
Finding Aid for the Roger and Roberta Boisjoly NASA Challenger Disaster Collection. 2010.17.r

Finding aid prepared by Rand Boyd

Frank Mt. Pleasant Library of Special Collections and Archives, Leatherby Libraries

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Title: Roger and Roberta Boisjoly NASA Challenger Disaster Collection.

Identifier/Call Number: 2010.17.r

Contributing Institution: Frank Mt. Pleasant Library of Special Collections and Archives, Leatherby Libraries

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Language of Material: The majority of the collection is in English

Physical Description: 13.5 Linear feet(8 cartons, 1 large box)

Date (inclusive): 1986-2010

Location note: Leatherby Libraries

creator: Boisjoly, R. M., (Roger M.), 1938-

Scope and Contents note

The Boisjoly collection covers Roger Boisjoly's involvement in the NASA Challenger accident. Besides copies of his congressional testimony there are copies of testimony from other participants as well as the complete report made by the committee. Along with this material is Boisjoly's personal and business correspondence as it relates to the Challenger accident and various pieces of Challenger related ephemera.

Preferred Citation note

[identify item], Roger and Roberta Boisjoly NASA Challenger Disaster Collection, Frank Mt. Pleasant Library of Special Collections and Archives, Chapman University, CA.

Conditions Governing Access note

Though this collection is open for research, it should be noted that it is not fully arranged and described.

Conditions Governing Use note

There are no restrictions on the use of this material except where previously copyrighted material is concerned. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain all permissions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of Roger and Roberta Boisjoly.

Arrangement note

This collection is arranged in series: Series 1, Roger Boisjoly Papers Series 2, Reports, Challenger Disaster Series 3, Ephemera, Challenger

Within the series, the material is organized by material type.

Processing Information note

Though this collection is open for research it is not fully arranged and described. There are at least 3 linear feet left to process that consists of class and lecture material given by Boisjoly, A/V material of his lectures, as well as several Mbs of digital files to process and describe.

Biographical/Historical note

Roger Boisjoly is a mechanical engineer, fluid dynamicist and an aerodynamicist who worked for Morton Thiokol, the manufacturer of the solid rocket boosters for the Space Shuttle program. He is best known for raising objections to the launch of the Space Shuttle Challenger the day before the loss of the spacecraft and its crew.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Boisjoly, R. M., (Roger M.), 1938-

Challenger (Spacecraft) -- Accidents

Roger Boisjoly Papers 1980-1999

Language of Material: English

creator: Boisjoly, R. M., (Roger M.), 1938-

Scope and Contents note

This series contains the business papers of mechanical engineer Roger Boisjoly during his employment with Morton Thiokol, Inc. and later during his career as a lecturer on business and engineering ethics.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Morton Thiokol, Inc..

Challenger (Spacecraft) -- Accidents

Box 6

Correspondence, Business 1986-1999

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 1.25 Linear feet(1 box)

creator: Boisjoly, R. M., (Roger M.), 1938-

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains correspondence dealing with the aftermath of the Challenger disaster, 1986-1999.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Challenger (Spacecraft) -- Accidents

Box 3, Box 4

Memorandum, Morton-Thiokol Internal 1980-1986

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 1.88 Linear feet(1.5 file boxes)

creator: Boisjoly, R. M., (Roger M.), 1938-

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains internal memorandum that Roger Boisjoly wrote while an engineer with Morton Thiokol, Inc., 1980-1986.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Morton Thiokol, Inc..

Challenger (Spacecraft) -- Accidents

Box 3

Log books, Daily SRM Task Team 1984-1986

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.63 Linear feet(0.5 file box)

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains the daily log books that Boisjoly kept while on the SRM Task Team from 1984 to 1986.

Box 1

Photographs, O-ring tests

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet(3 folders)

creator: Morton Thiokol, Inc..

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains a large number of photographs of various o-ring tests showing the various amounts of erosion on the rings.

Box 5

Class Material, Challenger and Business Ethics

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 1.25 Linear feet(1 file box)

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains a large amount of class and lecture material created by Boisjoly for his various public lectures and classroom talks.

Box 1

Articles and Lectures, Challenger 1986-1999

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 1.25 Linear feet(1 file box)

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains a large number of articles and lectures written by and given by Boisjoly dealing with the Challenger accident and its aftermath. As well as interviews given by Boisjoly.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Challenger (Spacecraft) -- Accidents

Box 2

Transcripts, Boisjoly v. Morton Thiokol, 1988 1988

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.625 Linear feet(0.5 file box)

creator: Boisjoly, R. M., (Roger M.), 1938-

creator: Morton Thiokol, Inc..

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains the transcript from Boisjoly v. Morton Thiokol, 1988. As well as several binders of various legal information used as reference by Boisjoly, 1987.

Box 2

Transcripts, Smith, et. al. v. Morton Thiokol 1988

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.625 Linear feet(0.5 file box)

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains the transcripts of testimony given by several complainants in Smith, et. al. v. Morton Thiokol, 1988.

Box 8

Clippings

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 3.0 Linear feet(1 box)

Scope and Contents note

This series contains a large number of clippings dealing with the Challenger disaster as well as Roger Boisjoly.

Reports, Challenger Disaster 1986-1991

Language of Material: English

Scope and Contents note

This series contains a number of reports dealing with the aftermath of the Challenger disaster.

Box 9, Box 7

Report, Presidential Commission on the Space Shuttle Challenger Accident. 1986

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 1.25 Linear feet(1 file box)

Scope and Contents note

This series contains the copy of the five volume Commission report supplied to Boisjoly for his edits and was never returned to the Commission, 1986. As well as Presidential Hearing transcripts for February 14, 25-27, March 21 and April 2, 1986.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Presidential Commission on the Space Shuttle Challenger Accident

Report, Challenger Accident by Richard Cole

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet(1 folder)

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains Richard Cole's report on the Challenger Investigation.

Box 7

Report, Boisjoly's testimony to the House Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight: NASA's Midlife Crisis: Context for Reform 1991

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet(1 folder)

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains the testimony of Boisjoly in front of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, August 1, 1991.

Box 9

Report, Investigation of the Challenger Accident.

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet(1 folder)

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains the two volume report of the Investigation of the Challenger Accident.

Box 8

Ephemera, Challenger

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 3.0 Linear feet(1 flat box)

Scope and Contents note

This series contains a large number of Challenger ephemera including several samples of o-ring material.
