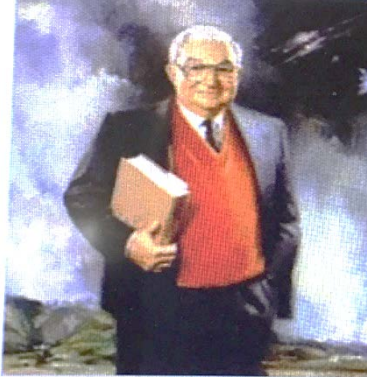


Space Legacy of US Representative George E. Brown, Jr.

By Hans Johnson and Bob Krone



A portrait of George Brown Jr. standing on the surface of the Moon.

Congressman George E. Brown, Jr., born in 1920, was one of the most celebrated elected California officials, having served in Congress for more than 30 years. He represented congressional districts in Los Angeles from 1963-1971 and the Inland Empire from 1973-1999. He died in 1999 at the age of 79, while serving his 18th term.

His professional career legacy has been preserved in the Special Collections and University Archives in the Rivera Library of the University of California, Riverside campus, Riverside, California 92517-5900, Phone: 951-827-3233. The archives' reference number is MS 351; library.ucr.edu/libraries/special-collections-university-archives. Most of the collection documents Brown's 34-year tenure in the US House of Representatives. It occupies 438 linear feet (978 boxes, 10 cartons, 20 oversize boxes) and consists of Brown's legislative, committee, campaign, and constituent files, as well as photographs, personal papers, and other materials.

The collection includes materials relating to topical issues of continuing public importance, such as human rights, climate change, alternative fuels, environmental protection, water resources in California, and federal support of scientific and technological research. Brown's collection also includes materials on important historical political events such as the Vietnam War, anti-satellite and nuclear weapons development, and the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Brown's papers also provide a depth of material on important Inland Empire California events and history, including the closure of Norton Air Force Base, the growth of the Ontario Airport, the cleanup of the Stringfellow Acid Pits, and economic development efforts throughout inland southern California. The Brown papers are an important source of primary research materials for several fields, including public policy, political science, history, and environmental science.

It includes 91 references to Congressman Brown's active involvement in policy for the early Space activities of the United States.

This article for the *Journal of Space Philosophy* summarizes the contribution of Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. to early US policymaking for Space exploration, development, and human settlement.



At the opening of the George Brown Collection at UC, Riverside in November 2016, Hans Johnson, director of the George Brown Legacy Project, right, recognized important leaders in the successful effort to preserve Brown's archives and ongoing work to celebrate the public service of the late Congressman. These include Brown's sister-in-law Gloria Macías Harrison, Board Member of the San Bernardino Community College District, center, and Brown's former senior congressional aide, Bobi Johnson.



George E. Brown, Jr.'s Space Legacy

George Brown served on the US House of Representatives Committee on Science from 1963-1971 and again from 1973-1999. He was the Committee Chairman from 1991-1994 and the ranking Democratic member from 1995-1999. He also served at various times as chairman of the Subcommittee on Science, Research, and Technology; the Subcommittee on Environment and the Atmosphere; and the Subcommittee on Transportation, Aviation, and Materials. His service included legislation; committee hearings, briefings, and testimony; research, budget, news articles, administrative records, memorandums, and committee agendas.

From the beginning of Brown's elected public service in the state Assembly of California in 1958, he was active in Space subjects, programs, conferences, policy, and legislation. The George Brown Archives at UC, Riverside document his activity, including conducting the first Congressional hearing on global climate change and its causes in 1977. The following list of subjects in those archives will give readers an understanding of the important role George E. Brown played in the beginnings of the Space Age:

- 1982 *United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful uses of Outer Space*, Box 98, Folder 9.
- 1983 *Order of Arts and Sciences Conference on Militarization of Space*, Box 98, Folder 22.
- 1983 *National Space Policy*, Box 16, Folder 32.
- 1983 *American Bar Association Symposium on Space*, Box 98, Folder 24.

- 1984 *Roosevelt Center for American Policy Studies Debate on Space-Based Strategic Defense Systems*, Box 99, Folder 3.
- 1984 *L-5 Society Space Developments Conference*, Box 99, Folder 4.
- 1985 *H.J. Res. 252, Space Weapons Treaty Act*, Box 20, Folder 14.
- 1985 *H.J. Res. 318, Designation of Space Exploration Day*, Box 20, Folder 23.
- 1986 *H.R. 5366, Long Range Plan to Implement Report Submitted by National Commission on Space*, Box 25, Folder 7.
- 1986 *H.R. 4860, Replacement Orbiter for the Space Transportation System*, Box 25, Folder 4.
- 1986 *H.R. 4397, National Space Grant College Act*, Box 24, Folder 32.
- 1987 *Classified Military Space Symposium*, Box 101.
- 1987 *H.R. 3765, Commercial Space Launch Act Amendments*, Box 33, Folder 29.
- 1987 *H.R. 1733, Space Station Being Planned by NASA to Be Used for Civilian Purposes Only*, Box 30, Folder 13.
- 1987 *H.R. 1633, National Space Grant College and Fellowship Act*, Box 30, Folder 5.
- 1988 *Conference on Space Values*, Box 104, Folder 3.
- 1988 *H.R. 4218, Space Settlement Act*, Box 33, Folder 57.
- 1988 *H.R. 4399, Commercial Space Launch Act Amendments*, Box 35, Folder 5.
- 1989 *H.J. Res. 213, Space Exploration Day*, Box 26, Folder 22.
- 1989 *H.R. 2201, Outer Space Protection Act*, Box 40, Folder 26.
- 1989 *Energy Space Board Nuclear Reactors*, Box 249, Folder 5.
- 1990 *H.R. 2674, Space Transportation Services Purchase Act*, Box 40, Folder 59.
- 1990 *Japan-U.S. Cooperation in Space Conference, Hawaii*, Box 110, Folder 8.
- 1990 *H. Con. Res. 74, Space Program*, Box 35, Folder 58.
- 1991 *H.R. 564, NASA Multi-Year Authorization*, Box 44, Folder 33.
- 1992 *Rockwell Space Systems Division – Space Shuttle Atlantis Return Ceremony*, Box 112, Folder 17.
- 1994 *Space Shuttle Columbia Return*, Box 116, Folder 12.
- 1997 *IEEE Aerospace Conference*, Box 120, Folder 4.
- 1997 *Meet with Director of the Russian Space Agency, Yuri Kaptivo*, Box 120, Folder 5.
- 1998 *H.R. 1702, Commercial Space Act*, Box 61, Folder 24.
- 1998 *International Space Station Agreements Signing Ceremony*, Box 123, Folder 4.
- 1998 *National Space Society (NSS) Governors Meeting*, Box 124, Folder 10.

Note: The box and folder numbers shown refer to locations in the University of Redlands Archive Catalog.

This article, expanded with the personal comments made by George E. Brown, Jr.'s family and friends who were close to him during those years, who knew of his Space work, and who later created the George Brown Legacy Project, will be presented at the Historical Society of Southern California conference in February 2018.



Marta Macias Brown, talks with former Riverside, California Mayor Ron Loveridge at a ceremony marking the completion of the project to catalog the archives of her husband, Representative George E. Brown, Jr., November 18, 2016.

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About the Authors:

Hans Johnson is director of the George Brown Legacy Project, which makes the life and work of the late Congressman George Brown (1920-1999) a touchstone for education and research on the diversity, equity concerns, and environment of the Inland Region of California. This includes ensuring use of his world-renowned archives at UC, Riverside by present and future generations of scholars and leaders in science, labor, business, and public service.



Dr. Robert M. "Bob" Krone, Ph.D., is President of Kepler Space Institute (KSI); is an Emeritus Professor of Systems Management at the University of Southern California; has been the principal sponsor for PhD, DBA, and Master's Degree Program candidates for forty years; has authored, co-authored, or edited eleven books; is a Fellow Member of the American Society for Quality; and is a US Air Force Colonel (Ret). His Curriculum Vitae is at (www.keplerspaceinstitute.com) and his e-mail is BobKrone@aol.com.



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