

NRO SELECTS 2009 CLASS OF PIONEERS

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General Bruce Carlson USAF (Ret.), Director of the National Reconnaissance Office, selected Dr. James P. Campbell (deceased), Mr. Lacy G. Cook, and Mr. Michael F. Maguire as 2009 Pioneers of National Reconnaissance. The National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) Pioneer Program honors those individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to the discipline of national reconnaissance. At a ceremony held November 12, at NRO headquarters in Chantilly, Virginia, General Carlson inducted Dr. Campbell (posthumously), Mr. Cook, and Mr. Maguire into the NRO's Pioneer Hall. LTG John F. Kimmons, USA, Director, Intelligence Staff, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, was the guest speaker at this year's event.

Dr. James P. Campbell pioneered early conceptual studies and analysis, which resulted in a new, innovative, operational imaging reconnaissance capability. He provided technical excellence and leadership to ensure the successful development, test, launch, and deployment of the highly reliable spacecraft and ground processing system. He provided key technical improvements that have extended the operational lifespan of spacecraft to lengths unprecedented in space-based national reconnaissance.

Mr. Lacy G. Cook pioneered the development and application of unique technology to add new capability to an existing NRO satellite. Mr. Cook's novel design allowed the new capability to fit within the vehicle's limited space. His innovative approach provided national policymakers with unprecedented capability and solved highly complex technical challenges.

Mr. Michael F. Maguire pioneered one of the last film-based reconnaissance systems used by the NRO. Pushing the state-of-the-art during design and development phases of acquisition, Mr. Maguire's efforts and leadership resulted in an invaluable national asset in reconnaissance and one relied on heavily by the nation's decision-makers. The resulting imaging satellites brought reliability and operational longevity to new heights.

The work of NRO pioneers set the stage for future NRO advancements. Thanks to Pioneer successes, today's NRO provides actionable intelligence to users. With the addition of these three honorees, a total of 77 pioneers have been selected over the past 10 years. Designation as a Pioneer of national reconnaissance is the highest honor the NRO can bestow. Commemorative plaques for each Pioneer are on permanent display in Pioneer Hall at NRO Headquarters.

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