

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics is particularly pleased to publish this volume. Without electric power, no space vehicle has real utility or purpose. This growing realization has accorded the technology of space electric power systems the critical position once occupied by chemical propulsion as the pacing element in our nation's space program.

Accompanying the recognition of the fundamental and critical importance of space electric power systems is a significant broadening of the involvement of scientists and engineers, in number, discipline, and dollar volume of manpower and hardware support.

From the beginning, the American Rocket Society has assumed a leading role in providing information on the characteristics, applications, integration, and systems engineering of aerospace electric power systems to the pertinent community of engineers and scientists. Now the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics will continue this effort. Technical papers and symposium contributions to various national meetings of the ARS and IAS (now the AIAA) are featured from time to time. In addition, the established national meeting on aerospace electric power systems, called the Biennial Aerospace Power Systems Conference, is held in September of each even year. The next meeting to be sponsored by the AIAA is scheduled for September 1964 in Philadelphia.

The Power Systems Committee of the ARS organized these biennial power systems conferences. In particular, for the 1962 Conference, it is a pleasure to acknowledge the leading roles of Dr. N. W. Snyder, 1962 Chairman of the ARS Power Systems Committee; Mr. R. C. Hamilton, Co-Chairman for the Technical Program; Captain W. W. Hoover and Mr. N. T. Zack, in charge of arrangements, and the many Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the symposium sessions.

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G. C. Szego, Chairman
AIAA Electric Power Systems Committee