

Light Gas Turbine Being Groomed as 'Engine of Future'

By JAMES HUTCHESON

SEATTLE (AP)—A lightweight gas turbine engine is being groomed by the Boeing Aircraft Co., as a future jack-of-all trades in transport and industry.

It went on display in a big truck and trailer unit at the national truck and trailer show at Los Angeles in mid-June after thousands of miles of highway testing and a border-to-border run.

Boeing describes it fondly as "the engine of the future."

Weighing only 200 pounds, it is an easy load for two men to carry, but it is rated at 175 horsepower and installed with tools power.

Its sponsors say it can be re-you could carry in a coat pocket; one man can take it apart and put it together again in six hours.

It will run on diesel oil, kerosene or gasoline—on just about anything, as a Boeing quipster put it, except beer.

Better Mileage

Miles per gallon? Not so good by comparison, but Boeing engineers say they are expecting better mileage with further research.

Its tests in a helicopter have been reported successful. Boeing officials plan to try it in an airplane.

Present production is for the Navy, for use as electric generators in minesweepers. The Navy is testing it as a power plant for landing craft. It was developed as a Bureau of Ships project. There is no production of the engines for commercial use.

Stationary Plant

Boeing engineers have also predicted its feasibility as a stationary power plant.

It is an adaptation of the jet airplane engine principle. In a jet plane, the power comes from the thrust of the escaping gas itself. In the new-type engine, the gas spins a turbine—like water spins a turbine to make electricity—and the resulting power turns a shaft.

Boeing, the firm famed for big bombers and airliners, lists the following as some of the engine's features:

It occupies only about 13 per cent of the space of a standard diesel truck engine; it needs no radiator or cooling system; it has only one-tenth as many parts as comparable gasoline and diesel engines of the piston-drive type; it is at least 3,000 pounds lighter than diesel truck engines of equal power.

The widest interest has been in the truck-trailer unit which has undergone two years of testing. Drivers said it drew attention all along the route of the recent border-to-border 60-hour run. Wind-drops on each side of the big truck's hood exposed the tiny power plant but it looked like it was running with no engine at all.

Mile Per Gallon

Henry C. Hill, assistant chief engineer of the Boeing gas turbine division, reports the test truck averaged only a little better than one mile a gallon on diesel fuel, compared with three to five miles a gallon for conventional truck engines. That was with total test load weight of 34 tons.

He adds, however, that if a truck were designed to make use of the lighter, smaller engine, with a resulting increase in pay load, the net return to an operator would be about the same as with standard diesel trucks.

He also predicts a reduction of 30 to 35 per cent in the future in fuel consumption.

"This sounds like quite a development chore," he said, "but we are happy to report that means for this gain appear to be near at hand as a result of successful research work."

Four Mothers and Their Daughters



Four mothers and their daughters comprised the five-generation grouping at a recent family reunion. Reading from the youngest at left they are 4-month-old Deborah Lynne Johnson and her mother, Mrs. Glenn Johnson, of Salem; grandmother, Mrs. Leslie Phillips of Dallas; great-grandmother, Mrs. Gus Jahn of Monmouth; great-great-grandmother, Mrs. Fred Mecum of Portland.

Boys to Take Trip to Rodeo

Room is available for about 10 more boys to join the crowd for a YMCA sponsored trip tonight to the St. Paul Rodeo, Roth Holtz, boys work director, announced Wednesday.

A truck is to depart this afternoon for the rodeo and can take about 30 boys. Applications may be made immediately at the YMCA. "Boys under the age of 12 years are admitted to the rodeo free," Holtz advised. Leaders for the excursion are John and Fred Welland, both directors at the Y's Camp Silver-Creek, and Holtz. At Camp Silver-Creek, it was

reported by Holtz that a new record of 131 boys are enjoying the life of a camper in this, the first period for the summer.

PUNCTURES LOWER LIP

A Salem lad was treated Wednesday for a puncture wound of the lower lip by Salem first aid when he was struck in the chin with a baseball bat. Injured was Ronny Eskins, 1890 N. 4th St., while playing baseball near his home.

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Dewey Predicts Switch From Taft to General

CHICAGO (AP)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey said Wednesday night he expects 40 delegates now committed to Senator Robert A. Taft will switch to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower after the first ballot at the Republican convention.

Dewey made the statement to reporters after arriving by air from the Houston Governors Convention to lend a hand to Eisenhower's campaign for the party's presidential nomination.

The New York governor, twice his party's nominee for the presidency, said he based his estimate of switches from the Taft delegation on talks he had with other governors supporting Taft signed at the Houston convention. He didn't go into detail. But he said even some of the

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governors supporting Taft signed Wednesday's petition by 23 GOP governors assailing some of Taft's pre-convention procedures.

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