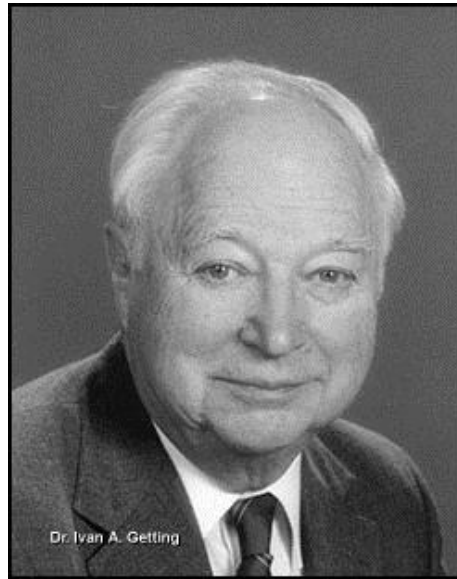


Dr. Ivan A. Getting
Inducted 1998



Dr. Ivan A. Getting was the founding President of the Aerospace Corporation, serving in that position from 1960 to 1977. The Aerospace Corporation was established in 1960 as a non-profit organization at the request of the Secretary of the Air Force. It was founded to apply "the full resources of modern science and technology to the problem of achieving those continued advances in ballistic missiles and space systems, which are basic to national security."

Dr. Ivan Getting was born in 1912 in New York City. He attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as an Edison Scholar, receiving his Bachelor of Science in 1933. Following his undergraduate study at MIT, Dr. Getting was a Graduate Rhodes scholar at Oxford University. He was awarded a Ph.D. in Astrophysics in 1935. Dr. Getting was a Junior Fellow at Harvard University from 1935-1940. In 1940 he joined the staff at Massachusetts Institute of Technology radiation laboratory. He became an associate professor in electrical engineering at MIT in 1945, and a professor in 1946. During World War II he was a special consultant to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson on the Army's use of radar. In 1950 he left MIT for a position as the Assistant for Development Planning, Deputy Chief of Staff, United States Air Force.

In 1951 Dr. Getting became the vice president for engineering and research at the Raytheon Corporation. The first three-dimensional, time-difference-of-arrival position-finding system was suggested by Raytheon Corporation in response to an Air Force requirement for a guidance system to be used with a proposed ICBM that would achieve mobility by traveling on a railroad system. When Dr. Getting left Raytheon in 1960, this proposed technique was among the most advanced forms of navigational technology in the world, and its concepts were crucial stepping stones in the development of the Global

Positioning System (GPS). Under Dr. Getting's direction Aerospace engineers and scientists studied the use of satellites as the basis for a navigation system for vehicles moving rapidly in three dimensions, ultimately developing the concept essential to GPS. Among the many other projects undertaken at The Aerospace Corporation under Dr. Getting's direction were planning for new ballistic missile systems, oversight of space launch systems, and the development of high-powered chemical lasers.

Dr. Getting also was a founding member of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Group, later renamed the Scientific Advisory Board, which provides a link between the Air Force and the nation's scientific community, promoting the exchange of scientific and technical information to enhance the effectiveness of Air Force mission performance. As chairman of the board's Electronics Panel, Dr. Getting oversaw implementation of the Quick Reaction Capability for Electronic Counter-Measures and helped establish the SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe) Laboratory at the Hague, both of which enabled the Air Force to deal with increased Soviet radar capabilities. He also played a role in the deployment of a critical U.S. air defense capability called the Semi-Automatic Ground Environment (radar) system. He directed studies on MX missile basing and long-range combat aircraft and became a strong advocate for the Global Positioning System. Dr. Getting also provided technical analysis and suggestions on the design of a long-range supersonic bomber capable of reaching the former Soviet Union and returning without refueling. His work resulted in the reinstatement of the B-1 bomber funding by Congress.

Following his retirement in 1977 Dr. Getting served as a consultant to and board member of various companies. He remained associated with the Aerospace Corporation with the title President Emeritus.

Recognized on numerous occasions for his contributions and achievements, Dr. Getting has received the President's Medal of Merit, the Naval Ordnance Development Award, the Kitty Hawk Award, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineer's Pioneer Award and Founders Medal. In 1997 he received the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service and the following year the John Fritz Medal, one of the nation's highest engineering awards. Dr. Getting died in October 2003.