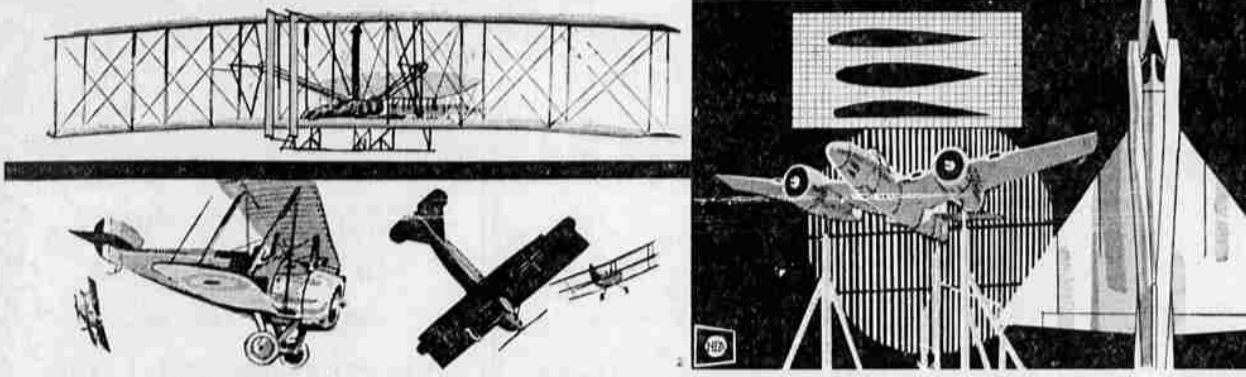


THE WIZARDS OF SPACE (2)

By Don Oakley and John Lane



Humanity was poised on the verge of flight at the turn of the 20th century. Indeed, some men had already flown: Le Bris in France, Montgomery in California, Chanute's students in Indiana. Some had died in crashes: Lilienthal in Germany, Pitchee in England.

But these were all short hops in crude gliders. Sustained, controlled, powered flight was yet to come. Yet when it did come, on Dec. 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, N.C., men hardly took note, least of all in America.

Born in America, the air age began growing up in Europe. Before men realized it, Bleriot had flown across the English Channel. Other adventurers were staying up for hours and reaching heights of many thousands of feet.

Then, less than 11 years after its invention, the airplane began to undergo forced development in the deadly skies above France, achieving new speeds, maneuverability, endurance, strength. In 1915, it was not a "missile gap" but an "airplane gap" that alarmed sleepy, isolationist America.

It was in that year that Congress established a National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and President Wilson appointed the original 12-man non-salaried committee. NACA was given a budget of \$5,000 for the first year and had no paid employes for months.

But within a few years, NACA's "scientific laboratory research in aeronautics" began to pay off. Among its notable accomplishments:

- The NACA engine cowling, which increased speeds by 15 per cent.
 - Over 100 different airfoils, many still used today.
 - The laminar flow wing, used on the famed P-51 Mustang.
- After World War II (where victory in the air was made possible because of NACA's great backlog of basic knowledge built over the years), NACA turned to work on jets and nose cones for missiles. An NACA engineer designed the pinched-waist fuselage that enabled jets to slip through the erstwhile barrier of sound.
- Still, the emphasis was on aeronautics, not astronautics. Space was far away—until Oct. 4, 1957.

NEXT: The Space Race

Hatfield Asks Added Project Funds

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A amended addition of funds for seven projects. The amounts requested for the two projects were \$40,000 and \$85,000.

Other additions requested by Oregon officials included:

- \$2,000 to begin a review study for a barge channel and protective works where Herman Creek enters the Columbia River.
- \$19,000 to begin planning of a Slough.
- \$3,000 to begin a review study of the Charleston small boat harbor.

He said Hatfield supported budgeted navigation projects totaling \$4,311,000, but also recom-

manded expedite construction of the authorized projects. The amounts requested for the two projects were \$40,000 and \$85,000.

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Administration Backers Prod House Committee To Okay Tougher Tax Treatment On Dividends

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Administration backers held out hope today that the House Ways and Means Committee would wind up approving a limited version of the tougher tax treatment President Kennedy wants to apply to income from stock dividends.

Some said it was possible the committee might be induced to accept a compromise that would ease tax treatment for relatively small stockholders and provide tougher treatment for big stockholders.

The administration was rebuffed on the issue Monday when the

committee rejected, 14-11, a compromise that would have yielded \$370 million of the \$460 million in new tax revenue that Kennedy's plan would provide.

The President had proposed that a taxpayer be required to pay the same tax rates on income from dividends as he pays on income from wages, rents, or interest.

The law now exempts from taxes the first \$50 in dividends (\$100 in the case of a married couple filing jointly). The tax on dividends in excess of that amount is four percentage points

below the taxpayer's regular tax rate.

The rejected compromise would have left tax-free the first \$50 (\$100 for married couples) in dividends but would have eliminated the four per cent tax credit. Four of the committee's 15 Democrats joined with 10 Republicans in opposing it.

A possible new compromise — which may be offered before the committee finishes work on Kennedy's tax bill — would repeal the four per cent tax credit, but exempt from taxes the first \$100 in dividends (\$200 in the case of mar-

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