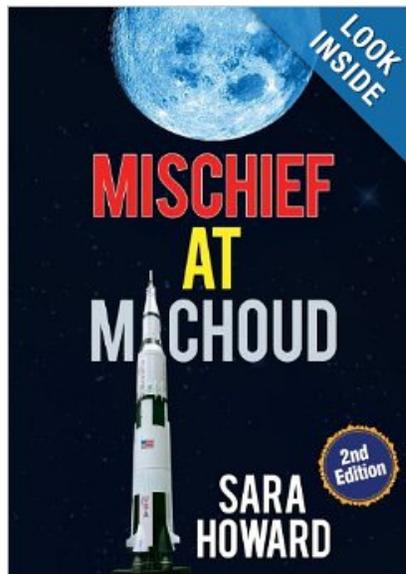


## Mischief at Michoud.



Mischief obviously had not played such a big role otherwise the Saturn rocket and the Apollo program would not have been an all-time success.

Sara Howard's very personal book takes the reader back to the beginning of the space fever in the 1960's. She describes her determination as a "gal" to become part of the space family, motivated by an unplanned encounter with Wernher von Braun at the National Honor Society in 1961.

After having earned the appropriate credentials she became one of the only two female engineers working on the first stage (S-IC) of the Saturn V rocket as contractor for Boeing. Her experience with her male coworkers and bosses gives a deep insight on how the system worked at Michoud.

The value of the book is the bottom-up look provided by one female engineer representing the 400.000 people of the "Apollo" project workforce. Personal anecdotes are interwoven with the description of the unprecedented performance of the Saturn V rocket, in particular the S-IC stage (booster) and its enormous F-1 engines.

With the ongoing debate to get more qualified women in STEM-careers (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) this book provides a fine example of motivation and inspiration to choose this profession.

For us "oldtimers" having started our career during those days, it is a nostalgic experience and even provides some information about the important role Michoud played during those decisive days - not so well known before.

Sara rounds the book off with her personal flying and sailing experience, ending – as all professionals do – with a "lessons learned" chapter.

The book is a must for all space enthusiasts – who have read all the official books on Apollo already.

PS: The availability as e-book enables modern reading (with search and bookmark features) and provides impressive high-resolution color pictures as well.