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Apollo 8 Astronaut Col. Frank Borman at Illinois Wesleyan University

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MARK EVANS OBSERVATORY

Cornerstone Ceremony

We are gathered here this morning to make a new beginning, to place a cornerstone in the walls of our new Mark Evans Observatory, to emphasize our need for renaissance and relevance in higher education. Nothing could symbolize better Wesleyan's lift-off into the space age than the construction of a new astrophysics laboratory with the initial dedication by one of the first men to journey to the moon. After today, we shall never be the same again -- a new dimension has been added to raise our aspirations and ambitions anew in the explorations of learning.

We are placing a time capsule in this new observatory to be recovered in seven years, not by future archaeologists sifting through the debris on the mound of higher learning at some indefinite time in the future. Seven years obviously takes us to the two hundredth anniversary of American independence, but it has even larger significance for us. While life has lengthened, change has accelerated. Four years marks out a college generation and the pace of events threatens to alienate the young from the old in a desperate search for relevance now. We have always had change, our problem is that we must learn how to adjust our lives to it more quickly. Joseph forewarned the Pharaoh to prepare for seven years of famine in seven years of plenty. Seven years elapsed from Independence Hall in Philadelphia to the Treaty of Ghent, Frank Borman's career as an astronaut has lasted seven years, and seven years is the approximate average tenure for college presidents, including those at Wesleyan.

In seven years our present goals and plans for improvement at Wesleyan will be achieved or not, or at least visibly on their way. We shall know by then whether or not what we have started today has made a difference. Progress toward academic betterment requires new buildings and new equipment, but more significantly new efforts on the part of faculty, students, and trustees alike. We are determined that today we have made that beginning.

The 1976 Wesleyan time capsule that Frank Borman is about to put in place contains a mixed collection of mementos from this small University, activities underway in this community, and the Apollo space program. The list of items alone is ample testimony to the part we have had in supporting the U.S. space achievements. Admittedly, Illinois Wesleyan is reaching for the stars and stellar achievement as

a private institution of higher learning. I shall name each item in the capsule, and as I do so, will the representative step forward. Let us hold our applause until the conclusion.

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Thank you all for joining with us on this occasion. The journey of our capsule and its hopes for Wesleyan through time will be circumscribed only by the spirit of those who have joined together in this joint enterprise. And we are grateful for the presence here this morning of Col. Frank Borman, and by the encouragement his visit has given us.

COPY

Admiral Corporation

TV Gun
Circuit Board
Annual Report

Raul F. Beich Co.

Package of Space Food

Caterpillar Tractor Co.

Miniature Engine
Vol. 1, No. 2, Caterpillar Energy Management

Eureka Williams Company

Thermal Battery
like one going to moon in LEM

Field Enterprises and NASA

Astronauts' Christmas Eve Tape

Firestone Tire and Rubber Co.

November 5, 1968 issue of "Non-Skid"

Funk Brothers Seed Co.

Packet of High Lysine Corn

General Electric Co.

5 - Electric Relays
Apollo Ground Monitoring

General Telephone Co.

Electronic Integrated Circuit
Microfilm Bloomington-Normal Phone Directory

Illinois Agricultural Association

IAA RECORD and
50-Year History

Portable Elevator Company

Current Product Descriptions

State Farm Insurance Cos.

Road Atlas

Evans Family

Mrs. Evans' Remarks at Ground Breaking
Biographical Sketch of E. M. Evans

City of Bloomington

"Decade of Progress" Brochure

Kresge Foundation

Facsimile of Letter of Transmittal of
Grant Awarded for this Project

U.S. Office of Education

Facsimile of Grant Application

Col. Frank Borman, USAF

Illinois Wesleyan University

Dr. Eckley Inaugural Response
Dr. Eckley address to fall faculty conference
Fine Arts Brochure
Founders Day Program
Behr Telescope Description
Argus