

Air Force Tries Launching Of Titan at Cape Canaveral

Cape Canaveral, Fla.—The Air Force attempted a firing of the mighty Titan ballistic missile for the first time yesterday but a flaw in the first-stage rocket prevented its launching.

A new automatic device cut off the engine, and saved the multi-million dollar missile from being destroyed.

Smoke and vapor belched from the striped first-stage, which was the only engine fired. But the 90-foot Titan, static and ground tested many

times, was never released from its pad boltings. Thick clouds billowed about the base, then cleared and the Titan stood motionless.

"A malfunction occurred shortly after ignition causing automatic cut-off of the engine while the missile was still on the launch pad," the Air Force said.

First Test Launching

It was the first test launching of the super-missile, designed to be mightier than the satellite Atlas ICBM. Its

flight range was to be only some 200 miles in length at a maximum altitude of only 50 miles.

Even if successful, the flight would have lasted only about 10 minutes. An Air Force spokesman said the flight would have been considered 90 per cent successful had the huge missile merely lifted from its pad on its maiden test shot.

The Titan may be the vehicle which will first take man to the moon and back.

Manned Flight

Major Gen. Bernard A.

Schriever, Air Force missile chief, had said that the first stage of the Titan "could provide manned flight around the moon and back to earth."

Half-Moon

There was a pale half-moon hanging tauntingly in the heavens.

The Air Force said the Titan's first stage was packed with instruments to record data on friction, stresses and strain and other factors to be measured in flight at thousands of miles per hour speed.

Despite the failure to release the giant missile from its bolted pad position, ad-

vances in long-range missile design were apparent.

The automatic cut-off system may have saved the Titan from complete destruction, thus saving taxpayers millions of dollars. A highly placed source said the trouble could have been something which would have caused it to explode as it left the launching pad.

With the missile still on the pad, rocket scientists will be able to check the flaws in the test-firing and compare results with a recent static test of the Titan.

BEAUTY OF BATHING

Chicago—(UPI)—More goes into a bathtub nowadays than a bath and a cake of soap. The Baking Soda Institute said a survey showed popcorn, peanuts and candy contribute to the happiness of Americans while they're soaking in the suds. The report said 12 per cent of the nation's smokers enjoy a cigarette in the tub. Two out of five persons listen to music ranging from operatic arias to rock 'n' roll as they bathe. Nearly a quarter of all bathers read in the tub and one out of 18 women manicure their nails.

There are about 2,800 different languages in the world.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Sunday, December 21, 1958 3

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Soviet Scientist Says Satellite Not the Heaviest

Moscow—(UPI)—A top Soviet scientist yesterday ridiculed American claims that the new four-ton U.S. Atlas satellite was the heaviest one ever placed into orbit.

The scientist, Leonid Sedov, said the carrier rockets of the three Soviet sputniks weighed considerably more when they went around the globe.

Sedov, chairman of the interplanetary communications committee of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, congratulated U.S. scientists on the progress they had made since they first fired the small Explorer I satellite into orbit last Jan. 31.

But most of an interview which Sedov granted to the Soviet Tass News Agency was concerned with the weight of the big Atlas missile.

A Tass correspondent had asked Sedov what he thought about "the sensational noise raised by some officials and newspapers to the effect that this U.S. satellite is the largest satellite in the world and is three times the weight of the Soviet satellite."

"To all technically literate people," Sedov said, "there can be no question of the new U.S. satellite surpassing any of the three Soviet satellites in weight."

The Soviet scientist said the actual payload of the Atlas was considerably less than any of the payloads of Russia's three sputniks. He said that the payload of the Atlas was 133 pounds compared with 184 pounds for Sputnik I, 1,118 pounds for Sputnik II and 2,919 pounds for Sputnik III.

U.S. IRBM Bases Expected in Italy

Washington—(UPI)—Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy, reported yesterday that arrangements were nearing completion to set up U. S. missile bases in Italy and possibly other friendly European countries.

He said that if agreements were completed, American production of the intermediate range ballistic missiles, which can carry a nuclear warhead 1,500 miles, will be stepped up.

Thus far only Britain has allowed the United States to establish a mid range missile bases on its soil. Four Thor squadrons are being assigned there.

McElroy, returning from North Atlantic Treaty organization talks in Paris, and conference with Italian defense officials, said the U. S. was close to a favorable decision concerning Italy and was "preparing" to send missile units to other NATO countries.

He hinted that some agreement had been reached on the urgency of placing IRBM squadrons in readiness on the European continent.

Until the 6,000-mile Atlas ballistic missile becomes operational at U. S. bases next year, Thor IRBM squadrons being set up in Britain will represent the only operational ballistic missile capable of hitting Soviet targets in event of war.

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British Pacifists Block Missile

Swaffham, England—(UPI)—A group of protesting pacifists blocked the main gate of a big U. S. Thor missile base construction site here yesterday while fellow demonstrators sang Christmas carols. Reinforced police arrested 20 of them.

The demonstrators squatted in the mud at the entrance and obstructed passage of trucks carrying building supplies into the key missile base.

Police picked up the pacifists individually and loaded them bodily into black maras. They set up a stretcher service that sped the arrested demonstrators from the construction site to the Swaffham jail, three miles away.

Other pacifists, who shied away from the police, clustered farther down the road from the base singing "Silent Night" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing."

It was the third demonstration against the construction of the missile base by the pacifists, members of the "Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War."



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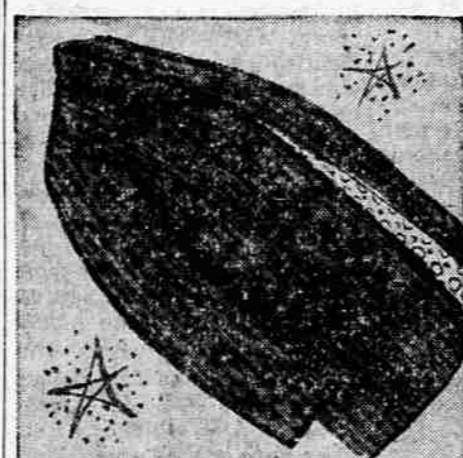
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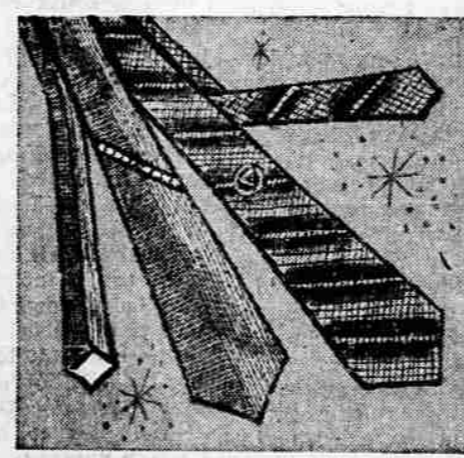
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Gift her with a rose print nylon duster

4 SIZES 12-18

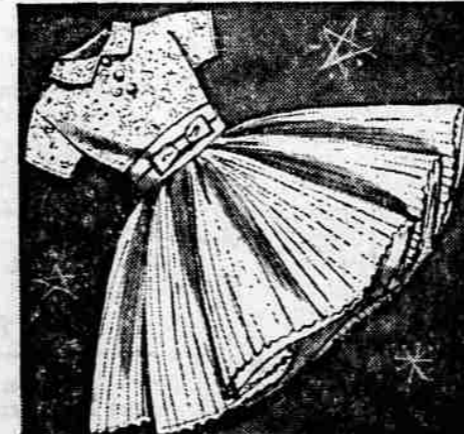
Lovely duster in pink or blue print with solid pink or blue lining. Hand washable—needs little or no ironing. Just one of many styles in our holiday collection.



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5⁹⁸

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Carol Brent gift pajamas in no-iron opaque nylon tricot

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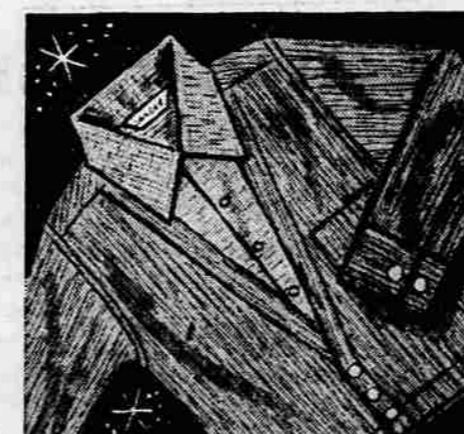
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