

Invention Slows Rockets, Jets; Oregonian Makes Meter Alarm

Washington (Science Service) — A new means of slowing down the fastest rockets and jet planes was among the 621 patents granted here recently. The purpose of this device, which was granted patent No. 2,936,710, is to slow down a missile sufficiently to allow the use of a parachute and at the same time protect the nose cone of the missile in which instruments may be housed.

William Bollay of Pacific Palisades, Calif., the inventor, assigned his patent to the Curtiss-Wright Corporation of Delaware.

The device consists of a cylindrical shell fitted around the body of the missile just behind the nose-cone. While not in use, this shell fits flush with the surface and offers no more air resistance than would the normal skin of the missile.

Cylinder Thrust Forward
To decelerate the missile, this cylinder is thrust forward by rods attached to a high pressure piston and cylinder within the body of the missile until the front edge is level with the nose. This forms an air pocket in front of the missile to slow down the missile's flight and at the same time to destroy the aerodynamic lifting properties of the nose-cone.

Ray E. Miller of Portland, Ore., was awarded patent No. 2,937,299, for a compact radio transmitter which fits into a metal housing and uses that housing as its antenna. It may be adapted to fit in the hollow metal post of a parking meter, without changing the appearance of the meter, so that anyone trying to rob the meter by forcing open the coin box triggers it off.

Coded alarm messages are sent out to be picked up by a receiver in the local police station or in patrol cars. A switch is provided so that the authorized collector of the coins may remove the money without setting the wheels of the law in motion.

In another patent, Hugo Kuttner of Graz, Austria, points out that considerable resistance to the motion of a boat is due to the comparatively big wash created by vessels of conventional design. Kuttner was granted patent No. 2,936,729 for his vessel designed to alleviate this problem.

This craft looks rather like a shark, having only a small cockpit protruding above the surface of the water, and two small swept-back fins attached to the side below the water line. The rear portion of the boat is sealed off from the front cabin, and consists of a flexible tail of springs covered by rubber or plastic, shaped like that of a fish, and powered by a motor, or series of motors, to propel the craft in a similar manner.

Kuttner cites as evidence of the efficiency of such a design the high velocities achieved by small fish.

Patent No. 2,936,988 was awarded to Frederick R. Mazzitelli of Springfield, Pa., for his convertiplane control system. A convertiplane is an aircraft designed so that it may operate either as an ordinary plane or as a hover-plane. Mazzitelli's invention relates to those convertiplanes working on the tilting wing principle.

Both the wings, to which the twin engines are attached, and the tail-plane may be tilted through 90 degrees so as to provide a vertical lift. A small propeller is situated on the tail-plane to provide additional lift at that point when the plane is in vertical flight, and the plane is controlled by ailerons, or wing flaps, which are moved by the pilot moving his control stick to one side or the other.

The patent was assigned to the Vertol Aircraft Corporation of Morton, Pa. **Waffle Iron Opener**
An automatically opening waffle iron won patent No. 2,936,697 for John J. Kueser of St. Louis, Mo., who assign-

Check-Ups Urged In Treatment for Fungus Infection

Chicago (Science Service)—Griseofulvin, an oral antibiotic for combating superficial fungus infections, corner the entire contents of the current issue of the American Medical Association's Archives of Dermatology. The issue reports on investigators in 11 countries.

A dermatology professor at the University of Mexico wrote that "deep mycoses (fungus diseases) are frequent in Mexico and that griseofulvin had been in use soon after the first reports of the success of the drug for humans before the end of 1958."

Results Found Good
In the Mexican study carried on since January, 1959, Dr. F. Latapi found that results were good in several cases of sporotrichosis and mycetoma, the two deep fungus diseases encountered most frequently in Mexico.

Dr. Latapi did not recommend griseofulvin as a practical substitute for potassium iodide therapy in sporotrichosis on every case. In the case of mycetoma, advanced bone involvement did not respond well, and in the treatment of chromoblastomycosis, the most superficial of the deep mycoses, the results seem poor.

Five Detroit doctors reported good effects of prolonged administration of griseofulvin on the liver and kidneys as well as on the blood cells.

Frequent Reports
Drs. Clarence S. Livingood, Mac Brannen, Richard L. Orders, Jerome B. Kopstein and John W. Rebeck recommended that "urinalysis should be done routinely before griseofulvin therapy is instituted," and that during treatment, reports should be made at three- to four-week intervals.

Although the reactions of patients were generally good, some of the reports warned that there may be possible increased resistance to griseofulvin by the fungi after continued treatment.

Salem (UPI)—Private utilities in Oregon recorded electric energy sales in April totaling \$8,919,160, according to the public utility commissioner's office.

Nothing personal, you understand, it was just that the new house to be erected in the neighborhood was 40 years old.

Mrs. Betty M. Donovan planned to have her home in San Mateo moved here by truck. Residents complained the old house might deteriorate the area. The city planning commission agreed and turned thumbs down on Mrs. Donovan's plan.

Lawn Looked Pretty With Bumper Crop

Miami, Fla. — The shed in R. E. Barkers back yard wasn't much to look at. So, in the interest of beauty, Barker decided to cover it with foliage.

Sweet potato vines seemed just the thing. Barker bought a bag from the grocer, lopped off the tops and planted them around the shed.

The vine came up so well, Barker decided to poke around to see how the roots were coming along. He pulled up a rich crop of sweet potatoes, including one that weighed 10 pounds and was almost two feet long.

Old House Unwelcome In New Neighborhood

San Carlos, Calif. — Storms of protest sounded in a residential neighborhood here when a San Mateo woman announced she was moving in.

Nothing personal, you understand, it was just that the new house to be erected in the neighborhood was 40 years old.

Mrs. Betty M. Donovan planned to have her home in San Mateo moved here by truck. Residents complained the old house might deteriorate the area. The city planning commission agreed and turned thumbs down on Mrs. Donovan's plan.

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FRONT LINE PICTURE — U.S. Marines give officers at a command post the front line picture during recent West Coast maneuvers. They set buttons on a transmitter for a new communications system called "BASIC" (Battle Area and Integrated Communication). The device transmits information to a television-type tube set up in the rear. (UPI Telephoto)

Builder Leases Air Above Parking Lot

Cambridge, Mass.—A hotel builder had his eye on a piece of downtown city property, but it was the site of a municipal parking lot and couldn't be bought or leased.

LONGER MORTGAGES

New York (UPI) — The typical new home buyer last year had an income of \$6,912 while the average term of repayment lengthened from 27.3 years in 1958 to 28.8 years in 1959, trade sources report.

Stress Can Hurt Teeth and Gums

Chicago, (Science Service) — Stress can hurt a person's teeth and gums, Dr. Ira F. Ross of the New York University College of Dentistry reports. The stress may cause a patient to continually clench and grind his teeth. This rocks the teeth in their sockets. Done continually when there is already some gum inflammation present, the rocking may cause the teeth to shift or cause gum disease and damage to underlying bones. Dr. Ross writes in the current issue of the Journal of the American Dental Association that dentists must not only treat the tissue in such cases but should also work to remove the contributing causes.

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