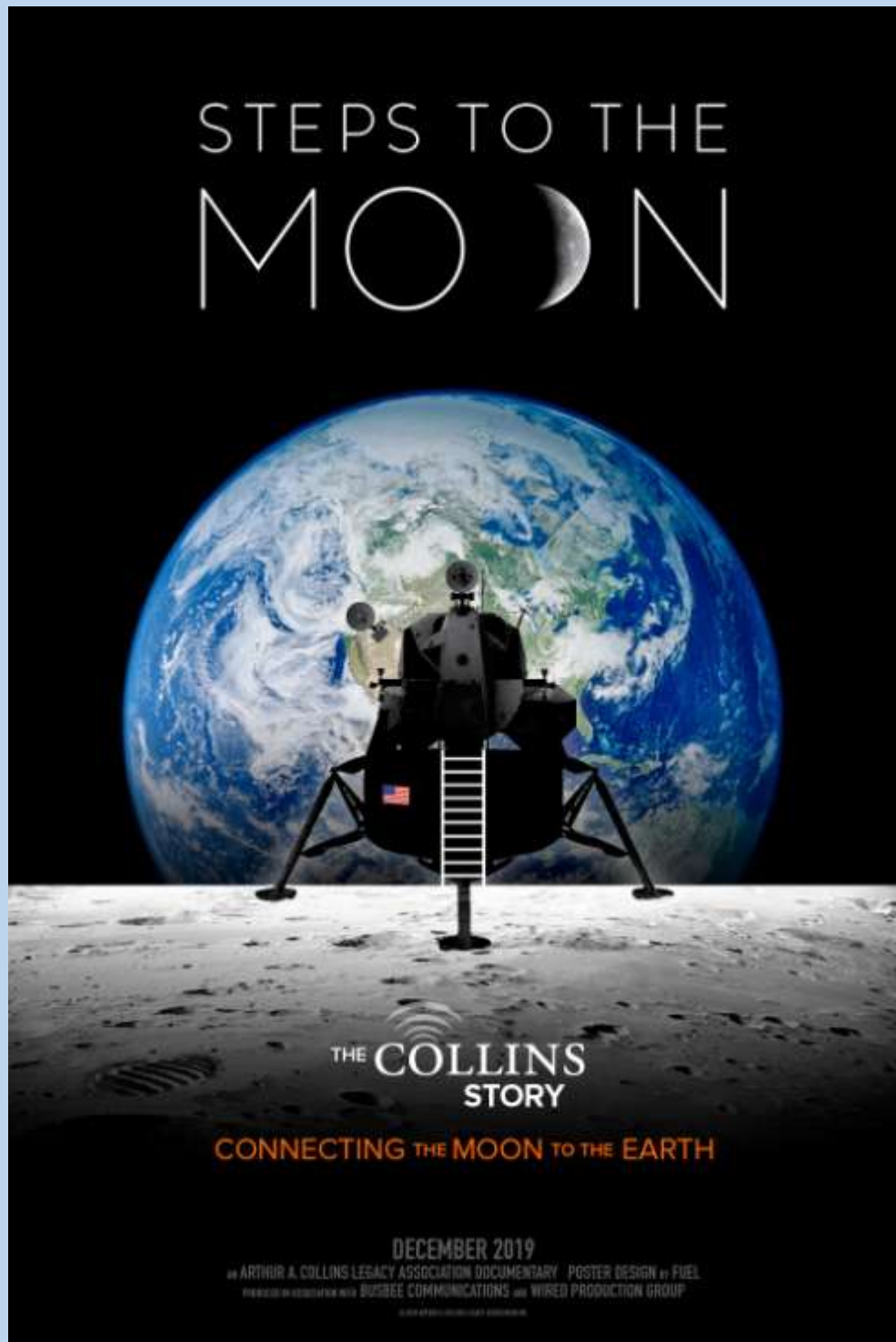


Arthur A. Collins Legacy Association

Annual Report 2020



Graphic Design by FUEL, Inc.

December 1, 2020

To AACLA Volunteers and Collins History Enthusiasts,

Arthur A. Collins Legacy Association (AACLA) focus this year has been in two (2) primary areas:

1) the completion the Collins Radio Documentary, Steps to the Moon, the 3rd of our 3 space documentary films, and 2) posturing AACLA to stream and sell online AACLA films and related videos.

AACLA has successfully advanced through this very challenging year, but has not escaped the fury of CY2020.

The company producing Steps to the Moon was heavily damaged by the August Derecho and their employee working on the film was infected by Covid-19. Thankfully, he has recovered, the company is now in temporary facilities, and progress is again being made, but precious momentum and efficiency was lost.

On another front, the west wall of Collins Aerospace Building 134, the very location where irreplaceable AACLA artifacts were stored, was blown out by the 140 mph Derecho wind storm. By the grace of God and the fact that several dedicated AACLA members had previously inventoried and placed the artifacts in waterproof plastic containers, very little (if any) damage was incurred.

A third potential Derecho-related obstacle was the damage to Collins Aerospace Building 153 where boxes containing legacy documents were stored in preparation for digitization that will support critical research. Despite talk of Building 153 being condemned (condemning has been averted) and so many items in Building 153 being destroyed or heavily damaged, the boxes with legacy documents were not damaged. AACLA identified the peril and assisted Collins Aerospace in the moving of those documents to a more secure location. Of course, all of this underscores the importance of maintaining the health and viability of AACLA as an organization that ensures important lessons of history are not lost.

Looking to the future: With near completion of the above objectives, AACLA will now direct its efforts to preserving/documenting the stories of the individual assets in Building 134, **and** expand our efforts in key research areas (white papers/short videos for streaming on Vimeo, YouTube) **and** public presentations. AACLA is dedicated to the heritage of Collins Radio Company and its founder. We are dedicated to preserving, honoring, and interpreting the legacy and memory of Arthur A. Collins and the profound contributions he and the Collins Radio Company made to the world of communications, navigation, aerospace, avionics, and defense technologies. This heritage is **important to inspire the youth of today** to build a better world, a better future. In addition to **exciting students in math, science, and technology**, our work consistently **promotes the message of optimism, doing your best, and the rewards of working together** during difficult times.

We urge you to visit <http://arthurcollins.org> and <http://collinsaerospacemuseum.org> to learn about our mission. The AACLA Board of Directors **invites you to be a part of this great work**. We have exciting plans to continue producing documentary short films that can be streamed, research to be done, publications to be written, artifacts to be collected, preserved, stored and displayed, and presentations to be made at public events.

Sincerely,

Mike Dupree
President, AACLA

The Arthur A Collins Legacy Association FY-2020 Annual Report

AACLA Purpose

This report documents the Fiscal Year 2020 (Oct. 1, 2019 to Sep. 30, 2020) activities and accomplishments of the AACLA for our donors and volunteers. This is a yearly summary and additional details can be obtained by contacting one of the officers or board members. The AACLA was incorporated in the State of Iowa on January 3, 2014 and became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in October 2014.

The purpose of the AACLA is to preserve, honor, and interpret the legacy and memory of Arthur A. Collins and the significant contributions he and Collins Radio Co. made in the world of communications, aerospace and defense technologies. In carrying out this purpose, the AACLA has a special focus on education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The organization works to inspire and teach future generations by the preservation, interpretation and display of artifacts, conducting educational events, and producing historical documentation in various media. The AACLA is exploring grants and other funding opportunities which may ultimately lead to the creation and operation of a heritage learning center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

AACLA Personnel

The organization consists of a board of directors (who elect the officers) and a cadre of volunteers. The board meets quarterly with its annual meeting in November. At the October 2019 board meeting, Michael Dupree was elected to the AACLA board. At the annual meeting on December 11, 2019 officers were elected for the year and Loney Duncan was added to the AACLA Board of Directors. At the March 10, 2020 board meeting, Terry Lamb announced his desire to retire from presidential duties. Mike Dupree was elected as AACLA President effective June 1, 2020.

The FY2020 Board of Directors and Officers are:

Mike Dupree, New President – Retired Rockwell Collins (1975 - 2019)

Michael Collins, Vice-President - Eldest son of A.A. Collins & Collins Radio employee (1964-1967)

Rod Blocksome, Secretary - Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1968 - 2010)

Alicia Dee Jackson*, Treasurer – Retired CPA (Husband was a Collins Radio Employee).
New Treasurer is Cornelis Van Der Linden, now employed by Collins Aerospace

Loney Duncan, Member – Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins

Terry Lamb, Member - Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1961 - 1996)

Rebecca Woodward, Member - Rockwell Collins employee (2005 - present)

Mike Wilson, Member - Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1951 - 1990)
H. Keith Erickson, Member – Retired, Head of Linn County Public Health (1980 - 2008)
Jim Stitzinger, Member - Businessman, Director Collins Collectors Association
Don Stulken, Member – Retired, Rockwell Collins (1975 - 2015)

* indicates non-board member officer

At the end of FY2020 Alicia Jackson retired as our Treasurer and the board elected Cornelias (Coen) van der Linden as our new treasurer.



James Robert Shanklin (1937-2020)

The staff and members of the AACLA are saddened to report the passing of one of our association's founders, Jim Shanklin. Jim was a long-time employee of the Collins Radio Company, author of several history books about Collins Radio, served on the AACLA Board of Directors and as a Docent for the Collins Aerospace Museum. He was a Mentor to us all, a Friend and a Gentleman.

AACLA Volunteers and Their Primary Work:

Since February 2020, the COVID-19 Pandemic has severely curtailed the work of AACLA dedicated volunteers compared to previous years. Never-the-less we recognize the following for their past and continued work:

Rod Blocksom (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research & Artifact Collection/Sorting/Inventory

Michael Collins (Arthur Collins' son) – Public Relations & Documentary Research

Ray Collins (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Construction of Attic Ham Station Exhibit

Mike Dupree (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Contracts, Insurance Definition

Loney Duncan (Retired Rockwell Collins) – History Support and Fund Raising

Alan Erickson (Retired Rockwell Collins) – E-Book Project
Keith Erickson (Retired Linn County Health) – Documentary Research
Bob Erlanson (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research & IEEE Liaison
Gordon Fabian (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Indexing Collins Publications
Alicia Dee Jackson, AACLA Treasurer
Jim Jones (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Collins 233D Transmitter Restoration
Terry Lamb (Retired Rockwell Collins) – AACLA Organization & Artifact Collections
Eric Miles – Facilitated the Collins History Exhibit at the Marion Heritage Museum
Bob Ocken (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Web Site Development & VIMEO Archiving
Larry Pinkston (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Museum Equipment Restoration & Replication
Jim Pruit (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research
Don Stulken (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research & Donation Implementation
Larry Tjaden (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Web Site Content & Documentary Research
Steve Tyson (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research & Public Relations
Mike Wilson (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Artifact Support and Donation Advisor
Becky Woodward (Retired Collins Aerospace) – Legal Advice & General Support
Jules Yoder (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Collins Transmitter Restoration

AACLA Projects

AACLA Projects fall into six broad categories. A summary of Fiscal Year 2020 activities follows:

1. Collins Historical Documentaries

Since 2015 the AACLA has been engaged in writing, producing, and distributing professional-grade video documentaries on the history and legacy of Arthur Collins and the Collins Radio Company. Our first documentary entitled “***The Arthur Collins Legacy – A Culture of Innovation***” premiered at Coe College Sinclair Auditorium on October 9, 2015 and has since received many excellent reviews.

In 2018, the AACLA undertook a much more ambitious project to produce a trilogy of videos telling the little known story of Collins’ contribution to the success of the American Space Program to land a man on the Moon. It was titled “**The Collins Story – Connecting the Earth to the Moon**”. Three episodes were defined. Since they are so inter-related, all three are outlined as follows:

Episode #1 – “Steps to the Moon”, tells the story of early research and innovation at Collins radio in the 1950s and early 60s that put the company in position to win significant NASA contracts for the Apollo program. We started work on this episode in September 2019 with a planned release in April 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed (but not stopped) progress and then the widespread destruction from the August 10th Derecho Storm further delayed progress. As of November 1st, we are working to complete this episode in December.

Episode #2 – “Moon Talk”, focused on Collins’ role in the early Apollo missions culminating with Apollo 8, which was the first time man left the confines of earth gravity and traveled to the Moon at Christmas time 1968. This episode premiered at the Collins Road Theater with free admission on December 24, 2018 – exactly on the 50th anniversary of Apollo 8 famous broadcast over Collins equipment while orbiting the Moon.

Episode #3 - “Live from the Moon” was then written, produced, and again premiered at the Collins Road Theater on July 21, 2019 – exactly on the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. We again made it free to the public and filled four theaters to capacity.

Earlier this year we entered “Live from the Moon” in the Iowa Motion Picture Association Film Festival. It was nominated in several categories and a gala showing and announcement of awards was to be held in Ottumwa, Iowa. But the Corona virus pandemic forced it to take place on-line August 8, 2020. At the end of the evening “Live from the Moon” won awards in three categories.

- Editing – Medium Form (30-59 minutes): Awarded “Excellence”
- Soundtrack Audio Mix: Awarded “Excellence”
- Voice Over Narration: Awarded “Achievement”

All of the AACLA documentaries are available on DVD through the AACLA web site: www.arthurcollins.org. We are in the final stages of making them available by streaming over the internet.

These outstanding documentaries are made possible by contributions from our generous donors. The production quality is due to a carefully organized team consisting of the following:

- Dedicated volunteers who perform many functions, including:
 - Historical Research
 - Locating historical film, photos, and artifacts
 - Organizing people to interview.
 - Fund raising
 - Publicity and promotion
- Hired professional writer/producer
- Hired professional video editor
- Hired professional narrator, music composer, and sound mixer

2. AACLA Publications

The AACLA owns two books on Collins History - “*The History of Collins Radio Company In Space Communications*” by James Robert Shanklin, published 2018 and “*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*” by Ben Stearns, published 2002. Information on purchasing copies may be found on the AACLA web site: www.arthurcollins.org Future plans are to publish a second edition of “*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*” with corrected typos, and an expanded index of names and equipment types.

3. Collins Historical Exhibits

The Marion Heritage Center – AACLA volunteers assisted the Marion Heritage Center in assembling a comprehensive museum exhibition on Arthur Collins History and Legacy. Our full size replica of young Arthur Collins' 1925 Attic Ham Station was one of the many attractions in the exhibit. The exhibit ran for a full year and was taken down and placed in storage this year. The long-range plan is to place the replica of Arthur's 1925 ham shack on display at area educational facilities along with electronic media telling the story of its significance.

Arthur Collins' 1925 Attic Ham Station Replica – The construction of a full-size replica of young Arthur Collins' attic ham station was started in 2018 as a STEM project with students at Metro High School. At the end of the school year it was not quite finished and the Marion Heritage Center was keen to include it in their Collins History Exhibition due to open on July 13, 2019. So volunteers from AACLA and the Heritage Center completed construction and outfitted it with artifacts to make it look as close as possible to the photographs taken in the 1920's. Work continued with the addition of a replica of Arthur's 50W transmitter constructed by Larry Pinkston. The 50W replica was placed in the station beside the donated 1kW replica just as it appears in the photo of Arthur's 1925 station that he used to contact the MacMillan expedition to Northern Greenland.

On October 10 2019 AACLA vice president Michael Collins gave a public presentation at the Marion Heritage Center, with the theme that the ham station truly represented the first Collins research laboratory. He had given a shorter version of this talk, in October 1918, to the students at Metro High School who helped design and build the replica.

Echo Hill Historical Monument – The AACLA contributed research, photographs, and volunteer labor to place a historic monument in Marion's Lowe Park. The project was lead by Erik Miles of the Rotary Club of Marion-East Cedar Rapids. The monument commemorates the historic role of Collins Radio's 1960 Satellite Earth Station on nearby Echo Hill Road. AACLA board members Don Stulken and Rod Blocksme were invited to participate in the ground breaking ceremony last summer and today construction of the monument will be completed with the addition of two 8-foot parabolic "whisper" dishes to give visitors a "hands-on" experience.

4. Artifact Collection and Preservation



The AACLA collection of artifacts and documentation continues to be located in protected storage at Collins Aerospace (Building 134). Collins Aerospace is donating this climate controlled storage space to the AACLA thus eliminating rental costs of our previous commercial facility.

In July AACLA volunteers spent a week making a detailed inventory of all AACLA artifacts in storage. At the same time, items were carefully sorted and placed in standardized plastic storage containers so that individual items could be located while also providing better protections of the items. It was fortunate that all this was accomplished because a few weeks later the August 10th Derecho Storm hit and the side of Building 134 near where our artifacts were stored was ripped open and exposed to rain and flying debris. A post-storm assessment of the AACLA artifacts showed only very minor effects.

Media and digitized documents are stored on a series of high capacity portable computer hard drives. Working copies are kept by the Secretary while back-up copies are kept in a safe deposit box at the Collins Community Credit Union Branch at 17th St. & 1st Avenue, Cedar Rapids under the names of Mike Dupree, AACLA President and Rod Blocksom, AACLA Secretary..

Throughout the year we continue to receive artifacts and donations significant to the history and Legacy of Collins. A particularly significant donation was a home-built replica of Arthur Collins 1925 1kW amateur transmitter, Homebuilt regenerative receiver, and GE Frequency Meter. These items were donated by Jim Stitzinger - an avid Collins collector who has been of great service to AACLA.

5. Public Events and Presentations

AACLA Volunteer Docents at Collins Aerospace Museum – AACLA Volunteers do double duty working on AACLA projects and as docents at the Collins Aerospace Museum located in building 120. The museum has artifacts dating from the very beginning of Collins Radio to 1983. The website for this museum is collinsaerospacemuseum.org and has a very large number of stories, documents and photos. One of the unique and outstanding features of this web site is the high resolution scanning all of the Collins company magazines with a search tool that allows one to search all the publications by the following:

- A Person's Name

- Collins Equipment Type Number

- Events and Places

There are currently 77,841 entries in the searchable data base of this on-line Collins historical library thanks to years of volunteer work by Collins retirees Gordon Fabian and Larry Tjaden. The library of Collins Publications available on this web site include:

- The Collins Column, 1943 to 1957, 138 issues

- The Collins Signal, 1933 to 1971, 70 issues

- The Collins Pulse, 1961 to 1975, 139 issues

- The Collins Personnel Services, 1975 to 1977, 17 issues

- The Rockwell Pride, 1978 to 1985, 6 issues

- The Rockwell Vision, 1995 to 1996, 5 issues

- The Rockwell Millennium, 1997 to 2001, 14 issues

- The Rockwell Collins Horizons, 2001 to 2015, 63 issues

The museum volunteers also restore significant equipment for future displays in the museum. Two on-going projects and the primary volunteers are the Cockpit simulator for the Beechcraft Starship which had the first all “glass” flight instrument displays from Rockwell Collins. This “rig” and all its equipment, racks, cables, and ancillary special test equipment came back to the museum several years ago and it is slowly being brought back to life in the museum restoration space. Larry Pinkston and Larry Tjaden are the principals on this project.

The other on-going project is the “floor-up” restoration of a 1939 Collins 233D 3kW transmitter; thought to be one of only six produced. Jim Jones and Jules Yoder are the principals on this project.

Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Report

The AACLA fiscal year spans from Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020.

Our Balance Sheet as of Sept. 30, 2020 shows:

ASSETS

Savings Acct	\$2,254.59
Checking Acct	\$37,932.09
Other Assets	\$800.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$40,986.68

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Retained Earnings	\$28,574.12
Net Income	\$12,412.56
TOTAL EQUITY	\$40,986.68

Our Profit and Loss Statement for FY2020 shows:

INCOME

Direct Public Support	\$61,751.54
Investment	\$17.89
Misc. Revenue	\$2,535.16
TOTAL INCOME	\$64,308.59

EXPENSE

DVD Production	\$3,647.32
Episode #1	\$45,035.28
First Collins Lab	\$409.03
Facilities/Equip	\$384.85
Operations	\$1,559.55
Other	\$860.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$51,896.03

AACLA Development (Funding) – The AACLA relies on grants, donations, and sales of DVDs, posters, and books for operating funds. A number of grant requests have been written as well as ongoing general fund raising activities.

AACLA Donations of cash and/or Collins artifacts during the fiscal year were received from the following (in alphabetical order):

The Beall Family Foundation Rod Blocksom Tom Brennom Randy Buck Donna & Richard Butikofer Jack Cosgrove Robert J. Erlandson Roger Flint Don Grimm	Melvin Holubar Phil Jasper Terry Lamb John W. Murphy Steven & Lulu Rowe Paul Shanley Terry Smith Jim Spencer Jim Stitzinger	Don Stulken John Thedens Phil Topf Charles Wehage Larry Westergren Paul & Gail Williams Myron & Esther Wilson Norm Wright David & Julie Yeoman
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*Note: We did receive many donations at events and presentations held by AACLA.
Thank you to those unnamed individual donors.*

The AACLA officers and board of directors sincerely thank all our past donors who have enabled our accomplishments to date. We would also like to thank the dedicated volunteers who have put in countless hours, the individuals and companies who did considerable pro-bono work and to Collins Aerospace for their continued support, providing facilities for our use and for providing a partner grant.

The AACLA officers and board of directors operate without pay and rely on donations of funding and in-kind goods and services to accomplish their goals and objectives. AACLA Board Members are also monetary donors of the organization. The AACLA accepts donations of Collins Radio artifacts such as equipment, documents, and media per our collection policy found on our web site.

Your contribution will be gratefully accepted by contacting AACLA President Mike Dupree, 6920 Surrey Drive NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402, mike.dupree.aaccla@gmail.com (319) 651-4666.

Photos of AACLA Activities



Exhibit of the Replica of Arthur Collins' 1925 Attic Ham Station



Replica 1925 Collins Transmitters

Left-1kW Donated by Jim Stitzinger: Right - 50 Watt Constructed by Larry Pinkston for AACLA



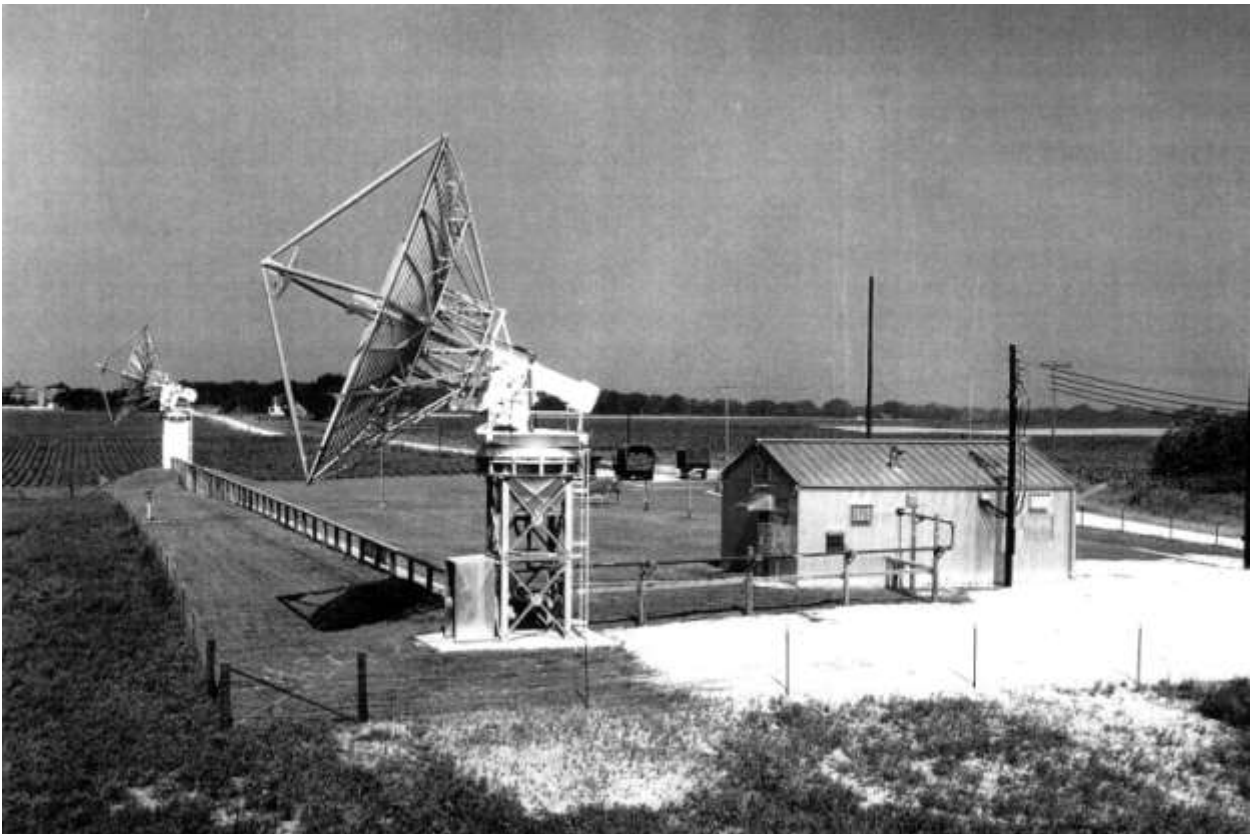
Monument to Echo Satellite Historic Communications by Collins Radio



Reverse Side of the Monument



A Large Reflecting Sphere Represents the Echo Satellite



Collins Radio Echo Satellite Station ca. 1961