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The Rollins Sandspur

Volume 63

Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, Monday Afternoon, Nov. 11, 1957

Number 9

EARTH SATELLITE PROGRAM TO BE HELD AT ROLLINS

Vanguard Data is Important in IGY Plans

by Phyllis Zatlin

Project Vanguard, one of the United States' contributions to the International Geophysical Year, was begun two years ago.

By conducting a series of experiments and launching a series of satellites, those working on the project are to learn more about space beyond the earth's atmosphere and gain necessary information for building space vehicles.

Project Vanguard is an outgrowth of the Viking Rocket Project, which produced the world's record breaking single-stage, high-altitude test rocket.

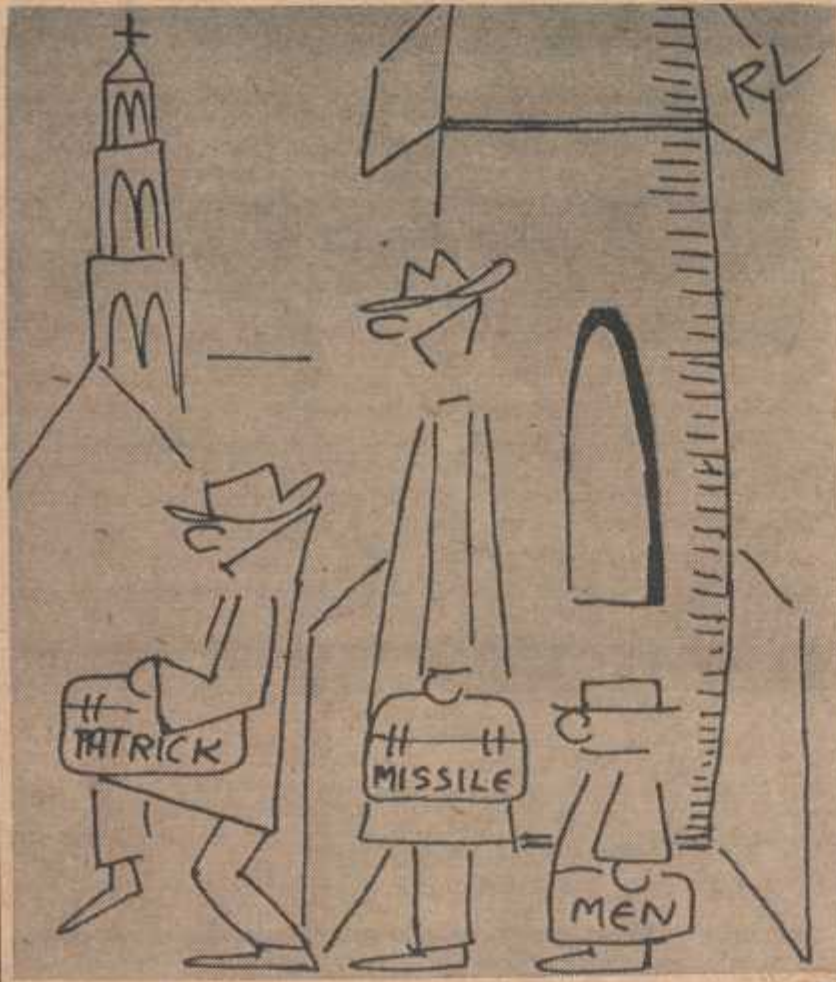
The current project, which is being conducted by the Martin Company and the Naval Research Laboratory, combines the results of the Viking and other rockets made by the Aerojet Corporation.

Three preliminary flight tests have already been made in Project Vanguard. The actual satellite is to be launched sometime early next year.

This first satellite will be approximately 20 inches in diameter and weigh 21 pounds, as compared with the 184 and 1,000 pound satellites which Russia has already launched.

As a part of the International Geophysical Year, Project Vanguard is to be co-ordinated with related projects being conducted by other countries and with other projects being conducted by the United States, such as the expedition in the Antarctic.

The purpose of the International



Geophysical Year, which actually is a period of 18 months from July 1, 1957, to the end of 1958, is to learn more about man's environment both on the earth and in the solar system. Projects, such as the Vanguard one, therefore are not of a military nature.

The information obtained by the experiments of the various countries will be co-ordinated by the International Geophysical Committee, whose headquarters are in the United States. The difficulties arising in co-ordinating these experiments form the major problem of the Geophysical Year.

Because of the way the IGY is set up, theoretically the United

States and Russia, as well as the other countries of the world, will share the results of their various experiments, including those pertaining to satellites.

However, there is cause for the U. S. public to be upset about Russia's launching of satellites, for Russia did not indicate her intentions to participate in this particular project.

The implications of Russia's earth satellite experiments go beyond the International Geophysical Year, for the same launching devices which were used for the satellites could also be used to launch hydrogen bombs.

Vanguard Officials To Speak Thursday

A timely missile and satellite forum, part of the Earth Satellite Program of the United States, will be held at Rollins this Thursday, the Sandspur was informed Saturday by Pres. Hugh F. McKean.

The public information forum will give Rollinsites and faculty members an opportunity to hear first-hand what is being done in Washington by the Project workers in the race against Russia and as part of the International Geophysical Year.

The credit for the idea of bringing experts to Florida is given to E. G. Uhl, vice-president of the Martin Company (Orlando), Daniel Mazur, manager of the Vanguard Operations Group, Patrick Air Force Base, Cape Canaveral, Florida, and Pres. McKean.

Pres. McKean and physics professor Dr. Dan Thomas worked with these two men in planning the Rollins public information forum on Earth Satellite Research.

The two speakers scheduled to address the forum and guests are leading authorities in the earth satellite field, J. Paul Walsh and Leonard Arnowitz.

Mr. Walsh, who will speak on "Project Vanguard: The United States Earth Satellite Program," is the deputy director of Project Vanguard at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D. C.

A mechanical engineer, Mr. Walsh was born in Fall River, Mass., in 1917. He studied at Stevens Institute of Technology and the University of Maryland, receiving his masters degrees in engineering and science.

In 1950 he was named to head

the structure branch of the Naval Research Laboratory.

He has studied and worked primarily in the fields of shock and vibration, dynamics of structure, shock mount, and instrumentation.

Mr. Arnowitz, the assistant project engineer of Operation Vanguard at the Martin Company (Baltimore), will speak on "The Vanguard Satellite Launching Rocket."

Dr. Thomas will also speak at the forum on the elementary physics of satellite orbits.

Mr. Uhl will be present and will enter into the question-and-answer period following the formal addresses of the speakers.

Pres. McKean is hoping to have Sen. George Smathers (D.-Fla.) appear at the forum. Sen. Smathers last week commented at an Orlando P-TA meeting that the United States is "at the mercy of the Russians in the missile program."

The forum will be held at 9:45 a.m. in the Annie Russell Theatre on Thursday.

All seats will be reserved and students may pick up their tickets, free of charge, in the Center beginning at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow.

McKean, French, Thomas Comment On Rollins Satellite Program

McKean

During a recent conversation with Mr. E. G. Uhl, vice president of the Martin Company, Orlando, Florida, I learned many surprising and fascinating facts about the earth satellites.

I have wanted to get such information to the students ever since.

With the aid of Mr. Uhl and Mr. Daniel Mazur, manager of the Vanguard Operations Group, Patrick Air Force Base, Cape Canaveral, Florida, we have now arranged to bring two of the country's authorities in this field to Rollins College.

Even though I am rather certain that much of what they tell us will be difficult or impossible for me to understand, I look forward to next Thursday because I think it will be one of the most exciting days of the year.

French

The Rollins public information program on Earth Satellite Research is both urgent and timely. No educated American today can fail to realize what the recent Soviet accomplishment means to the advance of science, to the free world, to our national security.

Our own progress in this research is vital to our position of leadership; vital, to preventing the encroachment of Communism on the free world; vital, in fact, to our very existence.

As intelligent citizens, it behooves us to know and understand the progress and problems of this research. As a nation we need to assess our present changed position calmly with respect to Russia.

We need the confidence of understanding that, given sufficient priority, American science can match and surpass the recent brilliant achievement of Soviet science.

Thomas

The earth satellite is the first step toward the exploration of our solar system. A new age of human adventure is coming; voyages and discoveries are to be made which will dwarf the exploits of the past.

This, to me, is the exciting and important thing about these new moons traveling around the earth.

Aside from new problems raised in international political relations and aside from new responsibilities for and dangers to our national defense effort is the fact that this great adventure has begun.

I am very pleased that our students will have the opportunity to learn about the program.