Position Paper

Apollo 13

Character: Sy Liebergot

Delegate: Jay Patel

Seymour Liebergot, commonly know as “Sy”, was born February 15th in Camden, New Jersey, he began his engineering career with North American Aviation, in Downey, CA, before graduating from California State University-Los Angeles with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. In 1964 while working for the NAA, he transferred to Houston, Texas as a member of the Flight Operations Group in support of NASA Mission Operations at the Manned Spacecraft Center, which had just opened. About a year later he joined NASA. During the Apollo 13 lunar Mission Sy was the EECOM flight controller, EECOM stands for **E**lectrical, **E**nvironmental and **COM**munication systems, this means Sy was responsible for the life support systems of the Command and Service Module (CSM), which amounted to roughly half of the systems of that spacecraft. These were the systems that provided all electrical power and its distribution, heating and cooling, cabin atmosphere pressure control, breathing oxygen.

During the Apollo 13 Lunar Mission, when both fuel cell 1 and 3 were down Sy thought it was an instrument failure, he thought no way there can be simultaneous failures in two independent fuel cells. Because of this Jack Swigert was asked to reset the fuel cells but both show they have zero power. When asked about this later Sy said at that moment he wanted to bring the Apollo 13 back home. This Shows that Sy will always be optimistic about completing the mission, but he would never put the lives of the crew in danger for the mission. So during the conference I as Sy will always put the lives of the crew first but will always try to troubleshoot each problem and complete the mission.

Work Cited

Apollo EECOM - Journey Of A Lifetime - Web Site of Sy Liebergot, NASA Flight Controller. (n.d.). Retrieved November 09, 2016, from http://www.apolloeecom.com/index.html