

New Motto of Spaceman Is to Stay Up There, Put Him to Work

By ALVIN B. WEBB JR., United Press International
Cape Canaveral — [UPI]— The day is past when an astronaut's job was simply to fly into space and get back down alive and as fast as possible. The fad now is to put him to work, the longer the better. "Stay up there and do things, preferably useful ones"

is the new motto. With this added criteria in mind, U. S. Project Mercury scientists apparently have a perfect match between their newest manned spaceflight mission and the man they have picked for the job.
Astronaut Walter Marty (Wally) Schirra Jr. isn't a "showboat," not even with

space as the glamorous stage. He wouldn't even join the Mercury program until he was certain it wasn't a propaganda stunt.
Tinge of Propaganda
Probably the early manned shots in the \$500 million Mercury Project bore a tinge of propaganda, even until the three-orbit missions of John Glenn and Scott Carpenter. There simply wasn't enough time in flight for these men to find out much about their true capabilities in this strange new environment.

Time is one thing; that slender, serious Wally Schirra will have plenty of — more than nine hours, if all goes well, as he whirls through six 45-minute "days" and "nights" at a speed of better than 17,000 miles per hour.
In many ways, Wally Schirra will be working in the kind of emotional atmosphere he likes. It will be one free of much of the publicity madness and propaganda pressure, because many of the spectacular "firsts" that generate almost unbearable tension already have gone before.

Not First Spaceman
Schirra, 39, certainly won't face the pressure of being first into orbit. Russian Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin nabbed that honor back in April 12, 1961, when he soared once around the globe aboard Vostok-1. Schirra's Mercury pal, John Glenn, did it for America last Feb. 20.
Schirra won't stay up the longest. Soviet "space brothers" Andrian Nikolayev and Pavel Popovich last month set a space endurance record that the United States won't touch for another two years or more.
What Schirra's flight will do, if things go according to plan, is to bridge the gap between the early "toy in space" flights of the Mercury Project and the day-long missions that

U. S. scientists are planning starting early in 1963.
Sitting in a hangar on Cape Canaveral today is a bell-shaped Mercury capsule similar in appearance to the one that Schirra will ride. There is a difference — this new spacecraft is designed to keep an astronaut alive and well for up to 24 hours or so in space.
The one-day-in-orbit flight by one of the seven Mercury astronauts, to match the feat that Russia's Gherman Titov performed 13 months ago, will be next up on the schedule if Schirra's "MA-8" trip is fully successful.
The "if" is a big one, despite the relative abundance of Soviet manned flights, Russian iron curtain secrecy has kept a wealth of valuable knowledge from the U.S. scientists — knowledge about the problems of a prolonged manned flight in space. And knowledge that this nation obviously will have to win the hard way.
Myriad Unknowns
There are myriad unknowns. Can man's physical make-up, tied to earth for millennia, survive safely and sanely the weird feeling of "no gravity"? An astronaut isn't going to be much good on a long trip through space if he spends the entire time with his gills a tainted green and his head in one or those "emergency" bags you find in airplanes.
How quickly does an astronaut tire? Can he keep his mind fully on his work? How well does he take the stresses of re-entry through the atmosphere after a prolonged period of "zero-gravity"?
These questions are questions the American shots to date haven't been able to answer fully, and the Russians have been reluctant to help with it. It will be up to Schirra to supply the answers.
The easygoing spaceman-to-be, son of a former barnstorming pilot, has had his share of tough moments. Many of them came in Korea, when he was flying 90 mis-

so it will reach a length of about 26 feet. This "telescoping" works on the same principle as the automobile antenna.
The purpose will be to try to improve radio communications between the astronaut and ground stations, on comparatively low frequencies. A poor antenna system on previous shots prevented these communications from being very attractive.
Not Enough Fuel
It couldn't be otherwise. There won't be enough fuel on board to permit a constant "attitude" correction, because of weight restrictions.
A lot of the astronaut's work will be involved with testing systems and techniques rather than in trying out new items placed aboard the capsule. One of the most important will be a modification of the spacecraft's radio communications system.
On board will be a compact antenna, attached to the retrorocket package on the base of the capsule. In orbit, the antenna will be "telescoped"

STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars
To develop message for Saturday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ASPIRE	WISDOM	SCORPIO
1. 24-29-37-42-64-74-84-88	1. 1-8-9-10-11-46-52	1. 1-8-9-10-11-46-52
2. 2-3-4-5-6-7-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100	2. 11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100	3. 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100

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The 10-month fuels study, set up by a Senate resolution and handled by special group which included government and private industry representatives, said that generation of electricity was expected to multiply 3½ times, and oil consumption increase about two-thirds during the next 18 years. It said gas consumption probably would double during that period.

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