

Recovery Deployment List for Gemini *Flights*

NASA JSC – Landing and Recovery Division (LRD)



DATA SOURCES:

- Doc Stullken (throughout the Gemini and Apollo programs) compiled matrices listing all LRD branch personnel upon which he recorded any flight assignments they supported. When he retired, he provided this data to Dick Snyder. That data was the starting point for the following list.
- This data was reviewed by LRD personnel for which we had information on how we could contact them. Responses were incorporated into the lists. Since all personnel could not be contacted, there may still be omissions and errors. If you identify any discrepancies, please send that information to Mac Jones at cmjesq@comcast.net

Gemini Recovery Deployments/Assignments

| Flight | JSC – ROCR | RCC | Launch & Post-Landing Support | ARRS | Ships | Comments |
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| GT - IIA 1/19/65 | | <u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Hal Granger -Chuck Filley | <u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Rip Kirby -Chuck Filley <u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass | <u>Grand Turk Island</u> -Ed Petrash <u>Trinidad</u> -Ed Bullock -Sherry Berthiaume -Arnie Kilpatrick | <u>PRS – CVS Lake Champlain</u> -Don Stullken -John Stonesifer -Paul Chaput <u>West Lant - ATF</u> -W.B. Wood <u>West Lant - DD</u> -C.M. Jones -Ed O'Briant -James Arthur -Tom Holt -Gus McCown <u>West Lant – DD Eugene A. Greene</u> -Jim Shannon -Rocky Duncan <u>West Lant – DD Holder</u> -Larry Meeker | Crew - Unmanned Landing -Atlantic -16d 36m N 49d 46m W |

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| <p>GT - III 3/23/65</p> | | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Rip Kirby</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Don Stullken</p> <p><u>San Pablo, Spain</u> -Jerry Hoisington</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Rip Kirby -Chuck Filley</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> - Rod Bass</p> | <p><u>Las Palmas, Canary Island</u> -Arnie Kilpatrick -Royce McKinney(2)</p> <p><u>Grand Turk Island</u> -Sherry Berthiaume - Ed Bullock</p> <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> -Bill Chase -Ed Petrash</p> <p><u>Lajes AFB, Azores</u> -Allen Meyers -Dale Moore</p> | <p><u>PRS – CVS Intrepid</u> -John Stonesifer -Hal Granger -Tom Holt</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> -Gus McCown -Fred Sponholz -Jack Abernethy</p> <p><u>West Lant – DD Bigelow</u> -Larry Meeker</p> <p><u>East Lant DD</u> -W.B. Wood</p> <p><u>East Lant - DD</u> -Dick Jacobs</p> | <p><u>Crew</u> - Gus Grissom John Young</p> <p><u>Landing</u> -Atlantic -22d 26m N 70d 51m W</p> <p><u>Ships Supporting Recovery</u> -CVS Intrepid -DD Ault -DD Bigelow -CAG Boston -CGC Diligence -DD Douglas H. Fox -DD Harold J Ellison -DD Harwood -DD John Paul Jones -DD Mullinix -ATF Nipmuc -DD Rich -DD Robert L Wilson -DD Robert Owens -DD Sarfield -MSO Sturdy -MSO Swerve -USCGC Vigilant</p> |
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| <p>GT - IV 6/3-7/65</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR) (3)</u> -Hal Granger -Don Stullken -Chuck Filley -John Hoover -Ed Petrash -Gary Robinson</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Rip Kirby -Royce McKinney (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Jerry Hoisington</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Rip Kirby</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> - Sherry Berthiaume</p> <p><u>Las Palmas, Canary Island</u> -Arnie Kilpatrick</p> <p><u>Hickham AFB, Oahu</u> -Dale Moore</p> <p><u>Naha Air Base, Okinawa, Japan</u> -Bill Middleton</p> <p><u>Perth, Australia</u> -Fred Koons</p> <p><u>Pago Pago, American Samoa</u> -Leroy Penn</p> | <p><u>PRS – CVS Wasp</u> -John Stonesifer -Larry Bell -Ed Bullock -Tom Holt -Don Morris</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> -Jack Abernethy -Dick Jacobs</p> <p><u>Mid Lant – AO Kankakee</u> -Larry Meeker (TL) -Larry Schmitt</p> <p><u>East Lant – DD</u> -C.M. Jones -Bruce Wood</p> <p><u>West Pac – DD Blandy</u> -W.B. Wood</p> <p><u>Mid Pac – AO</u> -Fred Sponholz</p> | <p><u>Crew</u> -Jim McDivitt -Ed White</p> <p><u>Landing</u> - Atlantic -27d 44m N 74d 11m W</p> <p><u>Ships Supporting Recovery</u> -CVS Wasp -DD Barry -DD Blandy -DD Charles S Sperry -AO Chukawan -DD Furse -DD Goldsborough -DD Hawkins -DD Higbee -ARS Hoist -AO Kankakee -DD Leonard F Mason -MSO Nimble -DD Orleck -AO Ponchatoula -DD Rich -DD Robert A Owens -DD Rupertus -MSO Skill</p> |
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| <p>GT - V 8/21-29/65</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -Don Stullken -Jack Abernethy -John Hoover -Dick Jacobs -Mel Richmond -Gary Robinson</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Hal Granger -Rip Kirby -Royce McKinney (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Rip Kirby -Jerry Hoisington -Tom Holt</p> <p><u>San Pablo, Spain</u> -Arnie Kilpatrick</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Rip Kirby</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> -Fred Sponholz</p> <p><u>Las Palmas, Canary Islands</u> -Sherry Berthiaume</p> <p><u>Naha Air Base, Okinawa, Japan</u> -Leroy Penn</p> <p><u>Patrick AFB, FL</u> -Allen Meyers -Bill Middleton -Bill Chase</p> | <p><u>PRS - CVS Lake Champlain</u> -John Stonesifer -Ed Bullock -Chuck Filley -Ed Petrash</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> -Hardie Barr -Ed O'Briant</p> <p><u>Mid Lant - AO Neosho</u> -Larry Meeker</p> <p><u>East Lant - DD</u> -Jim Arthur -Larry Bell</p> <p><u>Mid Pac - DD</u> -W.B. Wood</p> | <p>Crew - Gordon Cooper - Pete Conrad</p> <p>Landing - Atlantic - 29d 44m N 69d 45m W</p> <p>Ships Supporting Recovery -CVS Lake Champlain -AM Avenge -AO Chipola -DD DuPont -MSO Exultan -DD George MacKenzie -DD Goldsborough -DD James C Owens -DD John W Weeks -DD Manley -AO Neosho -DD New -ARS Preserver -DD Taylor -DD Waldron</p> |
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| <p>GT – VI 10/25/65</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -John Stonesifer -John Hoover -Gary Robinson</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Hal Granger -Rip Kirby -Royce McKinney (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Jerry Hoisington</p> <p><u>Norfolk, VA (CTF-140)</u> -Gus McCown</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Rip Kirby</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -N/A</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> -Ed Bullock -Bill Middleton</p> <p><u>Hickham AFB, Oahu</u> -Sherry Berthiaume -Fred Sponholz</p> | <p><u>PRS - CVS Wasp</u> -Don Stullken -Chuck Filley -Ed Petrash</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> -Arnie Kilpatrick - W.B. Wood</p> <p><u>East Lant – DD</u> -James Arthur</p> <p><u>East Lant DD</u> -Larry Bell</p> <p><u>East Lant – DD Massey</u> -Larry Schmitt</p> <p><u>East Lant – AO</u> -Dick Jacobs</p> <p><u>West Pac – DD</u> -Jack Abernethy</p> <p><u>Mid Pac – DD</u> -Mel Richmond</p> <p><u>Mid Pac – AO</u> -Tom Holt</p> | <p>Crew -GT VII launch scrubbed after the Agena docking target exploded during launch. Flights VI and VII were redesigned to use 2 Gemini spacecraft (Gemini-VII and Gemini-VIA) to perform the docking maneuvers.</p> <p>Landing - N/A</p> |
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| <p>GT – VII/VIA VII - 12/4-18/65 VIA – 12/15-16/65</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -Hal Granger -John Stonesifer -Tom Holt -John Hoover -Gary Robinson -W.B. Wood</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Rod Bass -Rip Kirby -Royce McKinney (LPO) (4) -Fred Koons (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Jerry Hoisington -Fred Sponholz</p> <p><u>Norfolk, VA (CTF-140)</u> Arnie Kilpatrick</p> <p><u>White Sands Missile Range</u> -Dick Jacobs</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Rip Kirby</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> -Ed Bullock - Bill Chase -Allen Meyers -Bill Middleton</p> <p><u>Dakar, Senegal</u> -Sherry Berthiaume</p> <p><u>Hickham AFB, Oahu</u> -Leroy Penn</p> <p><u>Naha Air Base, Okinawa, Japan</u> -EZ Harrin</p> | <p><u>PRS – CVS Wasp</u> -Don Stullken -Chuck Filley -Ed Petrash -Jim Sloan</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> - Ed O’Briant</p> <p><u>West Pac – DD</u> -Mel Richmond</p> <p><u>Mid Pac – DD Cochrane</u> -Bruce Wood</p> | <p><u>Crew VII</u> - Frank Borman - Jim Lovell</p> <p><u>Landing VII</u> - Atlantic - 25d 25m N 70d 07mW</p> <hr/> <p><u>Crew VIA</u> -Wally Schirra -Tom Stafford</p> <p><u>Landing VIA</u> - Atlantic - 23d 35m N 67d 50m W</p> <hr/> <p><u>Ships Supporting Recovery</u> - CVS Wasp -MSO Ability -AO Aucilla -DD Cochrane -DD George MacKenzie -DD Joseph P Kennedy -DD Meredith -ATI Paiute -AO Ponchatoula -DD Power -DD Renshaw -DD Rupertus -AO Waccamaw -DD Waldron</p> |
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| <p>GT - VIII 3/16/66</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -Hal Granger -Sherry Berthiaume -Tom Holt -Frank Janes -Millard Pettit -Gary Robinson -John Stonesifer</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Rip Kirby -Fred Koons (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -John Hoover -Fred Sponholz</p> <p><u>Norfolk, VA (CTF-140)</u> -Dick Jacobs</p> <p><u>San Pablo, Spain</u> -Ed Bullock</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Rip Kirby</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass?</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> - Bill Middleton -Larry Patterson -Mel Richmond</p> <p><u>Dakar, Senegal</u> -Arnie Kilpatrick</p> <p><u>Hickham AFB, Oahu</u> -Leroy Penn</p> | <p><u>PRS – LPH Boxer</u> -Don Stullken -Chuck Filley -Ed Petrash -Doug Scoggins -W.B. Wood</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> -- Hardie Barr</p> <p><u>West Pac – DD Leonard Mason</u> -Bruce Larsen</p> <p><u>Mid Pac – DD</u> -Jack Abernethy</p> | <p>Crew - Neil Armstrong - Dave Scott</p> <p>Landing - Pacific - 25d 14m N 136d 44m W -Emergency Recovery @ Contingency Landing Site in West Pac (mission terminated early due to control system electrical short)</p> <p>Ships Supporting Recovery -DD Leonard F Mason -LHD Boxer -AO Caloosahatchee -DD Charles P Cecil -DD Cochrane -MSO Fidelity -DD George K MacKenzie _DD Goodrich -AO Hassayampa -DD Myles C Fox -DD Noa -ATI Paiute</p> |
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| <p>GT - IX 5/xx/66</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -Don Stullken -Tom Holt -John Hoover -Rip Kirby -Gary Robinson -Fred Sponholz</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Hal Granger -Royce McKinney (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Dale Moore -Ed Kilpatrick</p> <p><u>San Pablo, Spain</u> -Jack Abernethy</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Chuck Filley -Mel Richmond</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -N/A</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> - Sherry Berthiaume</p> <p><u>Dakar, Senegal</u> -Jerry Hoisington -Ed Petrash</p> <p><u>Hickham AFB, Oahu</u> -Warren Glenn</p> | <p><u>PRS – CVS Wasp</u> -John Stonesifer -Ed Bullock -J.T. Chapman -Frank Janes -W.B. Wood</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> -Dick Jacobs -Millard Pettit</p> <p><u>East Lant – DD</u> -Ed O’Briant</p> <p><u>West Pac - DD</u> -Bill Chase</p> | <p><u>Crew</u> - Elliott See - Charles Bassett</p> <p><u>Landing</u> - N/A - Original Gemini-IX crew were killed in T-38 crash in Feb, 1966. A crew was assigned and trained for redesignated flight Gemini-IXA.</p> |
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| <p>GT – IXA 6/3-6/66</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -Don Stullken -Tom Holt -John Hoover -Gary Robinson -Fred Sponholz</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Rip Kirby -Hal Granger -Fred Koons (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Arnie Kilpatrick -Dale Moore</p> <p><u>San Pablo, Spain</u> -Jack Abernethy</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Chuck Filley -Mel Richmond</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass?</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> - Jerry Hoisington</p> <p><u>Dakar, Senegal</u> -Ed Petrash</p> <p><u>Hickham AFB, Oahu</u> -Warren Glenn</p> | <p><u>PRS – CVS Wasp</u> -John Stonesifer -Ed Bullock -Frank Janes -W.B. Wood</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> - Dick Jacobs</p> <p><u>West Pac – DD George K MacKenzie</u> -Bill Chase</p> | <p><u>Crew</u> - Tom Stafford - Gene Cernan</p> <p><u>Landing</u> - Atlantic - 27d 52m N 75d 00m W</p> <p><u>Ships Supporting Recovery</u> -CVS Wasp -DD Bordelon -AO Chikaskia -DD Epperson -DD George K MacKenzie -AO Hassayampa -DD McCaffer -MSO Nimble -ARS Opportune -ATF Papago -DD Robert L Wilson -DD Rupertus -AO Sabine -CVA Saratoga -DD William C Lawe</p> |
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| <p>GT - X 7/18-21/66</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -Hal Granger -Don Stullken -Rich Blakley -Ed Bullock -Harry Clancy -John Hoover -Royce McKinney -Gary Robinson -Jim Shannon</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Rip Kirby -Fred Koons (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Jack Abernethy -Jerry Hoisington</p> <p><u>San Pablo, Spain</u> -Fred Sponholz</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Mel Richmond</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> - Warren Glenn</p> <p><u>Dakar, Senegal</u> -Leroy Penn</p> <p><u>Hickham AFB, Oahu</u> -Sherry Berthiaume</p> | <p><u>PRS – LPH Guadalcanal</u> -John Stonesifer -Charlie Hall -Tom Holt -Doug Scoggins -Ron Simantel</p> <p><u>Mid Pac – DD</u> -Millard Pettit</p> | <p><u>Crew</u> - John Young - Michael Collins</p> <p><u>Landing</u> - Atlantic - 26d45m N 71d 57m W</p> <p><u>Ships Supporting Recovery</u> -LPH Guadalcanal -DD Allen M Sumner -DD Benjamin Stoddert -DD Collet -DD DeHaven -AO Kawishiwi -DD Norris -ARS Opportune -AO Severn -DD William C Lawe</p> |
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| <p>GT - XI 9/12-15/66</p> | <p>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR) Recovery Coordinator -Jerry Hammack (T1) -Hal Granger (T1) -Don Stullken (T2) -Ed Bullock (T3)</p> <p>Evaluator -Jack Abernathy (T1) -Gary Robinson (T2) -Rich Blakley (T3)</p> <p>Display -John Hoover (T2) -Bruce Larsen (T3)</p> <p>Status -Ron Simantel (T1)</p> | <p>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1) -Rip Kirby -Mel Richmond -Royce McKinney (LPO) (4)</p> <p>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130) -Jerry Hoisington -Fred Sponholz</p> | <p>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery -Rip Kirby -Mel Richmond</p> <p>Deactivation -Rod Bass?</p> | <p>Kindley AFB, Bermuda - Leroy Penn -Ron Simantel</p> <p>Dakar, Senegal -Paul Chaput</p> <p>Hickham AFB, Oahu -Arnie Kilpatrick</p> | <p>PRS – LPH Guam -John Stonesifer -Sherry Berthiaume -Tom Holt -Dale Moore</p> <p>West Lant - DD - Warren Glenn</p> <p>West Pac – DD -Bruce Wood</p> | <p>Crew - Pete Conrad - Dick Gordon</p> <p>Landing - Atlantic - 24d 15m N 70d 00m W</p> <p>Ships Supporting Recovery -LPH Guam -DD Forrest Royal -AO Kawishiwi -DD Mansfield -DD McCaffery -ATF Nimpuc -DD O’Brien -AO Severn -DD Theodore Chandler -DD Wallace L Lind</p> |
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| <p>GT - XII 11/11-15/66</p> | <p><u>Recovery Operations Control Room (ROCR)</u> -Hal Granger -Ed Bullock -Don Stullken -Rich Blakley -Bill Chase -Tom Holt -John Hoover -Millard Pettit -Gary Robinson</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center (1)</u> -Jerry Hoisington -Mel Richmond -Fred Koons (LPO) (4)</p> <p><u>Kunia, Oahu (CTF-130)</u> -Rip Kirby -Ed Petrash</p> <p><u>Moron, Spain</u> -Dick Jacobs</p> | <p><u>Cape Kennedy Launch Site Recovery</u> -Mel Richmond</p> <p><u>Deactivation</u> -Rod Bass</p> | <p><u>Kindley AFB, Bermuda</u> - Warren Glenn -Ron Simantel</p> <p><u>Dakar, Senegal</u> -Fed Sponholz</p> | <p><u>PRS – CVS Wasp</u> -John Stonesifer -Lane Brown -John Haughton -Arnie Kilpatrick -W.B. Wood</p> <p><u>West Lant - DD</u> -James Arthur</p> <p><u>West Pac – DD</u> -Sherry Berthiaume</p> <p><u>Mid Pac – DDG Joseph Strauss</u> -John Hirasaki</p> | <p><u>Crew</u> - Jim Lovell - Buzz Aldrin</p> <p><u>Landing</u> - 24d 34m N 69d 55m W</p> <p><u>Ships Supporting Recovery</u> -CVS Wasp -AO Canister -DD Charles H Roan -DD Hollister -DD Joseph P Kennedy -DD Joseph Strauss -AO Kankakee -AO Kawishiwi -DD Lloyd Thomas -DD Ozbourn -ARS Preserver</p> |
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NOTES:

- (1) Located in old Mercury Control Center on Kennedy Air Force Station
- (2) Lead to coordinate the return of the Gemini capsule via Las Palmas for East Lant landings. Also, to coordinate retrieval and return of crew for African landings.
- (3) Gemini IV was the first flight when the Houston Mission Control Center and the Recovery Operations Control Room were utilized.
- (4) LPO – Landing Position Observer – Position in Cape Kennedy Recovery Control Center responsible for analyzing data and making early launch abort call to Flight Director (FD) for land landing (single point chute suspension and ejection) vs water landing (dual point chute deployment)