

Flying Planet Needed for Long Space Trips

Original Crew Would Be Replaced in Space

By WILLIAM TERRY
United Press Correspondent

Berkeley, Calif.—Man can explore his stellar backyard—the solar system—with relative ease. But to chart a course outward bound to the nearest star he would have to construct a spatial Noah's ark that would fly for more than 200 years.

If he harnessed the power of a nuclear bomb and started out tomorrow for Pluto, the most distant planet at three and a half billion miles, he would arrive in about 18 days.

But if he sailed on by Pluto heading for the nearest star, Proxima Centauri, 30 thousand billion miles away in hope of finding another planetary system, it would be 2182 before he saw earth again.

It would be a battle against time as well as the unknown and the original crew would be replaced by new generations born in space.

Such a spine-tingling plan would require the creation of a flying planet, populated with people and animals, to survive on this lonely journey through a dark and eerie space.

They would be trapped in this perhaps forgotten world moving at a stellar snail's pace through distance starting to the imagination.

Soon after takeoff all radio and radar contact would be lost for man does not have a signal powerful enough to penetrate the tremendous distance even of solar space. Telescopes would be useless as the ship receded into the darkness of space and solar light dimmed on the surface of the ship.

The trip to Pluto, says University of California astronomer Dr. John Crawford, "will soon become feasible, and the trip to Proxima with rockets of much greater size will some day be possible."

"Under ideal conditions and traveling at four percent the speed of light or 27 million miles an hour, in two weeks' time you would leave the solar system and begin drifting through space for 225 years on the round trip to Proxima Centauri—four and a half light years away."

Crawford says that man will have no trouble tolerating such speeds. In space, time and distance would be relative and he would not be aware of his motion through the stars just as we are not aware on earth, of our motion around the sun.

The speed of four percent that of light (light travels at 186,000 miles a second) could be attained by harnessing nuclear energy, Crawford says.

The ship would build up speed rapidly and in two weeks would have attained maximum velocity. Power then would be shut off and the ship would drift the remainder of the way to the nearest star. Two weeks before orbiting around Proxima the rockets would be reversed for deceleration.

Such a space ark consisting mostly of fuel would dwarf the Empire State building. But it would lose most of its mass during the short periods of acceleration and deceleration.

Crawford estimates the ship would be only one-fiftieth of its original size after the flight to Proxima.

"You can compare the returning ship," he says, "to the Sputniks, tiny beside the massive rockets that hung them in space."

The biggest problem is time. "The only way to beat time—the 225 years it would take you—to construct a space ark. It's the only conceivable way because it is impossible to harness a power source that will take you there much faster," Crawford says.

"In view of this, clearly you would need a small-sized village inside the ark, reproducing its inhabitants and producing food during the spatial exploration. One way of supplying food would be the breeding of animals continuously during the trip."

Also, says Crawford, the pilot

Astrophysicist Prompted to Write Down Notes on 'Statement of Conscience'

Editor's note: The notion of the U. S. launching a shining "Christmas satellite" as a peace gesture to the world has caught the fancy of Dr. S. Fred Singer, a University of Maryland astrophysicist. It also set him to thinking about the great space race with Russia. On a Nov. 16 train trip he was prompted to put down on paper a rocket scientist's revealing "statement of conscience."

By S. FRED SINGER

Washington—*AP*—I am not a pacifist, and I, like many others, recognize that war is preferable to living under peace which cannot be endured. But I don't think we are doing enough to promote peace.

In the phoney Soviet peace offensive their hypocritical use of the word peace has made the very word one which we should avoid lest we be called 'Reds.' If one believes sincerely as I do, in the fundamental moral superiority of the individual as paramount, then I think the course to follow is clearly marked out.

You may ask why scientists should concern themselves with moral problems. I would answer that concern with the law of nature doesn't disqualify one from considering many other questions. Perhaps even scientists who now-a-days have the awful responsibility to design new weapons have a special reason to consider moral matters.

I think it is very essential that the U. S. inaugurate the space program which will surely lead to man's mastery of the solar system, in a spiritual and moral way. The Russians have chosen to begin it by launching a metal ball void of any spiritual significance, indeed of little scientific significance.

What an opportunity for us. I can't think it's necessary for us to demonstrate any technical superiority. Even if we could and did rattle our sabers louder than the Russians, even if we did enter a 'rocket shooting contest' suggested by Khrushchev, what would we gain?

There are millions of sincere people in our country who want peace, who strive for it and pray for it. Their voice should be heard, and it should be heard around the world.

What better symbol for expressing this deep felt urge than a peace and goodwill satellite which spells out our Christmas wish of peace on earth and goodwill to all men.

How can such a sincere demonstration not make an impact on the millions around the world who have been waiting for this message for 2,000 years. It is only today that this message has truly a world wide meaning.

Surely these men of good will will respond to this message and applaud it. Yes, even inside Russia there are millions who will applaud it even though they cannot answer back, people whose minds cannot be poisoned by Communist propaganda, people who admire the achievements of the U. S. and despise their dictators.

Recommend Closed Season Be Continued

Portland—*AP*—A recommendation that a closed season on the ocean troll salmon fishery be continued from Dec. 20 to April 15 was made Tuesday at the annual meeting of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission here.

The recommendation was joined in by research specialists of state fish bodies of Oregon, Washington and California. Biologists said stocks of fall Chinook salmon have been alarmingly lower in recent years and that steps must be taken to bring back the runs.

Commercial fishermen have asked that the ocean troll season opening be set a month earlier at March 15. The opening has been postponed to April 15 for the past two years to give fall Chinook a better chance to escape to spawning grounds.



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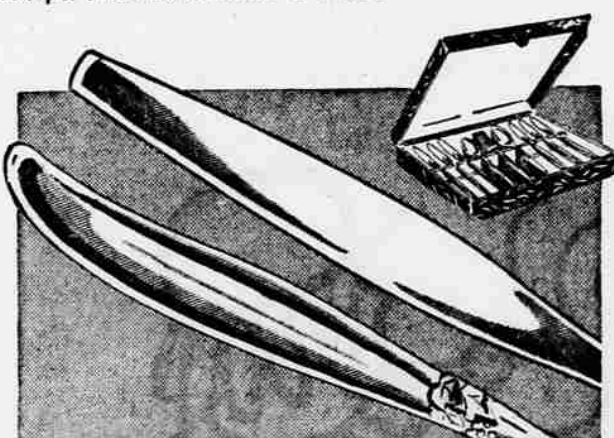
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Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

GROUCHO MARX is one of the most faithful—and articulate—adherents of the Hollywood Stars, a baseball team not given to winning too many championships. Not too long ago, in fact, the Stars finished last, a mere 60 games or so behind the champs of the circuit. The players were properly apprehensive when they heard that Groucho not only was arranging a dinner in their honor, but proposed to be the principal speaker.



"In the early spring our prospects looked pretty good," recalled Groucho, "but then came the first disaster: all our regular players reported. By May, we faced a crisis. Luckily we had the kind of management that was equal to the emergency. The price of parking was raised to thirty-five cents."

The manager of a burlesque show parried his wife's telephoned demand that he come home pronto for a delayed supper with a soothing, "Take it easy, hon. I'll be home in two shakes."

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PROSPECT Land Purchased For Park

By GENE L. SPRUILL

Prospect—The Prospect Lions' club recently purchased from Copco 6.47 acres of land for the purpose of building a community park. Price for the acreage was \$647. The Prospect Community club donated \$200 toward the purchase of the property.

Gary Powers of Enterprise, Ore., is a guest at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Powers of Prospect.

The 22-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Burge was treated at Shady Cove clinic recently after the youngster had poked a bobby pin into his ear. It was feared the eardrum had been punctured but tests proved otherwise.

Miss Kathleen Snyder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Snyder, is convalescing from a tonsillectomy.

Mr. and Mrs. James Herrington are the parents of a 7½ pounds baby daughter born to them Nov. 15 in the Sacred Heart hospital. Also parents of a baby daughter are Mr. and Mrs. William E. Han, former Prospect

residents, now of Shady Cove.

On Nov. 11 Mrs. Nell Goode celebrated her 72nd birthday.

Mrs. Allen Valentine was honored Wednesday evening with a stork shower at the home of Mrs. Lewis Robertson. Mary Ann Hubbard and Linda Robertson were co-hostesses.

Mrs. L. E. Clevenberg was hostess at a luncheon and bridge party in her home Nov. 14. Those attending were Mesdames Lou Rogers, John Gartman, W. W. Dinkens, Lee Catson, Mel Rochester, Steve Larson and Mrs. Hazel Ulrich.

The junior girls of Prospect High school held a slumber party Friday night at the high school gym. Miss Gould and Miss Patricia Lull were the chaperones for the evening.

The Pepsters are having a food sale at the Prospect store Nov. 25. They also plan to have a candy sale each Tuesday of the week. The money from the food sale is to help buy their letters.

Paul Mather underwent surgery for an injured back last week in a Medford hospital.

40 Persons Leave Theater in Fire

Portland—*AP*—Persons watching the movie "Operation Madball" at the Orpheum theater here shortly after noon Tuesday suddenly saw flames on the stage.

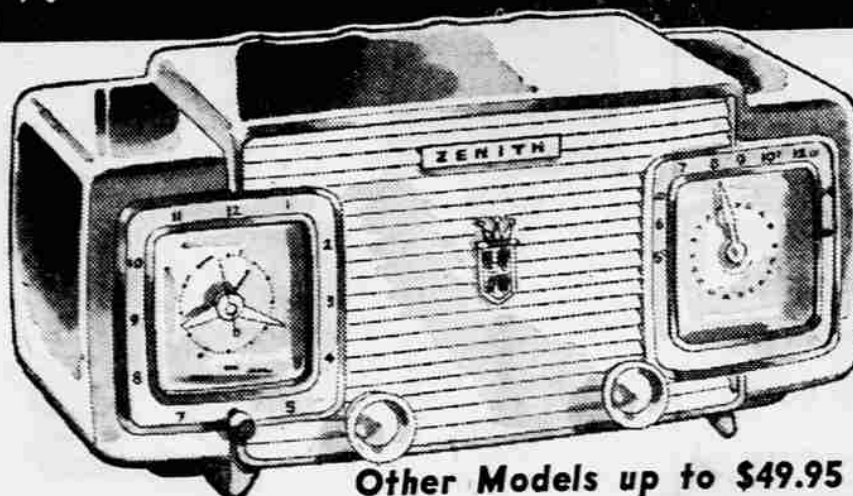
Then the theater began filling with smoke. The patrons, about 40 in all, left the theater without panic.

The fire, which started near the main curtain, caused about \$20,000 damage. Firemen said it may have started in stage wiring. The theater will reopen tonight.

FIRST RUSSIAN JET LANDS

London—*AP*—Budapest Radio said today that the first Russian jet TU-104 airliner has arrived in the Hungarian capital from Moscow. The broadcast said the plane landed Tuesday to inaugurate a regular weekly schedule between the two Communist cities.

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