

Acknowledgments

This book is an incomplete attempt to match the vision of General Howell M. Estes, III, US Air Force (Retired), who started this project while he was the Commander in Chief, United States Space Command. The endorsement of General John M. Shalikashvili, US Army (Retired) who was the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the inception of this project, provided the additional stimulus required to make this book a reality.

First, sincere and genuine thanks to Colonel William “Bill” J. Powell, US Marine Corps, who was the executive producer and executive editor of this project from start to finish. He received the dream from General Estes and then undertook the task of turning a dream into reality. He chose the means and the people. He drove the project, asking for as much as could be delivered. He kept faith through adversity, always determined to produce a useful product. His energy, optimism and intelligence drove everyone. This is his book. Support and mentoring was provided by Vice Admiral Lyle G. Bien, US Navy, assisted by Brigadier General Alan Johnson, US Army, and US Air Force Cols Roger B. Graves and Erik Anderson.

This book would not have been possible without Dr. Brian Sullivan. He largely shaped US Space Command’s expectation for a book of this sort. His words, phrasing and reasoning are evident throughout this book. He was the first to undertake the task of writing this book. His first, rough draft was the starting point for subsequent work by James Oberg. Dr. Sullivan developed three very important themes. First, the nature of mankind is unchanging; second, space power is only important insofar as it affects the decisions of humans on the earth, and the land areas of the earth at that; and finally, that the United States is the product of a revolutionary dream that puts us beyond the tawdry business of world domination. He said that we should follow that ideal, use our energy and power for a noble end, and lead the human race into space.

There is a long list of people who provided help. The list must start with the folks at OAO Corporation in Colorado Springs, in particular, a skilled proofreader—Cathy Southall, a superb graphic artist—Jane Maximov, and the talented individual who prepared

this book for printing—Anita Shute. Also special thanks to those who helped in the writing: Rich Affeld (both technical editor and contributor), Rob McConnell, and Carl Schulze. They all were supported by Mr. Rich Poturalski and Mr. Don Diaz, the on-site program management. Ideas came from everywhere as the entire space community chimed in to say that a book on this subject was long overdue. This book owes much of its inspiration to all the enthusiastic support received by the operators.

Dr. Stan Rosen of Hughes Space and Communications Corporation; Lt Gen Jay Kelley, USAF (Retired), of STA Corporation and Toffler Associates; Gen John Piotrowski, USAF (Retired), of SAIC; and Dr. Wiley Larson of USAFA contributed time and ideas to try to keep this project on track. Lt Col Bruce Deblois, USAF, provided intellectual stimulation on a number of occasions. Lt Col Cynthia McKinley, USAF, also provided thoughtful input as this project sought the best path to completion. Dr. Michael Handel of the Naval War College provided most of the intellectual resources to get this project started. Major impact was made by the insight of Ted Johnson of Boeing, and the overawing intellectual capacity of Dr. Lowell Wood of Lawrence Livermore Lab.

There are many more who must be thanked. Some of them are (in no particular order) Maj Gen Bill Jones (USAF, Retired); Maj Gen Robert Dickman, USAF; Dr. Denny Drew and Dr. Harold R. “Hal” Winton of SAAS; Mr. Don Dandurand of Lockheed Martin; Mr. Al Sexton of ACSC; Mr. Larry Blotzer of the Army War College CSL; and Dr. Colin S. Gray, who, in some ways, was the spark who ignited the imagination of the US Space Command leadership. The list of contributors, willing helpers, constructive critics, reviewers, is much, much longer.

A number of dedicated individuals in Air Force Space Command, Naval Space Command, US Army Space Command, and US Space Command, provided ideas and support beyond the call of duty on a number of occasions. Major Marty France, Commander David Knox, Mr. Craig Baker and Ms. Gail Workman all showed interest and supported the project when asked.

Finally, Alcetis “Cookie” Oberg provided emotional support to James Oberg as he turned from a narrator of an unfinished draft into

a primary author. She also kept the financial books, maintained discipline and got the book out the door, while keeping her focus on her family. The deadline would not have been made without her contribution.

Thanks to all.

