

Soviet Rocket Aimed at Moon, Survey Reveals

Washington (Science Service)—The Soviet moon rocket, now in permanent orbit around the sun, was aimed to hit the moon, not merely to come close.

This is the conclusion of the staff of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics, based on a survey of all available evidence and ten hearings at which space experts testified in public and private sessions. The staff report, released last week, summarizes findings on the first moon rocket, now called Mecha for "dream," which was launched Jan. 2, 1959.

The evidence that Lunik, as it was first named, was intended to hit the moon is circumstantial, not direct. The payload included equipment for measuring the moon's radioactivity and magnetic field. Such experiments could not be carried out at any great distance from the moon, but for all practical purposes assume a lunar impact.

The payload also included metal tapes and a sphere with Soviet inscriptions. The report concludes that there are intended to support a territorial claim by symbolic occupation of the moon. The sphere was inscribed, "Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, January - 1959 - January," as were the pennants.

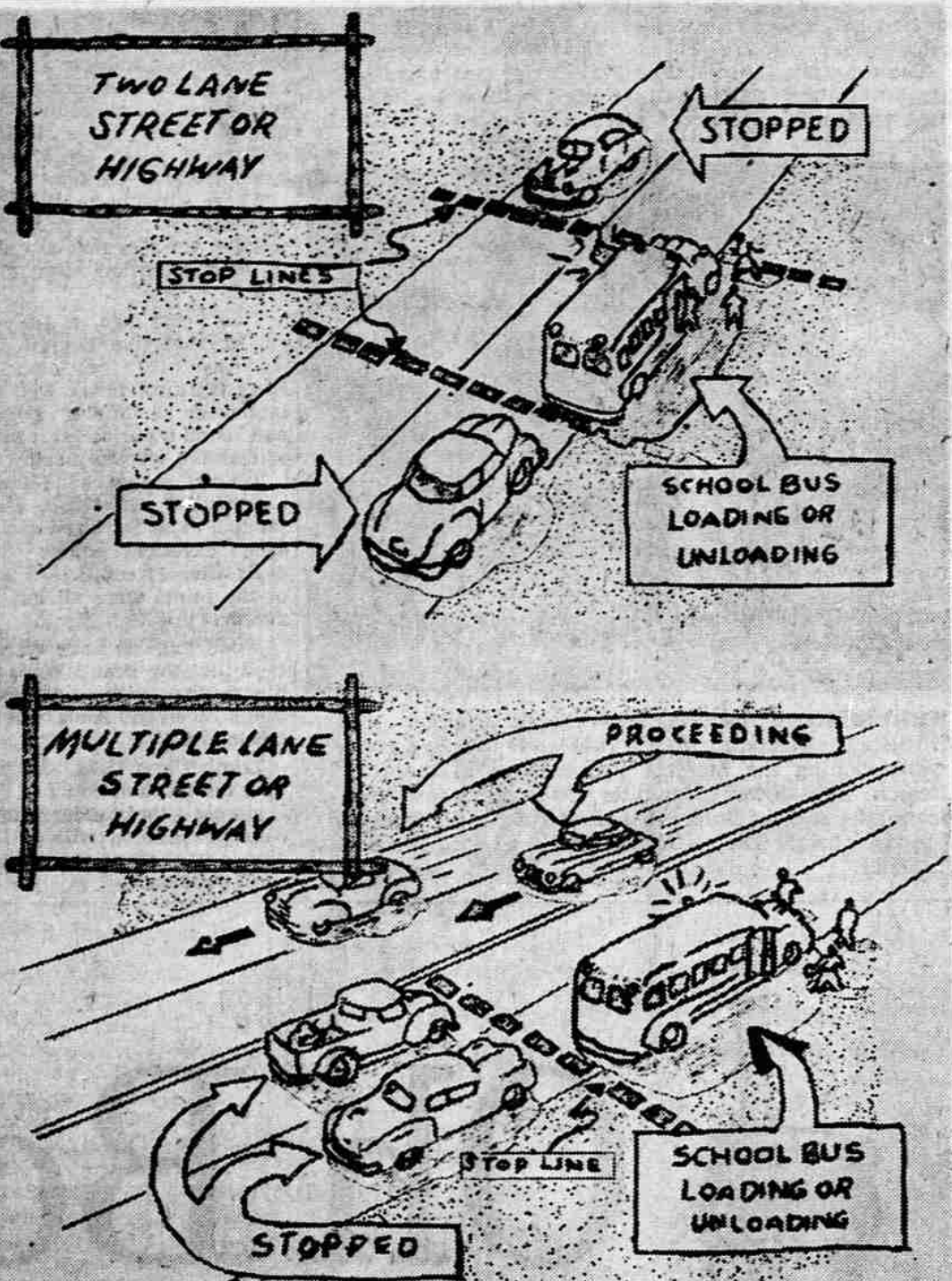
The report also emphasized again Soviet progress in space technology, and the efforts that must be made by the United States to catch up with the Russians.

The report, "The First Soviet Moon Rocket," was prepared by the committee's special counsel, Spencer M. Beresford, in collaboration with Dr. Charles S. Sheldon II, technical director.

Wild horses ramed America at least 15,000 years ago, the National Geographic Society says, but for some reason unknown to man they eventually became extinct. The Spanish conquistadors reintroduced the horse to the continent.

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STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES—This is the way the Oregon school bus stop law works. On a two-lane highway, all traffic must stop when meeting or overtaking a school bus which has halted to load or unload children. On highways having three or more lanes, vehicles must stop only if they are traveling in the same direction as the bus. After stopping, they must not proceed as long as any children are leaving the bus or crossing the highway. To assist in holding

traffic while children are crossing the road, all buses are equipped with red stop signal arms, and it is optional for buses to have flashing red stop signal lights. Traffic must stop for the bus whether or not the stop arm is displayed or the signal lights flashing. Use of either of these signals by the bus driver indicates that traffic is to remain stopped. The law applies equally to city streets, rural roads and highways.

State Egg Dealers 'Not Getting Wise'

Salem, (UPI)—As a result of a partial check of Klamath Falls grocery stores, 36 egg producers in the Klamath area will receive notices that they are in violation of the new state egg law, the state agriculture department said Wednesday.

"Producers just aren't getting wise to the fact that since Aug. 5, they have needed a state egg dealer's permit if they sell eggs to retailers, food manufacturers and eating houses," Foods and Dairy Chief C. R. Beals said.

Beals added that if a retailer candles and grades all the eggs he buys from producers, then it's the retailer and not the producer who needs the \$2 permit as far as sales to stores are concerned.

The Klamath Falls findings will be pretty widely duplicated over the state, Beals predicted.

About 30 per cent of wholesale trade in the U.S. is concentrated in eight of the states—New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin.

Scientists Isolate Poisons in Lakes

Montreal (Science Service)—"Blooming" ponds and lakes can poison a farmer's livestock almost before he knows what is happening.

Now the complicated story behind these poisonings from scum-covered water is being simplified and some of the killer substances identified, a team of Canadian researchers told scientists at a recent International Botanical Congress meeting here.

A substance released when blue-green algae decompose an endotoxin is one of the lethal substances. It causes death quickly in very small doses. Dr. P. R. Gorham of the National Research Council of Canada reported. Huge amounts of dried algae cells were needed to extract and identify the fast-death toxin. Cells from the blue-green algae called microcystis have been mass-cultured. Dr. Gorham said, and the cells were toxic when given orally to sheep, calves and smaller animals.

Analysis and tests showed the endotoxin is an acid. Further research identified it as a toxic peptide that is quite stable.

There is also a slow-death factor, Dr. Gorham explained. This is caused by bacteria associated with the blue-green algae. Much larger doses of the bacteria are needed. One of the five bacteria found contaminating the researchers' algae culture produces the slow-death symptoms found in

nature. Apparently there are several genetic strains of the algae, some capable of producing the fast-death toxin while others cannot. The great variability in the poisoning powers of an affected pond, for example, probably depends on the presence of the right genetic strain of algae when a cow comes to drink. If the algae is not the toxic one, the bacteria may cause slow death. In this case, the algae is indirectly responsible for the animal's death.

Work with these toxic substances is continuing, Dr. Gorham said. This summer there has been an unverified human poisoning reported that may have resulted from swimming in contaminated water. However, the cause of poisoning has not been confirmed.

Co-workers with Dr. Gorham are Drs. B. Simpson, C. T. Bishop, E.F.L.J. Anet.

Medford Youth Wins Honorable Mention

Robert Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Allen, 981 South Stage rd., Medford, received honorable mention in the national high school essay contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary.

Allen's essay, which was judged best in Oregon, was entered in the national contest. Winners were announced at the annual convention of the auxiliary in Los Angeles.

OSC Enrollment May Set Mark

Corvallis—Enrollment at Oregon State college is expected to reach the 8,000 mark for the first time in history this fall as the 92nd year of classwork gets under way this month.

Completion of two new dormitories and a new dormitory cafeteria will assure adequate housing for students, college officials said. The first wing of the new physics-chemistry building will also be opened for some classes fall term with all floors scheduled to be completed by January.

New Student Week—a special orientation and counseling period for new freshmen and transfer students—will be Sept. 20 to 26. Registration for both new and returning students will be Sept. 25 and 26. Classes will start Sept. 28.

Special student ticket arrangements have been made for the OSC football game with University of Southern California Sept. 19 in Portland. Returning students will

be admitted on last year's student body cards. New students will use their notice of admission slips for entrance to the game.

Saturday morning classes will be used on an increasingly broad scale this year under the long-range campus program designed to assure maximum use of classrooms. Over 200 classes are scheduled for Saturday mornings fall term.

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The first inter-American conference was called by Simon Bolivar, the liberator, at Panama City in the summer of 1826. The United States was so slow in picking its delegates they were still en route when the meeting adjourned.

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