

## Dr. Berry Becomes 39th President of Aerospace Medical Association

Charles A. Berry, M.D., Director of Medical Research and Operations at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas, was elected to the position of President of the Aerospace Medical Association, during the 40th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, May 8, 1969.

Receiving the gavel of office from outgoing President, Brigadier General John M. Talbot, USAF, MC, Doctor Berry made a short statement concerning his plans for the forthcoming year.

Doctor Berry is probably one of the best known aerospace medical specialists through his frequent television and radio appearances during all of the nation's successful Gemini and Apollo manned space flights. His duties and responsibilities as Director of Medical Operations at MSC, and as the astronaut's physician have been well documented.

A veteran of 15 years of military service, Dr. Berry resigned his commission in the U.S. Air Force, where he has attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, in order to continue as Director of Medical Operations to which he had been assigned on loan from the Air Force in July 1962. The reclassification of the office as a Civil Service post was felt to be necessary to assure continuity of personnel in NASA's medical programs.

Doctor Berry received his medical degree from the University of California Medical School in San Francisco in 1947. After serving a rotating internship with the University of California Service at the San Francisco City and County Hospitals, he entered the private practice of medicine for the next three years. He then entered military service in 1951, serving first at Hamilton AFB, California, and entered the Aviation Medicine residency training program in September of that same year. He received his Master of Public Health degree from the Harvard School of Public Health, Cum Laude, in 1955. In 1956, Dr.



**Charles A. Berry, M.D.**

Berry was assigned as assistant Chief of the Department of Aviation Medicine at the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph AFB, Texas, and in 1958, he became chief of the Department of Flight Medicine. During this period, he participated in the selection of the original seven astronauts. Assigned to the Aerospace Medical Division in the Office of the Surgeon General, USAF, in 1959, Dr. Berry was selected as an Aeromedical Monitor for the Project Mercury operations, and served as prime monitor at the Canary Island, Bermuda, and Cape Kennedy sites where he trained other medical monitors.

A Diplomate in Aerospace Medicine of the American Board of Preventive Medicine, Dr. Berry is a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association and a Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine, and an Associate Fellow of the American College of Physicians. An elected member of the Aerospace Medical Association's Executive Council serving a three-year term of office, Dr. Berry was also the 1965-66 Chairman of the Association's Space Medicine Branch, and was

Chairman for the Scientific Program for the 37th Annual Scientific Meeting in 1966.

Dr. Berry is rated a Senior Flight Surgeon, and has been awarded numerous medals and citations. Included among these are several World War II medals, the USAF Certificate of Achievement, the AMA Special Aerospace Medicine Honor Citation, and in 1961, the Arnold D. Tuttle Award of the Aerospace Medical Association for his articles on original research published in *Aerospace Medicine*. In September 1965, Dr. Berry was presented the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Exceptional Service Medal by President Johnson "for his outstanding contributions to space medicine through his direction of and personal participation in the medical planning and control of the Gemini manned space flights which have greatly extended our knowledge of man's capabilities in space."

Dr. Berry's contributions to space medicine are of such magnitude and are so well known to both the aerospace community as well as to the average citizen, that the title of "Mr. Space Medicine" aptly describes his abilities, and made him eminently qualified to be the recipient of the Association's Louis H. Bauer Founders Award in 1966. At the AIAA Military Aircraft Systems Meeting in Dallas, Texas, October 18, 1966, Dr. Berry was the recipient of the John Jeffries Award.