

Mercury Space Craft Falls Into Atlantic

Washington — (UPI) — A test shot of a Mercury space craft and its pilot escape system failed today over the Atlantic ocean.

The National Space and Aeronautics administration reported that the space craft failed to separate from its Little Joe booster rocket after being fired from Wallops Island, Va.

Both the space craft and the booster rocket plummeted into the ocean 13 miles from the experimental station. NASA spokesmen said an effort is being made to salvage the craft from the sea.

The Little Joe rocket carried the capsule to an altitude of 53,000 feet to test the structural strength of the space craft but then malfunctioned when the two failed to separate.

Cause Is Studied
NASA said technicians are studying the cause of the malfunction. Reliable operation of the escape system is essential for the survival of America's as-

tronauts if anything should go wrong at the outset of manned rocket and satellite flights scheduled for next year.

Today's escape test was conducted with a production-line model of the Mercury capsule. It was the fifth and last of a series of "qualification flights" with the Little Joe, a solid fuel rocket especially designed for the Mercury test program.

Similar escape system tests have been made with Little Joe launchings at Wallops in the past, but today's was the first with a space craft identical to the ones which will carry Mercury astronauts into space next year.

Tenants Sought For Salem Square

Salem — (UPI) — Two Salem Finance Co. officials are going to California this week in an attempt to stimulate development of Salem Square, a proposed commercial enterprise in downtown Salem. The project is estimated at \$7.5 million.

Plans call for the center to be one block square, bounded by Liberty, Court, State and Commercial streets.

Richard J. Schmidt of State Finance Co. here said purpose of the trip is to further negotiations with potential tenants.

Grants Pass Rail Crossing Approved

Salem — (UPI) — Public Utility Commissioner Jonel C. Hill Monday approved the application of the city of Grants Pass to build a crossing over Southern Pacific railroad tracks at Ninth st.

In his order he also reduced maximum train speeds in the area from 35 to 15 miles per hour.

Hill said the overcrossing will permit movement of traffic from the south section of the city and a new interchange north on new interstate 5 without going through downtown Grants Pass.

The city will install stop signs and street lights at the crossing.



CAMPAIGN KIDS—Chris, right, and Danny Blagdon are shown at San Francisco as they cast their vote for political bi-partisanship. The two youngsters, wearing noncompatible hats, boost the doctrine of togetherness but, as Danny said later, "That's all, brother!" (UPI Telephoto)

Two Parties Battle For State Houses

Washington — (UPI) — Voters in 27 states select governors today and the Democrats hope to continue whittling down the number of GOP state houses.

Republicans risk 13 of the 17 governorships they hold while the Democrats put on the line 14 of their 33 governorships.

The Democrats have gradually increased their lead in governorships in the last several elections.

Chief interest in the gubernatorial balloting centers on several Midwestern contests—in Michigan, Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota and Wisconsin—and in Maine.

The decision of Gov. G. Mennen Williams not to seek a seventh two-year term in Michigan left a race between Democratic Lt. Gov. John B. Swainson, who lost both legs in World War II, and polio-ridden Republican Paul F. Bagwell, a Michigan State university professor.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN
Battle Creek, Mich. — (UPI) — The committee boosting candidate Ray Turner for the state Senate finished the campaign by giving voters the silent treatment. The committee, deciding that people are fed up with political advertising, bought time for a series of 10-second TV commercials featuring absolute silence.

Power Co. to build the High Mountain Sheep dam at the mouth of the Salmon on the Snake river and WPP's proposal to construct the Nez Perce multi-purpose dam two and a half miles below on the Snake River.



Reversal Asked On Dam Ruling

Washington — (UPI) — The Washington Public Power Supply System Monday asked the Federal Power Commission to reverse an examiner's ruling permitting hearings to get underway on two opposing dam projects on the Middle Snake river.

The system asked the commission to postpone the hearings until Jan. 9. It also asked the FPC to delay current hearings until it rules on the motion.

The public power group asked for the postponement on grounds that it needed more time to prepare its case. It called Examiner William Levy's ruling "unreasonable" and "detrimental to the public interest."

Public hearings began last Friday on conflicting applications by the Pacific Public

STEWARDESS KILLED
American Airlines Stewardess Mary Hawthorne, 26, of Jackson Heights, N.Y., was killed Monday when the taxi cab in which she was riding collided with a car on a freeway at San Bruno, Calif. The cab driver also was killed and four other persons, including three airline stewardesses and the driver of the other vehicle, were injured. (UPI Telephoto)

LYNDON LIFTS LID

Houston, Tex. — (UPI) — Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson got so excited Monday when a partisan crowd whooped it up that he jammed his own Western-style hat on his head then grabbed an aide's hat to wave.

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