

Ambitious Space Projects Planned By United States

Editor's note: Dr. Werner von Braun, director of the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center and one of the world's leading rocket experts, has written a special dispatch for United Press International on "The Future of Humanity." He states that the United States has the capacity to be first on the moon and must be first.

By DR. WERNER VON BRAUN

Copyright, 1962 By United Press International Huntsville, Ala.—The United States, working in cooperation with and on behalf of the other nations of the Western world has one of the most important and exciting challenges in history. Few accomplishments have had such profound effect on the future of humanity than will the results of this immense and fascinating endeavor.

Exploration of space are directly linked to overall technological advancement and in our age such advancement is indicative of the relative position of nations. We Americans have already felt the sting of being second in a race in which we should, and could, have been first.

Any remaining doubts that we are really in a space race with the Soviet Union were dispelled by the decision last spring of U.S. President John F. Kennedy to launch an ambitious program for manned lunar exploration.

Unmanned artificial satellites are being launched with increasing frequency to perform a wide variety of services for mankind. Our Tires meteorological satellites have proven their worth by permitting meteorologists to predict more accurately the weather and detect disastrous storms. The military has developed warning and reconnaissance satellites to help us maintain our military posture.

Earth-orbiting and navigational and geodetic satellites are proving themselves daily. We are also developing such scientific satellites as orbiting solar observatories and the orbiting geophysical observatories. The first solar observatory was successfully launched last month. It is now reporting back to earth how the sun affects the weather and any threats it may pose for space travelers. But perhaps of most immediate and practical interest is the communications satellite which will help put the man in the street in closer touch with his fellow humans around the world.

Developes Vehicles
We at the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center are responsible to our parent organization—the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration—for the development of the space vehicles that will orbit satellites, send scientific payloads to distant planets and launch manned lunar expeditions.

The sub-orbital flights of astronauts Alan Shepard and Virgil Grissom, and the more recent orbital flight of John Glenn, were carried out under Project Mercury, the first of

three man-in-space programs being directed by NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center at Houston, Tex.

Project Mercury will be succeeded by the Gemini manned spacecraft project, which calls for the orbiting of a two-man spacecraft. Gemini will be used to test the "orbital rendezvous" technique by which an orbital launch vehicle and a manned spacecraft will be joined while in earth orbit and "re-launched" toward the moon.

Experience gained in this method of landing astronauts on the surface of the moon will be under Project Apollo. A three-man spacecraft, Apollo, will effect circumlunar and lunar landing missions scheduled before the end of this decade.

Designs Now Saturn
The two elements of this lunar rocket will be launched into orbit by 7.5 million-pound-thrust advanced Saturn vehicles currently being designed at the Marshall Center at Huntsville. We recently requested proposals from industry for a detailed systems definition and preliminary design of the Nova launch vehicle, which will be a logical follow-on to the advanced Saturn.

Nova, to be capable of placing more than 200 tons in earth orbit or sending more than 75 tons on an earth-escape trajectory, will be able to perform manned lunar landings with Apollo-type spacecraft in direct flights from earth.

Following the first tentative steps into space with Project Apollo, man will pull on his seven league boots and take giant strides across space to the nearer planets of the solar system. For Mars, and perhaps Venus, direct surface landings should be possible this century if the state of the art of astronautics continues to advance rapidly.

Hazards Too Great

However, landings on frozen Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune may never be feasible, limiting man to landings on their natural moons. The problems of direct landings on the giant worlds are extremely complex and pose demands upon the design of manned spacecrafts that are far beyond our present capabilities. To illustrate the magnitude of the problem we need only consider the difficulty of trying to decelerate such a craft in the tremendous gravitational field of Jupiter and then attempting to take off again through an amazingly thick, turbulent atmosphere.

I have discussed briefly some of our present projects to show the tremendous task ahead in order for America and the free world to gain and keep the position it deserves in space exploration. We are now working fervently toward that end, the massive launch facilities are being built, the rockets are being designed.

What happens when we get in space? The environment will be threatened by meteors, radiation, temperature extremes, lack of atmosphere and lack of pressure. But if he understands and obeys its laws, space will treat him well.

Entirely New
When we build our first outposts on the moon, or when we build our first orbiting space stations, our engineers will be called on for construction projects using strange materials in circumstances never before encountered.

On the moon, for instance, we will have to have roadways, living quarters and laboratories. We will have to use materials available there, for the most part, and we will have no precedent for building even the most crude structures in such an environment.

True, this goal to explore the realms of space is an ambitious program. But to me, it is a natural thing to do, to find out just what is out there and how we can use our new-found knowledge to better our way of life.

DAM DEDICATION SET
Walla Walla — UPI — Governors of Washington, Oregon and Idaho will attend dedication ceremonies at the \$122-million Ice Harbor Dam near here May 9. Principal speaker will be Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson.

NAMED TRUSTEE
Forest Grove, Ore. — UPI — Mrs. A. Scott Bullitt, a prominent Seattle broadcasting executive, has been appointed to the board of trustees at Pacific University.



HAS CAPACITY — Dr. Werner von Braun looks at a model of the United States' Saturn rocket which has the power to boost payloads of several tons into outer space. Dr. von Braun says the United States has the capacity to be the first on the moon and must be the first to accomplish this feat. (UPI)

Seattle Fair Show Closed by Theater Board

Seattle — UPI — The Seattle Board of Theater Supervisors has closed down a World's Fair nightspot because it employed a pretty young girl in a showbo to beckon and lure customers.

It was the only one of several racy shows on Show Street to be closed. The show, Girls of the Galaxy, featured showgirls in various stages of undress. The board apparently was not as concerned with what went on inside the theater as they were with what passersby could see from the outside.

"The girl promenade out there in the window," John Peluso, board chairman, said. "She strutted and beckoned to people like a hawker. Comments from the men were not in good taste. Their calling back to her was crude."

Peluso said he personally heard ribald comments from men passing by while children and unescorted young ladies were nearby.

He also contended the show had been changed from the original production which the board had previewed and passed. Originally, Peluso said, bare-breasted girls had remained motionless in the background while the central entertaining figure was fully clothed. But when he saw the show Sunday night, he said, bare-breasted girls in tight leotards "promenaded out to the edge of the stage and when they moved around the stage it was something."

Arthur Townsend, Las Vegas, Nev., producer of the Galaxy show said he could not understand what was wrong. He hung a sign on the admission window saying: "Closed for remodeling interior area."

The bald eagle has been a part of the official seal of the United States since about 1782.



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TERMINIX

Like a Junkie

Producer of Show Fights Incredible Desire To Campaign for Senator

By DICK WEST
Washington — UPI — Theodore J. Flicker is the director of a group of strolling players who put on a kooky sort of show called "The Premise."

The production, which is about 50 per cent political satire and about 50 per cent chaos, opened in a New York coffee-house some 18 months ago and was an immediate success.

Flicker thereupon organized a second company and installed it at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington. The Shoreham is not exactly a coffee-house, but the show made a big hit here, too.

I had a talk with Flicker this week when he came down from New York to check on the local cast. For someone in show business, he seemed to be behaving rather strangely.

Gets Handshake

Every few minutes he would give me a jovial slap on the back or reach over and shake my hand. I also noticed that he kept referring to the actors in the show as "my constituents."

It was all so uncharacter-

istic that I finally asked if something were wrong. Flicker replied that he was having a recurrence of a mental disturbance that came upon him when he was getting the show going here last January.

"I find myself fighting an incredible desire to become a senator," he said.

Feeling sympathetic, and wanting to comfort him, I asked if he felt like talking about it. Flicker gave his little brown beard a nervous tug looked up at me with tear-filled eyes, and blurted out a horrifying story.

Began At Opening

"It began on opening night," he said in a choked voice. "I looked over the audience and there were some of the people who actually create the havoc that we satirize on the stage."

"All of a sudden a funny feeling came over me and I found myself thinking of myself as being one of them."

"Later on, I met a few senators personally. The next thing I knew I was engaging them in quiet conversations about affairs of state."

"It was like being a junkie. Once I was hooked, I had to have more. I began doing weird things, like getting up at 8 a.m. to visit the Capitol."

It was the first time I ever got up before noon.

"My constituents were affected by it, too. The agent for the actor's union started calling himself a lobbyist. Rather than demand things in the usual way, he would buy me dinners and give me cigars."

"He spent four weeks influencing me to buy a new light bulb for the dressing room. Another member of the cast began addressing the stagehand as the 'legislative assistant.'"

"What finally made me realize that I had to get out of Washington was a chance I got to do a new show next fall. Without thinking, I said I couldn't do it because I would be too busy campaigning."

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