

Safety Was His Specialty:

L W Honors Ex-NASA Chief

LAGUNA HILLS— For every dollar the American taxpayer contributes to our Space program, the return is seven fold, according to National Aeronautics and Space Administration specialist Jerome Lederer, who has been chosen April's Leisure Worlder of the month.

An oil painting has been commissioned in his honor and will be hung in the main Leisure World sales pavillion during the month before being presented to the well-known local resident.

"The advancements in social, medical and cultural fields provide a unique propellent to our society and economy that cannot be measured in terms of money," he said.

HE BELIEVES THE Apollo Project which was the largest research and development program ever undertaken by man, portends a new industrial revolution with achievements beyond our present comprehension in fields of construction, communications, safety, transportation, agriculture, atmospheric pollution, water and waste treatment systems, natural resources, bio-medical projects, cardiac care, detection, diagnosis and treatment of disease, rehabilitation and many other technical advances.

"One example of things to come," he said, "is the Space Shuttle, an airline which in the next century will commute to a planned community of 10,000 men and women living and working in space where they will undertake research and manufacture a wide variety of goods and medicines for use on earth. The first plane will be similar in size to the present DC-9 and the system should be in operation before 1990."

Lederer states that it will first service the satellites that are already in space orbit, benefitting all mankind by providing communication, weather data, navigations, detecting diseased crops and a host of other services.

A **SILVER-HAIRED**, gently-spoken man, Lederer has witnessed the progress of aviation safety from

the time when one in every six airline pilots were killed annually to the present when an airline pilot's life expectancy is the same as for the normal population.

"The year 1975, with U.S. airlines carrying well over 200 million passengers was the safest in recent history with only 124 fatalities," he said.

His career in aviation spans 50 years, beginning with the United States Air Mail Service, the pre-Lindberg era, to his present position as Adjunct Professor of Safety and System Management at the University of Southern California.

IN 1965 LEDERER was awarded one of the highest honors in aviation, the Wright Brothers Memorial Award. It was presented to him as a result of his tireless and devoted efforts in making possible aviation's extraordinary safety record, through the improvement of all elements of the flight safety spectrum.

In 1967, following the tragic fire at Cape Canaveral in which three astronauts lost their lives, Lederer was invited to organize the new Office of Manned Space Flight Safety for NASA. Three years later, having been awarded the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, he became Director of Safety for all of NASA where he was responsible for the concept and execution of safety programs throughout the entire organization.

Lederer is the author of over 200 articles, lectures and one small book entitled, "Safety in the Operation of Air Transport," and is the

recipient of about 40 distinguished awards. He is also a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and of the Royal Aeronautic Society and is a member of the Board of American Astronautical Society.

REFERENCES TO this pioneer in air safety can be found in "Who's Who in America," "Who's Who in Engineering," "Who's Who in Aviation," "Architects of the Age of Flight," and "American Men of Science."

In 1974 he was named an Elder Statesman of Aviation by the National Aeronautic Association and was a nominee for the Aviation Hall of Fame.

Among his other professional affiliations are: Member, National Academy of Engineering; Fellow, Human Factors Society; Member, National Safety Management Society; Member, Air Mail Pioneers; Member, Aero Club of Washington. He has also served concurrently for 20 years as the director of the Flight Safety Foundation and of the Cornell-Guggenheim Aviation Safety Center where he organized the collection and dissemination of information on air safety research.

Prior to that he was Director of the Safety Bureau of the Civil Aeronautics Board which developed into the present National Transportation Safety Board, responsible for the investigation of all transport accidents. He is President Emeritus, Flight Safety Foundation in addition to his position at the University of Southern California.