

Langley Medal awarded to Jones and Draper

The Smithsonian Institution has awarded the Langley Medal to Robert Thomas Jones and Charles Stark Draper. Jones, Senior Scientist at NASA's Ames Research Center in California was cited for his "extensive contributions in theoretical aerodynamics, particularly with regard to development of the swept wing, supersonic area rule and more recently, the oblique wing." Draper, Senior Scientist and Lecturer at the C. S. Draper Lab and professor emeritus at Massachusetts Institute of Technology was recognized for his contributions to the development and operation of inertial guidance systems, and particularly for the application of these systems in the Apollo Lunar Landing missions.

This distinguished award, named for aeronautical engineer Samuel Pierpont Langley, honors "especially meritorious investigations in the field of aerospace science." Among the 15 past recipients are Wilbur and Orville Wright, Colonel Charles Lindbergh and Rear Admiral Richard Byrd.

In 1934 Jones began his long association with NASA and problems of fluid dynamics, applied mathematics and biomechanics as they pertain to flight. Of his many contributions, he is best



JONES

known for his discovery of the theory of the "simple sweepback," a concept incorporated in the swept wing design seen on most jet aircraft. His involvement with experimentation in aerodynamics continues in his latest work on the oblique wing concept, now being tested on a research aircraft at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center, Ed-



DRAPER

wards, California.

Draper began his investigation of inertial guidance systems in 1938 the same year he received his doctorate in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His lifelong interest has led to the development of systems used for commercial and military applications and for space exploration.

Geophysical Union honors seven

The American Geophysical Union honored seven scientists with its most prestigious awards.

The William Bowie Medal, given for outstanding contributions to fundamental geophysics and for unselfish cooperation in research, was awarded to Herbert Friedman, who, until his recent retirement, was the superintendent, Space Science Division, Naval Research Laboratory. Friedman has been influential in developing international cooperative programs in solar-terrestrial research. He also both predicted and observed the role of solar-flare x rays in producing ionospheric fadeout and provided the first theoretical model of the ionospheric E and F

regions based on rocket observations.

Jack E. Oliver, professor of engineering and chairman of the department of geological science at Cornell, received the Bucher Medal, given for original contributions to the basic knowledge of the earth's crust.

The Ewing Medal, awarded jointly by the U.S. Navy and AGU for significant contributions to the understanding of ocean processes and outstanding service to marine science, was given to Manik Talwani, member of the staff of Lamont-Doherty Geophysical Observatory and professor of geology at Columbia University.

Thomas Donahue, chairman of the department of atmospheric and oceanic sciences at the University of Michigan, received the Fleming Medal awarded for original research and technical leadership in geomagnetism, atmo-

spheric electricity, aeronomy and related sciences.

The Macelwane Award, given in recognition of significant contributions to the geophysical sciences by young scientists of outstanding ability, was awarded to three: Ronald G. Prinn of MIT, David Southwood of Imperial College in London and Donald J. Weidner of the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Georg Busch receives Frank H. Spedding award

Professor Georg A. Busch became the second recipient of the Frank H. Spedding Award at the fifteenth Rare Earth Research Conference held recently at the University of Missouri, Rolla. The award is given in recognition of distin-