

# Beryllium Metal Key To America Space Plan

DELTA, Utah (UPI) — One of the keys to America's success in manned flight through space may lie in the nation's ability to obtain an adequate domestic supply of beryllium — a unique metal lighter than aluminum and stronger than steel.

To assure this supply, there's a search going on over the vast, sagebrush-dotted mountain and desert wastelands along the Utah-Nevada border that gives promise of success.

If the search pays off, and means of processing and fabricating beryllium are improved, the range of America's space craft of the future — and their ability to withstand the heat and radiation of outer space — will be enhanced tremendously.

Currently, the United States obtains most of its beryllium from foreign nations—particularly Brazil, Argentina, the Union of South Africa and India. In 1959, latest year for which figures are available, American industry consumed just under 500,000 pounds of beryllium — of which less than 20,000 pounds came from domestic sources.

### Mining By-product

The available supply of the strong, light metal is virtually all in the form of beryl — a gem-like rock that is a byproduct of feldspar, mica and lithium mining. The beryl gems are selected from the ore piles by manual labor before they are shipped to processors.

It's to get around this by-product, hand-labor status that several of the nation's major mining companies are devoting considerable time, energy, research and financing.

In the Topaz Mountain district, 50 miles northwest of Delta and more than 100 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, major claims have been staked by Vitro Chemical

Co., Combined Metals Co. and the newly formed Beryllium Resources, Inc. Anaconda Company, one of the giants in the U.S. copper industry, has recently expanded exploration operations on comparatively nearby Mt. Wheeler, in eastern Nevada.

Bruce W. Odium of Los Angeles, president of Beryllium Resources, Inc., hopes his firm will start construction soon on the first processing mill in the country devoted entirely to beryllium.

The mill, located near Delta, will cost about \$1 million to construct and equip. It will employ a new, secret flotation process developed for beryllium resources by Edward Van Dornick, Southern California chemist.

### Use Other Uses

Dr. Norman C. Williams of Salt Lake City, University of Utah geologist and a vice president of Beryllium Resources, stressed in a UPI interview that one of the major virtues of the mill would be its designed ability to use beryl ores. This, he said, would help free the nation of dependence

on foreign beryllium sources. Concentrates from the Utah mill will be sold to "any and all buyers," Odium said. Currently, there are two major beryllium fabricators in the nation — Beryllium Corp., Reading, Pa., and Brush Beryllium Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

Brush Beryllium holds one of the major sub-contracts for work on the re-entry capsule for Project Mercury, the United States' manned space flight endeavor.

The Ohio firm has fabricated a series of large "dishes" that form the entire rear wall of the capsule. These dishes, 74 inches in diameter and 1 inch thick, weigh 330 pounds each.

Beryllium was specified for the capsule wall not only because of the metal's strength and lightness, but because of its ability to hold its shape at extremely high temperatures and its effectiveness as a radiation shield.

### Has Other Uses

Odium, 38-year-old only son of financier Floyd Odium, pointed out that beryllium also has wide

application in the nuclear industry, where it is used for reactor control rods, and in instrument manufacture, where it is prized for its strength. Gyroscopes in the inertial guidance system employed by missiles are frequently made of beryllium.

He predicted a "big future" for beryllium in many uses as supplies and fabricating techniques improve. The government now is the industry's major customer, but Odium said that in the future "the non-military possibilities of beryllium are just staggering."

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MRS. TREMBLECHIN IS CONTINUALLY CHEWING OUT HENRY ABOUT THE NECESSARY ITEMS HE CARRIES IN HIS POCKETS....

THEN THEY GET ALL DOLLED UP TO GO OUT AND SHE LOADS HIM DOWN WITH ENOUGH OF HER PARAPHERNALIA TO START A GOING-OUT-OF-BUSINESS STORE...

HERE, DEAR... HA-HA—WILL YOU PUT THESE IN YOUR POCKET—SO—HA—HA—I WON'T HAVE TO CARRY MY PURSE?

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3-22

## Veep Studies Negro Discrimination

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson is reported studying a recommendation for intensified training of Negroes to lessen racial job discrimination.

As chairman of the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunities, Johnson has received reports indicating that lack of skills in engineering, chemistry, physics and biology are contributing to a higher rate of unemployment among Negroes than among whites.

He also has been told that union rules which disqualify many Negroes from membership are increasing the number of Negro jobless.

When Johnson was named to head the committee early this month, President Kennedy clothed it with authority to impose stiff penalties on contractors for racial or religious discrimination on government projects. The Johnson committee also took over the duties of the old Government Employees' Committee.

The vice president was reported to have insisted that enforcement operations be placed under Secretary of Labor Arthur J. Goldberg, named as vice chairman of the group. Goldberg may pass the primary responsibility along to Jerry R. Holleman, assistant secretary and former labor union official.

Thus complaints such as that made Monday by Clarence Mitchell of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will be channeled to the Labor Department for review and action.

Mitchell charged in a telegram to Johnson that South Carolina plants holding government contracts are discriminating against Negroes in hiring workers.

Johnson apparently has reserved for himself and members of the parent committee the broad field of policy-making.

One of the factors brought to the vice president's attention is that most Negroes with the opportunity to gain a higher education go into medicine or dentistry. He has been told that it is essential that educational work be done in Negro communities to convince parents that their children should enter other fields which offer greater chance for advancement.

The committee also has run into the difficulty that many skilled crafts are handed down from father and son. Negroes encounter barriers, for instance, when they seek the apprenticeship training necessary to become a journeyman carpenter.

To counter these economic factors, Johnson is thinking in terms of a training program aimed directly at lifting the skills of Negro workers.

The committee has been told that Negro unemployment is disproportionate to that of whites in many areas. It has learned that in Chicago, where 5.7 per cent of the work force is unemployed, 17.3 per cent of Negroes are jobless.

The figures for Fort Wayne, Ind., list 44 per cent of Negroes out of jobs as in an area where 6.3 per cent of the work force is unemployed.

The minimum wage from the present \$1 an hour to \$1.15 four months after enactment of the law and to \$1.25 two years later. It would extend new coverage to 4.3 million workers, bringing them to \$1.25 an hour and a 40-hour week in four steps.

The Ayres-Kitchin measure would provide \$1.15 an hour at the same time as the Roosevelt measure, but go no further. It would extend coverage to 1.4 million workers, and provide \$1 an hour minimums with no overtime provisions.

The timetable is of some importance because many liberal Democrats from Eastern metropolitan areas customarily leave Washington on Thursday. This could hurt Kennedy's bill.

Stacked against it is a \$1.15 minimum wage proposal advanced by a Republican-Southern Democratic coalition. An identical measure last year humped off a bill similar to Kennedy's request.

Roosevelt noted somewhat ruefully that the House surely would finish with the bill Thursday if it adopted the coalition measure.

As for the administration bill, he said, "We're still facing an uphill fight. I'm not sanguine about it."

Rep. William Ayres, R-Ohio, who with Rep. A. Paul Kitchin, D-N.C., sponsored the coalition measure, already has predicted victory for his bill by at least 25 votes.

Roosevelt's bill would increase

In Detroit, Negro unemployment is calculated at 39 per cent, compared with an over-all average of 13 per cent. In Cleveland, unemployment is at 29 per cent for Negroes against an over-all average of 6.3 per cent.

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## Leaflet Brings Charge Of Libel

PORTLAND (AP) — A charge that trustees of the Oregon-Washington Carpenters - Employers Health and Welfare Trust Fund were libeled by a leaflet is being argued in circuit court here.

Defendant is E. E. Davis, Portland. Last April a leaflet was distributed in which the fund's handling was questioned. Eight trustees said Davis distributed it and libeled them to the extent of \$25,000.

They also asked \$25,000 punitive damages.

The trial opened Monday before Circuit Judge Wesley F. Brown-ton, La Grande, sitting here.

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