

Rocket Launching Over Ocean To Test High Altitude Phenomena

Los Angeles — Aeronautics Systems, Inc., today hoped to make "space history" in September when it will launch a rocket from a balloon platform over the Pacific Ocean in an attempt to establish a new altitude record "thousands of miles" above the earth.

The company, Ford Motor Company's West Coast Subsidiary, announced Wednesday that it was preparing for the project which is sponsored by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. The launching will take place from the platform 20 miles above the ocean but the exact

test site is "classified information."

It will mark the first time that a rocket will head into space from a balloon platform, although last month a dummy rocket was tested from a similar balloon platform.

Dr. Ernest H. Krause, vice-president of aeronautics, said the 4-stage solid propellant rocket will travel at more than 17,000 miles an hour to a height never before achieved. He said the main purpose of the experiment is to investigate atmospheric and space phenomena at high altitudes.

The rocket designed to have an initial first stage thrust of 160,000 pounds will carry 3½ pounds of instruments to record scientific data.

The project has been labeled "Operation Far Side." Herbert I. Karsch, aeronautics project director, said the rocket will be fired from the balloon to free itself from the high drag of lower atmosphere. He said the balloon, largest ever launched, will lift the 1,900 pound rocket to 100,000 feet before it is fired.

The initial Far Side balloon flight experiment was conducted at the General Mills flight test center near New Brighton, Minn. During the test a 3,750,000 cubic foot helium-filled balloon carried 2,300 pounds to a height of more than 104,000 feet. This is the same type of balloon that will haul the rocket to its launching altitude.

Surcharge Considered In Coos Bay Loadings Because of Gang Lack

Coos Bay — A threat of penalty rates hung over this key lumber shipping port today after shipowners complained of long delays in loading ships here.

Shipowners said delays were tying up vessels for as long as 14 days at a time and blamed an "artificially induced shortage of longshoremen." Longshoremen said an unusual heavy amount of ships here during the last few weeks was responsible and blamed a bunching of schedules.

Surcharge Considered

Harry S. Brown, chairman of the Intercoastal Steamship Freight Association, New York, reported a surcharge on cargo loaded at Coos Bay was under consideration. Amount has not been determined, he said, but he added that it cost \$2,000 to \$3,000 per day to keep ships tied up in port.

Stevedoring company officials

said seven ships were being worked and one was waiting for longshore crews Wednesday. They said 24 longshore gangs were working and "double that many could be used."

Gordon Rasmussen, secretary of the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union at North Bend, said the union could supply longshore gangs for one day shift only. He said three of the 25 longshore gangs were on vacation and two gangs have been called in from Bandon. Help from Newport was asked for but was busy, he said. He said the eight ships in port was double the normal number and that it was a temporary situation.

Lumber industry sources said imposing of a surcharge could mean ocean shipping of lumber to East Coast markets would drop off sharply.

Portland Man Bugged Not Robbed, in Tar

Portland — Police got a call Wednesday saying a man had reported he was "robbed."

Patrolman C. H. Smith rushed to the scene and found Abraham Lee, 50, trying to crawl out of a sticky mess of gooey tar.

Lee explained that he was walking along when he suddenly found his feet entangled in about four inches of tar and couldn't move. The tar came from a nearby parking lot surface where it apparently had melted in the hot sun.

Lee explained that he had not yelled "robbed" to the passing motorist who had called police. What he said was, "Help, I'm bugged."

An average flock of young hens will produce 180 eggs per bird a year.

Eastern States Suffer From Worst Drought Since 1900

By UNITED PRESS

One of the worst droughts to hit the eastern United States since 1900 is burning up fruit, vegetables and tobacco crops from Maine to Virginia, lowering water reserves to below normal levels, and searing wood-

lands tinder dry.

Unless soaking rains end the three-month dry spell that has brought 11 eastern states to the brink of disaster, losses to farmers, florists and home gardeners may reach the \$50 to \$75 million mark by the end of the month. Crops now being harvested are 40-80 per cent below normal and market prices are resulting higher.

No Hope for Relief

The next four days may spell relief or disaster for the area, but the U.S. Weather Bureau is holding out no hope for relief. The bureau is predicting little or no rainfall for the week end and no appreciable precipitation in the foreseeable future.

Rainfall has been about 60 per cent below normal in the Middle Atlantic and New England States since May 1. States affected by the drought are Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and Virginia. Only Ver-

mont and sections of upstate New York have had sufficient rainfall.

PT&T Starts Relay Station at Pendleton

Pendleton — Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company started construction Wednesday on a \$533,000 microwave relay system to increase long distance telephone circuits. The new system will provide 24 additional circuits between Pendleton and Portland and 12 more from Portland to Boise. The relay center will be located southwest of Pendleton.

SHRINE GAME QUEEN

Pendleton — Karen Fowler, 6, Joseph, Ore., has been chosen queen of the annual class B Shrine football game here August 31.

Man Trapped in Submerged Car for 10 Hours With 4 Inches of Breathing Space

Astoria — William Golden, 45, Portland taxi driver, was trapped in a submerged car for 10 hours with only four inches of breathing space.

He was reported in satisfactory condition at the Ocean Beach, Wash., hospital, recovering from bruises and shock.

Police pieced together this version of the incident:

Golden, en route to Ocean Park to dig clams, took the last ferry from Astoria to Megler, Wash., Tuesday night. He fell asleep at the wheel and ran off the highway near the east end of the Fort Columbia tunnel. The car crashed over a 10-foot embankment and came to rest upside down in the water of a man-

made lake. There was only four inches of air space beneath the upside-down floor board. Golden was trapped in the car, and managed to stay alive only by keeping his head in such a position as to breathe in that four inches of space.

After a torturous 10 hours, David Auld of Astoria and his 14-year-old son, Jimmy, noticed the protruding part of the car and quickly notified state police.

State Patrolman Gene Bolstvedt to the scene, managed to open the car door and rescued Golden. He was rushed to the Ocean Beach hospital, where his condition was reported good today.

ATTENDING MEETING

Ashland — Dr. Phyllis V. Plichta, Southern Oregon college professor of education, is attending the Oregon planning committee meeting today at

Portland State college in preparation for the national conference of the American Society for Curriculum development which has been scheduled for Seattle this spring.

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