27,600

were they interested in promoting that i

1924

01:19:38,950 --> 01:19:29,440

think

1925

01:19:40,950 --> 01:19:38,960

one of the interesting things that

1926

01:19:42,709 --> 01:19:40,960

separated the rights from their friend

1927

01:19:44,550 --> 01:19:42,719

octave chanut

1928

01:19:48,149 --> 01:19:44,560

is um

1929

01:19:51,189 --> 01:19:48,159

their attitude toward protecting

1930

01:19:53,189 --> 01:19:51,199

their invention protecting their data

1931

01:19:54,790 --> 01:19:53,199

but you know it's not that difficult to

1932

01:19:56,709 --> 01:19:54,800

understand after all they're the ones

1933

01:19:58,310 --> 01:19:56,719

who had actually done it

1934

01:20:01,189 --> 01:19:58,320

and um

1935

01:20:04,630 --> 01:20:01,199

you know they sort of um

1936

01:20:06,870 --> 01:20:04,640

believe that that entitles them to

1937

01:20:08,229 --> 01:20:06,880

a reward and

1938

01:20:12,709 --> 01:20:08,239

that's the

1939

01:20:17,110 --> 01:20:14,390

thanks

1940

01:20:18,870 --> 01:20:17,120

peter please yeah um so there's a lot of

1941

01:20:20,470 --> 01:20:18,880

in these discussions about

1942

01:20:23,270 --> 01:20:20,480

a national lab

1943

01:20:24,790 --> 01:20:23,280

uh and i'm interested in how

1944

01:20:26,390 --> 01:20:24,800

that transition was made from the

1945

01:20:29,110 --> 01:20:26,400

national advisory committee for

1946

01:20:31,430 --> 01:20:29,120

aeronautics to eventually an operating

1947

01:20:33,270 --> 01:20:31,440

agency which is a pretty big shift in

1948

01:20:34,709 --> 01:20:33,280

function and yes you have the langley

1949

01:20:36,310 --> 01:20:34,719

lab and i guess

1950

01:20:38,390 --> 01:20:36,320

lawrence you mentioned that

1951

01:20:40,709 --> 01:20:38,400

secretary of navy daniels

1952

01:20:42,149 --> 01:20:40,719

made that kind of language

1953

01:20:44,709 --> 01:20:42,159

possible but if you two could maybe

1954

01:20:46,790 --> 01:20:44,719

elaborate on how that

1955

01:20:48,550 --> 01:20:46,800

happened how it made that shift from an

1956

01:20:49,990 --> 01:20:48,560

advisory committee to

1957

01:20:51,750 --> 01:20:50,000

this major

1958

01:20:52,870 --> 01:20:51,760

operating organization

1959

01:20:55,110 --> 01:20:52,880

like that

1960

01:20:57,350 --> 01:20:55,120

um

1961

01:20:59,510 --> 01:20:57,360

so the the thing in all of the proposals

1962

01:21:02,709 --> 01:20:59,520

that sort of precede what becomes the

1963

01:21:07,590 --> 01:21:05,110

really the lab is central

1964

01:21:09,830 --> 01:21:07,600

in all of those it's not until you get

1965

01:21:13,030 --> 01:21:09,840

to walcott's

1966

01:21:14,470 --> 01:21:13,040

subcommittee of the regents and walcott

1967

01:21:16,390 --> 01:21:14,480

says let me change this up a little

1968

01:21:18,229 --> 01:21:16,400

let's concentrate on

1969

01:21:21,350 --> 01:21:18,239

the committee

1970

01:21:22,790 --> 01:21:21,360

to supervise and and eliminate

1971

01:21:24,709 --> 01:21:22,800

duplication

1972

01:21:26,950 --> 01:21:24,719

uh which you know this is this is the

1973

01:21:28,550 --> 01:21:26,960

beginning of the uh the efficiency

1974

01:21:31,430 --> 01:21:28,560

movement

1975

01:21:34,229 --> 01:21:31,440

the the drive to eliminate duplication

1976

01:21:35,910 --> 01:21:34,239

and save money thereby

1977

01:21:40,950 --> 01:21:35,920

terribly important in the federal

1978

01:21:44,390 --> 01:21:42,550

so

1979

01:21:46,310 --> 01:21:44,400

the i the idea of the laboratory is

1980

01:21:50,070 --> 01:21:46,320

still there they sort of get around it

1981

01:21:53,110 --> 01:21:50,080

there um and i

1982

01:21:54,550 --> 01:21:53,120

i think there's an element when daniels

1983

01:21:56,470 --> 01:21:54,560

goes to

1984

01:21:59,270 --> 01:21:56,480

the naval consulting board headed by

1985

01:22:00,790 --> 01:21:59,280

thomas edison

1986

01:22:02,470 --> 01:22:00,800

and says

1987

01:22:03,510 --> 01:22:02,480

what you know what do you guys think

1988

01:22:06,229 --> 01:22:03,520

about

1989

01:22:07,750 --> 01:22:06,239

a laboratory for naval aviation

1990

01:22:10,470 --> 01:22:07,760

and the board comes back and says we

1991

01:22:12,950 --> 01:22:10,480

need a laboratory for the whole navy

1992

01:22:16,629 --> 01:22:12,960

that the the initial request do does the

1993

01:22:17,990 --> 01:22:16,639

navy need its own uh aviation laboratory

1994

01:22:18,790 --> 01:22:18,000

scriven

1995

01:22:20,629 --> 01:22:18,800

uh

1996

01:22:23,910 --> 01:22:20,639

you know partly from

1997

01:22:25,350 --> 01:22:23,920

that inter-service rivalry but partly

1998

01:22:26,709 --> 01:22:25,360

recognition that

1999

01:22:28,310 --> 01:22:26,719

hey if there's going to be a government

2000

01:22:30,790 --> 01:22:28,320

laboratory let's have it be a government

2001

01:22:32,629 --> 01:22:30,800

laboratory not just a navy laboratory

2002

01:22:35,030 --> 01:22:32,639

and once again pushes that idea through

2003

01:22:36,629 --> 01:22:35,040

the naca

2004

01:22:38,470 --> 01:22:36,639

the

2005

01:22:42,149 --> 01:22:38,480

that's absolutely true

2006

01:22:45,990 --> 01:22:42,159

the the notion of the laboratory was

2007

01:22:48,390 --> 01:22:46,000

actually always there until walcott's

2008

01:22:50,950 --> 01:22:48,400

uh final drive to

2009

01:22:53,510 --> 01:22:50,960

create what became the naca but it's

2010

01:22:54,950 --> 01:22:53,520

also true that if you look at the roots

2011

01:22:57,590 --> 01:22:54,960

of all this

2012

01:23:00,070 --> 01:22:57,600

what impressed all of these people was

2013

01:23:02,149 --> 01:23:00,080

the british experience was the

2014

01:23:04,229 --> 01:23:02,159

experience of the british advisory

2015

01:23:08,149 --> 01:23:04,239

committee for aeronautics

2016

01:23:13,350 --> 01:23:10,550

the impact that it had on british

2017

01:23:14,390 --> 01:23:13,360

research and it does i mean connect to

2018

01:23:16,790 --> 01:23:14,400

those

2019

01:23:19,510 --> 01:23:16,800

progressive values of the taft and

2020

01:23:22,149 --> 01:23:19,520

wilson administration you know

2021

01:23:24,229 --> 01:23:22,159

reduce duplication of effort increase

2022

01:23:26,229 --> 01:23:24,239

efficiency

2023

01:23:27,990 --> 01:23:26,239

do some planning here

2024

01:23:30,629 --> 01:23:28,000

and this is a

2025

01:23:33,830 --> 01:23:30,639

role that the government should play

2026

01:23:35,590 --> 01:23:33,840

and so when walker does come back he

2027

01:23:37,510 --> 01:23:35,600

does mention the possibility of a

2028

01:23:40,550 --> 01:23:37,520

laboratory down the road

2029

01:23:44,550 --> 01:23:40,560

but his request is for the advisory

2030

01:23:47,990 --> 01:23:46,390

please

2031

01:23:49,510 --> 01:23:48,000

building on what tom just talked about

2032

01:23:52,229 --> 01:23:49,520

with the british

2033

01:23:55,270 --> 01:23:52,239

was there an impetus in europe because

2034

01:23:56,470 --> 01:23:55,280

we know the the early aeronautics in the

2035

01:24:00,390 --> 01:23:56,480

late

2036

01:24:02,229 --> 01:24:00,400

uh early teens shifted to europe

2037

01:24:04,790 --> 01:24:02,239

that the competition between the

2038

01:24:06,629 --> 01:24:04,800

countries over there the blerio flight

2039

01:24:10,070 --> 01:24:06,639

across the english channel

2040

01:24:13,830 --> 01:24:10,080

the the looking at maybe this is a race

2041

01:24:15,990 --> 01:24:13,840

to develop aeronautics in europe led to

2042

01:24:18,790 --> 01:24:16,000

the european countries being much more

2043

01:24:20,629 --> 01:24:18,800

proactive the british and others whereas

2044

01:24:21,990 --> 01:24:20,639

we were sitting here

2045

01:24:23,990 --> 01:24:22,000

and

2046

01:24:26,390 --> 01:24:24,000

we had the belmont races we had

2047

01:24:27,910 --> 01:24:26,400

everything internal we had no external

2048

01:24:30,070 --> 01:24:27,920

competition we saw that happen in the

2049

01:24:32,790 --> 01:24:30,080

50s with the space race as soon as we

2050

01:24:35,669 --> 01:24:32,800

got a race we turned on but but did that

2051  
01:24:37,030 --> 01:24:35,679  
play a big role in why they were so far

2052  
01:24:38,870 --> 01:24:37,040  
ahead of us and why it took so long to

2053  
01:24:41,669 --> 01:24:38,880  
get the committee going

2054  
01:24:43,510 --> 01:24:41,679  
sure they had war on the horizon

2055  
01:24:45,510 --> 01:24:43,520  
and in the

2056  
01:24:49,830 --> 01:24:45,520  
written version of the paper

2057  
01:24:51,510 --> 01:24:49,840  
i actually provide investment numbers

2058  
01:24:54,550 --> 01:24:51,520  
and it's incredible the level of

2059  
01:24:55,669 --> 01:24:54,560  
investment in europe relatively speaking

2060  
01:24:57,270 --> 01:24:55,679  
for this

2061  
01:25:00,870 --> 01:24:57,280  
technology

2062  
01:25:04,390 --> 01:25:00,880  
which will have some military

2063  
01:25:05,590 --> 01:25:04,400

implications but who knows exactly what

2064

01:25:08,709 --> 01:25:05,600

um

2065

01:25:11,110 --> 01:25:08,719

is really striking and stunning and

2066

01:25:13,910 --> 01:25:11,120

it's just it's both public and private

2067

01:25:14,950 --> 01:25:13,920

investment and it's also the research

2068

01:25:18,709 --> 01:25:14,960

component

2069

01:25:22,229 --> 01:25:18,719

and when people like walcott and scriven

2070

01:25:25,270 --> 01:25:22,239

as well and especially in scrivens 1913

2071

01:25:28,149 --> 01:25:25,280

report to the congress on aviation i

2072

01:25:30,629 --> 01:25:28,159

mean that's what's right up front uh

2073

01:25:32,629 --> 01:25:30,639

that whole notion of these people are

2074

01:25:36,149 --> 01:25:32,639

investing in something that's going to

2075

01:25:38,629 --> 01:25:36,159

be important to the national defense

2076

01:25:40,550 --> 01:25:38,639

yeah there's there's also uh

2077

01:25:41,990 --> 01:25:40,560

in in looking at the army and navy

2078

01:25:45,270 --> 01:25:42,000

looking at what's going on in europe

2079

01:25:47,830 --> 01:25:45,280

1913 and especially in 1914 1915

2080

01:25:49,510 --> 01:25:47,840

uh there's a recognition in europe the

2081

01:25:51,590 --> 01:25:49,520

distances are so small that even though

2082

01:25:53,590 --> 01:25:51,600

airplanes can't go very far

2083

01:25:55,590 --> 01:25:53,600

it's very easy for them to fly into

2084

01:25:57,189 --> 01:25:55,600

another country and do something and the

2085

01:25:58,870 --> 01:25:57,199

army and navy are very aware that all

2086

01:26:00,950 --> 01:25:58,880

these advances are going on and they're

2087

01:26:03,910 --> 01:26:00,960

kind of like well we'll watch them we'll

2088

01:26:06,830 --> 01:26:03,920

let them expend the effort

2089

01:26:08,870 --> 01:26:06,840

to to develop this

2090

01:26:10,310 --> 01:26:08,880

um so

2091

01:26:12,229 --> 01:26:10,320

very conscious of the fact that that's

2092

01:26:13,830 --> 01:26:12,239

going on over there whereas they very

2093

01:26:15,430 --> 01:26:13,840

explicitly state

2094

01:26:17,189 --> 01:26:15,440

this will not be a problem for the u.s

2095

01:26:19,270 --> 01:26:17,199

for a while let's sit back and see

2096

01:26:20,709 --> 01:26:19,280

what's going on in europe stand closer

2097

01:26:22,629 --> 01:26:20,719

okay sure

2098

01:26:24,709 --> 01:26:22,639

all right next hey jack sure hi i'm

2099

01:26:26,629 --> 01:26:24,719

adrian provenzano and i actually flew

2100

01:26:28,550 --> 01:26:26,639

out of the indianapolis airport and

2101  
01:26:30,470 --> 01:26:28,560  
active chinood is well known because of

2102  
01:26:32,790 --> 01:26:30,480  
his testing and there's a

2103  
01:26:35,669 --> 01:26:32,800  
there are two three-dimensional murals

2104  
01:26:37,910 --> 01:26:35,679  
and he is shown hanging onto his glider

2105  
01:26:40,310 --> 01:26:37,920  
so he is represented but i do have a

2106  
01:26:42,390 --> 01:26:40,320  
question for simone which is was there

2107  
01:26:45,270 --> 01:26:42,400  
any later direct connection between

2108  
01:26:47,430 --> 01:26:45,280  
chanute and the naca did people look to

2109  
01:26:50,229 --> 01:26:47,440  
what he did in particular was he in any

2110  
01:26:52,629 --> 01:26:50,239  
way invited to participate was he even

2111  
01:26:54,629 --> 01:26:52,639  
still alive at that point

2112  
01:26:57,590 --> 01:26:54,639  
well i'm sure that he would have loved

2113  
01:26:59,590 --> 01:26:57,600

to be part of it except god took him in

2114

01:27:03,030 --> 01:26:59,600

november 1910

2115

01:27:05,669 --> 01:27:03,040

but i when we first talked about me

2116

01:27:08,149 --> 01:27:05,679

coming here i looked at the list of the

2117

01:27:10,870 --> 01:27:08,159

people that were on the committee

2118

01:27:13,590 --> 01:27:10,880

and chanute corresponded almost with

2119

01:27:15,669 --> 01:27:13,600

every one of them and especially charles

2120

01:27:18,950 --> 01:27:15,679

marvin and zam

2121

01:27:21,350 --> 01:27:18,960

they were very familiar what he had done

2122

01:27:22,950 --> 01:27:21,360

and therefore i'm sure that

2123

01:27:24,550 --> 01:27:22,960

he looked down and

2124

01:27:27,430 --> 01:27:24,560

sent us brainwaves

2125

01:27:29,270 --> 01:27:27,440

that's great thank you all i can say

2126

01:27:31,270 --> 01:27:29,280

thank you

2127

01:27:33,430 --> 01:27:31,280

okay well um

2128

01:27:35,350 --> 01:27:33,440

okay one more just a brief a brief ad

2129

01:27:36,070 --> 01:27:35,360

that i know you're well well aware of

2130

01:27:37,910 --> 01:27:36,080

but

2131

01:27:40,390 --> 01:27:37,920

pearl young who is mentioned in roger

2132

01:27:42,310 --> 01:27:40,400

lania's

2133

01:27:45,430 --> 01:27:42,320

keynote this morning who was so

2134

01:27:47,910 --> 01:27:45,440

important for the the nac publication

2135

01:27:50,470 --> 01:27:47,920

series pearl young was

2136

01:27:52,870 --> 01:27:50,480

not only a fan of octave she was a

2137

01:27:55,430 --> 01:27:52,880

serious student of octave chanu not not

2138

01:27:57,990 --> 01:27:55,440

directly but she was she put materials

2139

01:27:59,990 --> 01:27:58,000

together to write a biography of chanut

2140

01:28:01,350 --> 01:28:00,000

which i don't think it never got done

2141

01:28:03,590 --> 01:28:01,360

but i think the young pearl young

2142

01:28:06,470 --> 01:28:03,600

materials got to the denver was it the

2143

01:28:08,709 --> 01:28:06,480

denver library library yeah

2144

01:28:10,950 --> 01:28:08,719

so it's an interesting connection the

2145

01:28:12,070 --> 01:28:10,960

the philosophy of chanute in terms of

2146

01:28:14,229 --> 01:28:12,080

open

2147

01:28:16,229 --> 01:28:14,239

distribution and sharing of knowledge

2148

01:28:18,870 --> 01:28:16,239

and then the person who is so enamored

2149

01:28:20,149 --> 01:28:18,880

of pearl young of shin becomes the

2150

01:28:22,390 --> 01:28:20,159

person that's instrumental in the

2151

01:28:25,510 --> 01:28:22,400

creation of the naca publication series

2152

01:28:27,830 --> 01:28:25,520

so that's that's worth mentioning

2153

01:28:29,590 --> 01:28:27,840

and simmon and i i know who both use

2154

01:28:31,990 --> 01:28:29,600

those pearl young

2155

01:28:34,790 --> 01:28:32,000

things in the denver public library well

2156

01:28:37,189 --> 01:28:34,800

and even the library of congress has the

2157

01:28:39,350 --> 01:28:37,199

ias papers which my husband and i

2158

01:28:41,590 --> 01:28:39,360

checked yesterday and some of paul

2159

01:28:43,910 --> 01:28:41,600

young's material is in there as well i

2160

01:28:47,270 --> 01:28:43,920

mean it's all all over the world i think

2161

01:28:49,669 --> 01:28:47,280

i told you my copy my personal copy of

2162

01:28:51,830 --> 01:28:49,679

chanute's progress in flying machines

2163

01:28:53,110 --> 01:28:51,840

was pro young's copy which is kind of

2164

01:28:54,550 --> 01:28:53,120

nice

2165

01:28:56,310 --> 01:28:54,560

there are all kinds of interesting

2166

01:28:57,430 --> 01:28:56,320

connections between all these characters

2167

01:28:58,950 --> 01:28:57,440

and the developments that happened a

2168

01:29:00,310 --> 01:28:58,960

century ago and

2169

01:29:01,750 --> 01:29:00,320

i think this is a fascinating i'd like

2170

01:29:08,149 --> 01:29:01,760

to ask you to join me in thanking our

2171

01:29:11,270 --> 01:29:09,830

and thank all of you for joining us this

2172

01:29:12,870 --> 01:29:11,280

morning i will be taking a break for

2173

01:29:15,030 --> 01:29:12,880

lunch uh until one o'clock we'll

2174

01:29:16,550 --> 01:29:15,040

reconvene back here at one o'clock uh

2175

01:29:19,110 --> 01:29:16,560

for a panel on the early history of the

2176

01:29:21,430 --> 01:29:19,120

naca we'll hear many more things about

2177

01:29:23,030 --> 01:29:21,440

mit and other places like that

2178

01:29:24,390 --> 01:29:23,040

have a good