

Japanese Language Module 1-2 Interview Translation]

Interviewer: Could you explain where NASA facilities are and what kind of people are working?

Matsui: Yes, as far as I remember, there are many NASA facilities in the United States, and in this area, NASA first has a headquarter in Washington DC. There, they manage the funding of various missions, that is, the financial matters, and they also manage the proposals and the plans associated with them in the head quarter. So, with that headquarter at the top of NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center, where I am, is at Green Belt, which is the oldest and biggest. There, about 20 buildings are located. It's like a university campus, and there are scientists like me as well as engineers. There are also restaurants, and there are people selling goods. There are also some janitors who do the cleaning. All kinds of people are working, and tens of thousands of people are working.

Shifting our attention to a smaller place, one is Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia that I talked about earlier. There small rockets are launched. For instance, a rocket carrying an artificial satellite that I was involved in was launched the other day. Also, a control system exists in that famous Houston (facility), and if there is a big manned mission, they monitor the mission like they do in movies. Shifting our attention to California, there is JPL, and there various, really, really cutting-edge observation instruments and artificial satellites are being developed. Next near San Francisco, there is NASA's Aims, and Aims deals with the super computer used in NASA. Perhaps I think there was one or two more. Yes. There is another one in Huntsville. I am sorry I forgot to mention this, there is another one in Huntsville. So, these subsume most of NASA facilities, and each has its own mission and niche, and there are various people, not just scientists, and astronauts that everyone think of are just one small part. Come to think of it, there is also the Johnson Center. At the Johnson Center, I believe, there is a manned flight training program, and those who become astronauts are training there.