

Dr. Glenn
Folder -
Lewellen

December 29, 1960

Dear Keith:

Under your leadership, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, since its inception on October 1, 1958, has compiled a record of achievement of which every American can be justly proud. Therefore, while accepting your resignation as Administrator of NASA, effective January 20, 1961, I wish to express my thanks for the great contribution you have made.

Our Nation's non-military aeronautical and space activities are vastly expanding human knowledge of phenomena in the atmosphere and outer space and applying this knowledge for the benefit of all mankind. The progress that is being made is striking testimony to your ability to quickly bring together an effective and dedicated staff, to plan an imaginative program of space exploration, and to implement this plan with vigor and determination.

In little more than two years NASA has successfully launched meteorological satellites, such as Tiros I and Tiros II, that promise to revolutionize methods of weather forecasting; demonstrated the feasibility of satellites for global communications by the successful launching of Echo I; produced an enormous amount of valuable scientific data, such as the discovery of the Van Allen Radiation Belts; successfully launched deep-space probes that have established the greatest range over which man has tracked, and made gratifying progress toward the goal of manned space flights.



Because of the organization and program you have helped to create, Americans can look forward to a remarkable future in space exploration. It is hard to realize -- yet inexorably true -- that the near future will hold such wonders as the orbital flight of an astronaut, the landing of instruments on the moon, the launching of the giant Saturn, and the reconnaissance of Mars and Venus by unmanned vehicles.

As you return to private life, you carry with you my appreciation, respect, and friendship. I wish you a long, happy, and healthy future.

With warm regard,

As ever,



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The Honorable T. Keith Glennan
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Washington, D. C.