



"I SURE DON'T UNDERSTAND MOM, SHE SAYS WHEN I SIT HERE I'M HELPING HER!"

Mercury Program May Continue After Orbit

CAPE CANAVERAL (UPI)—Project Mercury, the U.S. man-in-space program that had been expected to get the ax after the flight of Astronaut L. Gordon Cooper Jr., may yet win a stay.

The reason: Under the original scheme of things, the United States has suddenly found itself facing an 18-month eclipse of manned space flights.

That sort of lag could be difficult to explain, particularly in light of this nation's \$20 billion pledge to put men on the moon about five years from now. Eighteen months is nearly one-third of that time—a long stretch to do without so much as one practice run in space.

Project Mercury, the \$300 million effort that first put America in the man-in-space business, had been scheduled to end with a successful flight by Cooper.

Shift Into High

Plans called for an immediate shift into high gear on Project Gemini, the program designed to put two-man teams of astronauts

into earth orbits for periods up to two weeks, and a resulting stronger push for the man-to-the-moon Apollo Project.

But, as a poet once said, "the best-laid plans of mice and men" oft go astray. There has been some question as to whether the U.S. manned space flight plans have been the best, and they certainly have gone astray—particularly in the realm of Project Gemini.

D. Brainerd Holmes, director of manned spaceflight for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), has just told Congress that the first manned flight in the Gemini program has slipped into the last quarter of 1964—which means that project is further in the future now than it was six months ago.

Some sources have pinned the blame on the refusal of the Kennedy administration to appropriate supplemental funds for the program in the fiscal 1963 budget.

Reshuffle Likely

Whatever the reason, a full-scale reshuffling of America's man-in-space effort is shaping up along three fronts:

—There is a strengthening drive within NASA's ranks for at least one more Mercury flight to help fill the gap between now and Gemini.

—Gemini itself is caught in a squeeze. With a stretched-out Mercury program and with the Apollo Project essentially on time, Gemini's role in NASA's grand scheme is rapidly eroding. There is a chance the whole works may be palmed off on the Air Force before the first two-man spaceship ever leaves the ground.

—Apollo is the kingpin. A push is under way to channel still more money and manpower into this budding giant, even at the expense of Gemini, to get the first Saturn-boosted Apollo flights off the ground and into earth orbits for rehearsal flights by 1965.

The Mercury program already is gearing up for its part in such a situation. Two more bell-shaped capsules of the type that Cooper will ride are being readied at Cape Canaveral, and a pair of Atlas booster rockets are stored in San Diego, Calif., just in case.

Governor Brown Seeks Support For Death Penalty Moratorium

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI)—Gov. Edmund G. Brown quoted six governors Saturday in an attempt to drum up 11th hour support for his faltering death penalty moratorium bill.

Brown said he contacted the governors of all eight states that had abolished capital punishment and received six replies. All "agreed overwhelmingly," he said, that absence of capital punishment posed no threat to citizens, to peace officers or to the security of penal institutions.

"The evidence from abolition states is overwhelming that the death penalty does not deter murder and that it provides no special protection for the peace officer or prison guard," Brown said.

One of the governors was John W. Reynolds of Wisconsin, which had the nation's third lowest murder rate in 1960.

"We in Wisconsin believe that the certainty of punishment is a greater deterrent than the use of harsh, punitive measures," Reynolds said. "We believe that capital punishment has a brutalizing effect on society in that it lessens the value of human life."

The other replying governors were William A. Egan of Alaska, George Romney of Michigan, John H. Reed of Maine, John H. Chaffee of Rhode Island and John A. Burns of Hawaii.

Brown said he also expected to hear from Governors Karl F. Rolvaag of Minnesota and William L. Guy of North Dakota.

Four-Year Moratorium

Brown's legislative proposal, carried by Assemblyman Lester A. McMillan, D-Los Angeles, would grant a four-year moratorium on the death penalty to all double-murderers, kidnap-killers, convicts who kill while in prison and persons who kill police officers.

The measure narrowly passed the Assembly but was expected to die in a Senate committee.

Brown did succeed last Wednesday, however, in persuading the Senate Government Efficiency Committee to conduct a full-scale hearing on the bill, expected next Wednesday. The measure had been shuffled off to a subcommittee until Brown made a nearly

unprecedented but unsuccessful attempt to get the Senate to switch the bill to another committee altogether.

Brown said he asked the governors these five questions about absence of the death penalty:

—Has the homicide rate increased?

—Has danger to police and other police officers increased?

—Is there a substantial movement to restore capital punishment?

—Is it now easier or more difficult to obtain jury convictions in murder cases?

—Are there prisoner security problems?

Replies Optimistic

The governors replied in part: Chaffee—"We have no evidence that the absence of capital punishment increases the danger to police officers or creates a security problem in our prisons."

Burns—"It is my impression that absence of the death penalty probably makes it easier to obtain jury convictions."

Reed—"It has never been noted that capital crime is more prevalent as a result of the abolition of capital punishment. To my knowledge there has never been any move to restore the death penalty in Maine."

Romney (answered by Albert A. Applegate, administrative assistant)—"In our entire state penal system, we have had only two employees killed by inmates in over 20 years. In both instances, the inmate involved was deranged and probably should have been committed originally to a mental institution."



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Fort Clatsop Dedication Set

ASTORIA (UPI)—The newly constructed visitor center at Fort Clatsop National Memorial will be formally dedicated Aug. 25 in a public ceremony. Charles L. Peterson, superintendent of the memorial, said today.

The date also will mark the 47th anniversary of the Interior Department's National Park Service, which administers the memorial.

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Community Calendar

MONDAY

RAINBOW FOR GIRLS, 7:30 p.m., election of officers, meeting, Scottish Rite Temple.

CDA NO. 1285, 8 p.m., business meeting, election of officers, Sacred Heart Parish Hall.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP, 7:30 p.m., City Library. Freud, "The Origin and Development of Psychoanalysis."

DEGREE OF HONOR, 7:30 p.m., inspection practice, potluck dessert, meeting, K.C. Hall.

ALPHA KAPPA DELTA, 7 p.m., initiation and installation, Bertha Hultman, 330 Pacific Terrace.

JOLLY NEIGHBORS, 8 p.m., meeting, Juanita Lundsten, 1818 Crest. Plant exchange.

WEDNESDAY LADIES SOCIETY, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, 8 p.m., meeting, City Library.

KLAMATH COUNTY TAXPAYERS' LEAGUE, 8 p.m., meeting, Courthouse. Cliff Robinson, speaker.

CARPENTERS' AUXILIARY, 6 p.m., potluck for carpenters and families. Bring hot dish, salad or dessert, and table service.

FAIRVIEW SCHOOL VISITATION, 9:30 to 11 a.m. All children in Fairview district who will enter first grade in September.

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