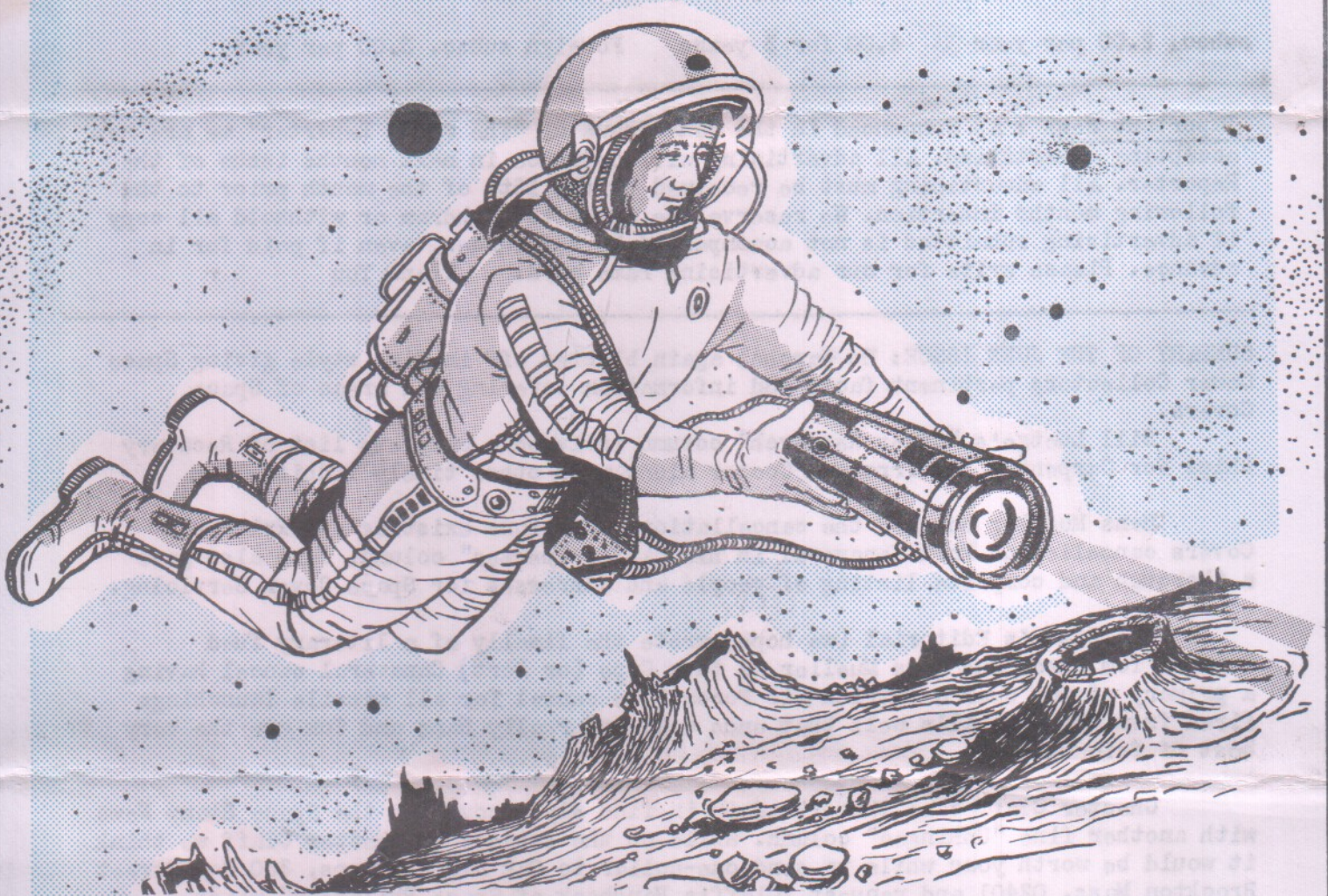


*The*

# SPACE



# REPORTER

Published by **TD** PRODUCTIONS



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Illustrations by Howard De Garde

" THE SPACE REPORTER "

Editor: Tom Dixon  
Assoc. Editor: Ed Warchol  
Astro-Queries: Hans Mueller  
Unhinged: Chester Claff  
Cover Research: Bill Luetge

Advertising: Bob Werner  
Public Relations: Jo Russo  
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Important News : As announced in the June Issue of "The Space Reporter" we are now accepting advertising. All advertising will commence in next months issue of the Reporter. All advertising must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the following months insertion. We reserve the right to withdraw or withhold all copy if advertising submitted is not accompanied by references, even if paid for in advance. Please write for our advertising rate card.      Thank You

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SUMMARY OF THE JUNE ISSUE: Ed Warchol again blasted off in fine style giving Space Cover Collectors pertinent facts and information covering all areas of Space Covers.

Bill Luetge's "Cover Research" column included a complete list of Recovery Ships for Carpenter, Schirra and Cooper along with other timely tidbits.

Hans Mueller covered the cancellation variations existing on Explorer I Covers cancelled at Port Canaveral in his "Astro-Queries" column. Hans also gave a thorough and complete listing of people and addresses for Space Cover Servicing.

Tom Dixon's Editorial (we hope) wrote the finally of a literary fued between Tom Dixon and Hans Mueller as to a Cape (or Port) Canaveral cancel having a primary status over a Patrick Air Force Base cancel for all missile launchings fired from the AMR. Alls well that ends well and really Hans and Tom are the very best of friends.

Chester Claff came through again in fine style covering the Space Stamp News with another fine "Unhinged" column. While on the subject of Chester Claff we think it would be worth your while to send one-dollar to Oak Ridge Stamps, 300 Oak Street Brockton Mass. 02401 and request "Claff's Handbook of Space Philately" which incidentally is published by Chester. This Handbook is sure to become the bible of Space Philately here in the United States and mind you it is supplemented each year Free. Write now and you will not be disappointed we promise.

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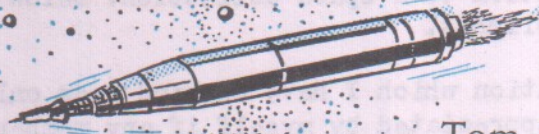
ANNOUNCING: TD PRODUCTIONS takes pride in announcing the opening of our RETAIL outlet called "Queens Stamp & Coin Mart". This store will be open from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM Monday thru Saturday. We stock a complete line of philatelic and numismatic supplies. We hope our friends in the New York area will drop in and say hello. Either Tom Dixon or Ed Warchol will be there to say hello to you. If you intend visiting New York drop us a line and we will make arrangements to meet you.

68-23 Fresh Pond Road      "QUEENS STAMP & COIN MART      Ridgewood 27, N.Y.

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**SPACE**

# Editorial



By

Tom Dixon

Your Editor has experienced the true delight, which in my opinion is the sole reason for the immense popularity of our hobby. Yes after months of relentless effort I have finally obtained a cover cancelled on November 21st, 1963 for the 1st Rocket Firing by India at her Thumba Range in Trivendrum.

I hope to do an article for you in the August Issue of "The Space Reporter" and possibly include a photo for your viewing pleasure. It is my endeavor here to advise you that covers do exist and to my knowledge (at this writing) ONLY 20 such covers exist and my advise is to get after them now.

The covers are appropriately franked with Scott # 337 with a typewritten cachet. The cancellation is circular in shape...and the City cancellation reads "KAZHAKKUTTAM". I hope to have more for you in the August Issue.

I would like very much to call your attention to an item appearing on the bottom of Page 3 in this July Issue of "The Space Reporter". I personally know of Mr. Beck's endeavors in the field of Ship Covers and at 2¢ per cover service fee he does quite a job. Mr. Beck is a member of the U.S.C.S. (#2304) an organization devoted to the collecting of ship covers. It is without question that ships of all classes are to be considered an integral part of any well formulated Space Cover Collection. Mind you for 2¢ Mr. Beck applies a really beautiful cachet to your cover and then sends it on to its proper destination. I can assure you there is no room for profit in this service but it does deserve response, so write Mr. Beck today. Incidentally send a few self-addressed, STAMPED, cards along and he will even keep you posted as to the supply of covers you have on hand and any other information he feels you might require.

I am sure you will also be pleased to learn that we are now members of the American Stamp Dealers Association. The ASDA is a group of responsible business people who have dedicated themselves to a code of ethics for the protection of you the collector. They conduct a tireless, behind the scenes program to keep philately clean. I am deeply honored to be a member of the ASDA and you can count on "The Space Reporter" to follow the code of ethics set forth by this fine organization. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Samuel Grossman for sponsoring me as a member of the ASDA and to my fellow members of the ASDA a note of thanks also for allowing me membership.

I would like to remind our readers of one important fact of which there seems to be some concern. This publication will be Space and only Space. The format of this publication will never be changed. We have dedicated ourselves that "The Space Reporter" will take its place in the philatelic publishing field. We expect to accomplish this by always giving you the most complete Space News Coverage and interesting and timely articles. I want you to know this is your publication so I earnestly solicit you to send in articles of interest for publication. end

## The X-15 Flight Cover

Checklist

by Bill Luetge

Perhaps many of you are interested in the X-15 and it's covers. This topic is a fine addition to a space collection. Below is a list of the dates and pilots of the X-15 Flights.

My information which I have on hand goes only to February of 1964. It would therefore be appreciated by myself if any members possessing covers not on this list would write to me. I will use any information which I receive for the benefit of all collectors and publish an appendix to this list in a future issue of "The Space Reporter". My address is : Bill Luetge, 3211 North 44th Street, Milwaukee Wisconsin 53216. Here then is the X-15 Check List....

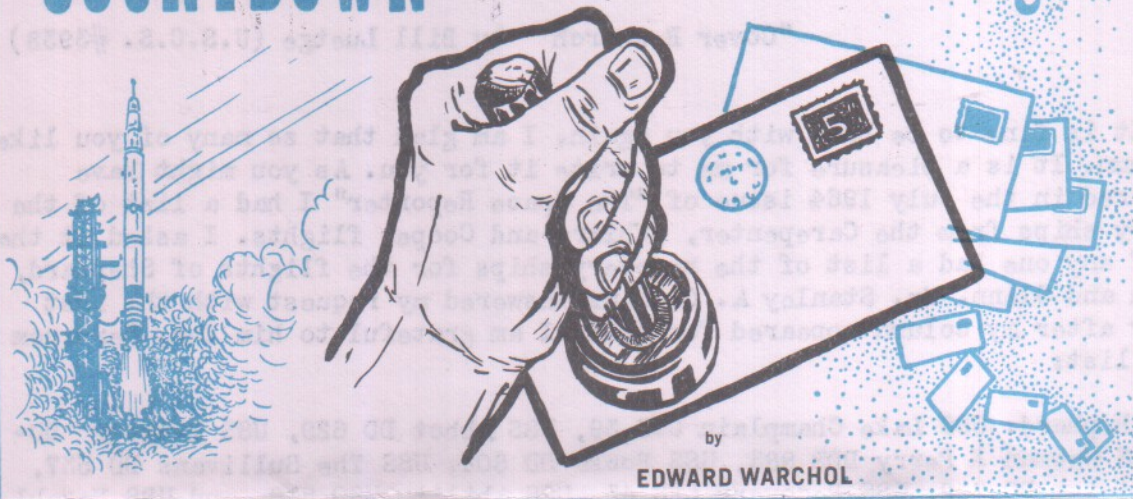
<u>PILOT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Walker	8/4/60	Walker	8/14/62
White	8/12/60	Armstrong	8/20/62
Walker	8/19/60	Rushworth	8/29/62
White	9/10/60	McKay	9/28/62
Petersen	9/23/60	Rushworth	10/2/62
Petersen	10/20/60	McKay	10/9/62
McKay	10/28/60	Rushworth	10/23/62
Rushworth	11/4/60	McKay	11/9/62
Rushworth	11/17/60	White	12/14/62
Armstrong	11/30/60	Walker	12/20/62
Armstrong	12/9/60	Walker	1/17/63
McKay	2/1/61	Rushworth	4/11/63
White	2/7/61	Walker	4/18/63
White	3/7/61	McKay	4/25/63
Walker	3/30/61	Walker	5/2/63
White	4/21/61	Rushworth	5/14/63
Walker	5/25/61	Walker	5/29/63
White	6/23/61	Rushworth	6/18/63
Petersen	8/10/61	Walker	6/25/63
Walker	9/12/61	Rushworth	6/27/63
Petersen	9/28/61	Walker	7/9/63
Rushworth	10/4/61	Engle	10/7/63
Walker	10/17/61	?	10/29/63
Armstrong	12/20/61	Rushworth	11/7/63
Petersen	1/10/62	?	11/14/63
Armstrong	1/17/62	Thompson	11/27/63
Walker	4/30/62	Rushworth	11/5/63
Walker	7/16/62	Engle	1/8/64
McKay	7/19/62	Thompson	1/16/64
Armstrong	7/26/62	?	100th flight 1/28/64
Walker	8/2/62	Petersen	2/19/64
Rushworth	8/8/62		

end

### RECOVERY SHIP COVERS FOR AUGUST GEMINI FLIGHT

Morris W. Beck, P.O. Box 116, Whitewater Wisconsin 53190 has a deal for you that just cannot be beat. Send 25 covers (if you want one cover per ship) OF COURSE STAMPED, with a filler in each cover and include 2¢ service fee for EACH cover you send. Mr. Beck will see that they are cacheted and he also sends the covers to the proper ships for cancellation. Send more covers if you would like more than one cover per ship. We have seen a sample of Mr. Beck's cachet and it is TOPS.

# COUNTDOWN



by  
EDWARD WARCHOL

Greece is building, in cooperation with the seven Atlantic Alliance nations, a Missile Training Center on the Aegean Island of Crete but Turkey did not participate in the signing..... The British A-Sub Dreadnaught will visit Norfolk Virginia from June 19th to June 26th.....The USS Richmond K. Turner a guided missile frigate was commissioned at the PNB on June 13th the fifth of its class.....the U.S. Aircraft Carrier Essex arrived at LeHarve France on June 18th..... the Japanese plan to launch 15 rockets during this month (tea anyone).....the U.S.S.R. launched Cosmos 31 which was followed by Cosmos 32 on June 10th for scientific purposes.....On 6/15/64 the 1st Flight of the CH-46C Vertol Twin Jet Helicopter took place at Edwards Air Force Base Piloted by E. Kluever..... and 6/12/64 finally saw another long awaited test flight of the X-21A..... Important news to next months Gemini Launch is the news that the new Tracking Installation at Canberra, in Western Australia was opened on July the 2nd. Please note that our information indicates that the station is located in the City of Carnarvon so to be safe send covers to both Cities if you cover Tracking Stations for the August Gemini.....what seems to be a trouble plagued program the Atlas-Centaur again saw failure on 6/30/64 at Cape Canaveral. Instead of orbiting the Centaur plunged 2,706 miles east-southeast of Cape Kennedy into the Atlantic Ocean. This program is now 18 months behind schedule. Perhaps a different mating combination will be employed..... while on June 23rd the U.S.S.R. again repeated with the successful launching of Cosmo 33.....an Atlas D ICBM was successfully fired by the Air Force at Vandenberg A.F.B. 5,000 miles down range.....and the news continues to be accented by Nuclear Subs when on June 25th the British laid-keel in their 2nd Polaris Sub which should be operation, or expected to be in 1968.....and not to be out done the Netherlands got into the act with an announcement by Defense Minister Piet de Jong indicating that country expects to build nuclear subs..... while at Boston Mass. the Navy's bathyscaphe Trieste II left under tow to again commence searching for the lost sub Thresher lost 14 months ago with 129 men aboard.....at press time project Vela Hotel is again set for test and our news indicates that this will be an attempt to piggyback two satellites into orbit by an Atlas-Agena Rocket.....the sad news is still prevalent that John Glenn's future is still uncertain due to illness.....on June 30th Pilot Jack McKay came through with excellent skill to glide the X-15 Research Aircraft to a safe landing after his guidance equipment failed. Failure occurred seconds after release by the B-52 mother ship.....while the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. seem to be getting closer together to cooperation in space. I only hope final agreement includes the fact that the U.S.S.R. pays half thr tab and perhaps some of what is still due from the lend lease during World War II or.. is that forgotten also???...... and this month's column comes to a close with the gleeful note that the Nuclear Ship Savannah is doing A-Okay.      and      EW

"Cover Research" by Bill Luetge (U.S.C.S. #3938)

It is fine to be back with you again. I am glad that so many of you like my column. It is a pleasure for me to write it for you. As you might have remembered in the July 1964 issue of "The Space Reporter" I had a list of the recovery ships from the Carpenter, Schirra and Cooper flights. I asked at that time if any one had a list of the recovery ships for the flights of Shephard, Grissom and Glenn. Mr. Stanley A. Clemenz answered my request with the list shortly after my column appeared for which I am grateful to him for. Here now is the list:

Shephard: USS Lake Champlain CVS 39, USS Abbot DD 629, USS Decatur DD-936, USS Newman K Perry DDR 883, USS Boeka DD 804, USS The Sullivans DD 537, USS Wadleigh DD 689, USS Recovery ARS 43, USS Ability MSO 519, and USS Notable MSO 460.

Grissom: USS Randolph CVS 15, USS Conway DDE 507, USS Cony DDE 508, USS Lowry DD 770, USS Stormes DD 780, USS Waller DDF 446, USS Recovery ARS 43, USS Alacrity MSO 520 and USS Exploit MSO 440.

Glenn: USS Randolph CVS-15, USS Hugh Purvis DD 709, USS Brownson DD 868, USS Sarsfield EDD 837, USS Cone DD 866, USS Chuckawan AO 100, USS Noah DD 841, USS Stribling DD 867, USS Antietam AVS 36, USS Turner DDR 934, USS K.D. Bailey DD 713, USS Forrestal CVA 59, USS Observer MSO 461, USS Exploit MSO 440, USS Recovery ARS 43, USS Stormes DD 780, USS Norfolk IL 1, USS Barry DD 933, USS Bears DD 933, USS Witek EDD 848, USS Glennon DD 840, USS Blandy DD 943, USS C.S. Sperry DD 697 and USS Goodrich DDR 831.

I am going to add a footnote to the above list of Recovery Ships and those I have already written about since I am sure price means an awful lot to most collectors. By Price I mean prices you might expect to pay for Recovery Ship Covers.

The prices of some of these early covers are very high. Not only does the Launch Cover Collector want these but also the Navophilatelist. In a dealers price list recently for example I saw a cover from the USS Randolph CVS 15 cancelled on July 21, 1961 (the date of the Grissom flight) for \$10. Here is a case where a ship's cancellation worth only a few cents, normally, is worth a great deal when cancelled on a certain date. Yet, one dealer was selling this cover shortly after the Grissom flight for 50 cents each. What a bargain at that price that cover would be today. The other covers are also scarce. Of course there is a chance to pick up some of these for a bargain especially if you know what to look for. What may appear to one collector as an ordinary cover in actuality, might be, very scarce to another collector.

end

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..... GODDARD CACHET.....

Since this is my first ad in The Space Reporter I have an important and I am certain, interesting offer, to make to the readers of this publication. Realizing fully that you are a Space Cover Specialist, or this publication would not be reaching you, I have to offer you the most striking cachet in honor of Dr. Robert H. Goddard on the philatelic market. The following offer is good until August 10th only so please take advantage of my offer.

20 for \$1.00 postpaid

Box 115

Max Kaplan

Hollis 23, N.Y.

# UNHINGED

by Chester Claff

No room for my charming chatter this month, if I'm going to get all these new issues in;

**IQSY Issues:** Central African Republic 25 fr. Ghana 3 d, 6 d, and 1 sh 3 d. Also Ghana, the 1/3 stamp in an imperf block of 4 immersed in a square S/Sht surrounded by six weather satellites and several planets. Niger Republic 30 fr.

Paraguay's Red Cross issue includes two Space values, perf and imperf, 0.25 g Space ambulance of the future, and 36.00 g Space hospital, both probably based on Project Dyna-Soar. Another Paraguay issue in the usual 18 varieties has 0.15, 0.25, and 0.30 g Gemini capsule separating from an Agena Booster; 0.40 and 0.50 g Apollo capsule and moon vehicles; 12.45, 18.15, and 50.00 g Telstar broadcasting the Olympic games over Tokyo; and the 50.00 g value in a S/Sht commemorating the Tokyo games; all available imperforate in different colors. A third Paraguay issue also in 18 varieties has 0.15 and 0.25 g cutaway plan of the Apollo capsule; 0.30 g Tiros VII; 0.40 and 0.50 g Ranger VI enroute to the moon; 12.45, 18.15, and 50.00 g Saturn I blasting off; and the 50.00g value in a souvenir sheet with border portraits of Glenn, Carpenter, Cooper and Schirra.

World Meteorological Day issues include Central Africa Republic 50 fr, antenna receiving signals; Niger 50 fr, Tiros over globe; and Malagasy Republic 90 fr, Tiros and weather station.

Czechoslovakia has published an Astronauts issue of 30 h Gagarin; 60h Titov; 80 h Glenn; 1 k Carpenter; 1.20 k Nikolayev and Popovich; 1.40 k Schirra; 1.60 k Cooper; and 2 k who else but Bykovsky and Tereshkova.

Surinam's semi-postal Space issue has 4 values to the set. The lowest value depicts an X-15 aircraft, the next a globe with orbit and the two highest values a Ranger Rocket splitting into three stages in Space.

Yemen has overprinted the 1/4B, 1/3B, and 1/2B Space values and the 20B S/Sht with a picture of Kennedy and dates 1917-1963. The Sheet appears with either blue or purple sky, as did the original Space Sheet.

Panama has produced six triangles, 0.005 B Apollo Capsule and moon vehicles; 0.01 B Gemini-Agena combination; 0.05 B Schirra; 0.10 B Cooper; 0.21 B Schirra's capsule; 0.50 B Cooper's capsule; and the 0.50 B value appears in a S/Sht, perf, and also in a S/Sht imperf in changed colors at a fancy price. This set is very reminiscent of Paraguay's contributions to Space Philately.

" How To Obtain The Sought After Covers For The August Gemini Launch "  
by Tom Dixon

FORIGN TRACKING STATIONS

Send no more than three covers to each station. For each cover to be returned to you enclose 1 International Reply Coupon. Make certain to keep your message brief and request that the covers be cancelled ON THE DAY of launching.

\* Where you see this asterisk this denotes to use the heading "Project Mercury". It is my opinion it will best facilitate your mail by using Project Mercury rather than Project Gemini since our foreign friends are now familiar with this name.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| * P.O. Box 1283<br>Zanzibar, East Africa   | * Tracking Station & Installation<br>Lima, Peru                               |
| Project Mercurio<br>Apartado Postal 47<br>Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico                            | Pacific Missile Range, Tracking Fac.<br>P.O. Box 457<br>Waimea, Kauai, Hawaii |
| * Tracking Station & Installation<br>Quito, Ecuador  | * Tracking Station & Installation<br>Muehea, West Australia                   |
| Pacific Missile Range, Tracking<br>U.S.P.O. 06/50000, Box 53<br>Canton Island, Phoenix Group | * Tracking Station & Installation<br>Woomera, South Australia                 |

Note: Could be a sleeper and watch out for this one. I wish you luck on this so here goes: \* Tracking Station & Installation, DIYARBAKIR, TURKEY.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| * Tracking Station & Installation<br>Las Palmas, Grand Canary Islands | * Tracking Station & Installation<br>St. Johns, New Foundland |
| * Tracking Station & Installation<br>Santiago, Chile                  | * Tracking Station & Installation<br>Antofogasta, Chile       |

Please do not forget to use Project Mercury as indicated by \* this symbol.

THE FOLLOWING ARE ALL TRACKING SHIPS.. DO TRY AND OBTAIN THEM AS INDICATED

- |                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| z denotes c/o F.P.O. New York | x denotes c/o F.P.O. San Francisco |
| x T-AGM-1 Range Tracker       | x T-AGM-7 Huntsville               |
| z T-AGM-2 Range Recoverer     | x T-AGM-5 Sunnyvale                |
| x T-AGM-3 Longview            | x T-AGM-6 Watertown                |
| x T-AGM-4 Richfield           | z T-AG-164 USNS Kingsport          |

also watch for these new Tracking Ships below

U.S. Air Force Missile Tracking Ship  
General H. H. Arnold  
% F.P.O., New York, New York

U.S. Air Force Missile Tracking Ship  
General Hoyt S. Vandenberg  
% F.P.O., New York, New York

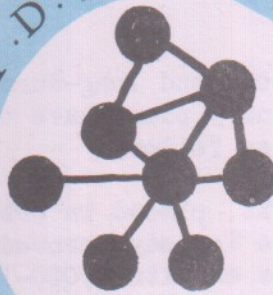
1. Dynallectron Corp, P.O. Box 6003, Lamas Park Station, Corpus Christi, Texas
2. Radio Tracking Facility, Daniels Road, Route 5 Box 499, Fort Myers Florida
3. NASA Tracking Installation, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena California
4. " " " , Box 1466, Grand Forks, North Dakota
5. Mr. George W. Farris Jr., Director Mercury Project at WSMR, New Mexico.

my best wishes for your success end



# ASTRO

T.D. Productions



# QUERIES

by HANS

MUELLER

Send your questions on  
Space Covers and Events to....

Hans J. Mueller  
58-11 134th Street  
Flushing, New York 11355

After the successful completion of Project Mercury last year, Project Gemini was equally successfully initiated in April with the first unmanned launch of the two-man capsule. It is appropriate at this time to have a look at the new project in its entirety.

On January 3, 1962, the plan to extend the Project Mercury effort with the development of a two-man spacecraft was officially designated as "Project Gemini" after the third constellation of the zodiac featuring the twin stars Castor and Pollux.

As an intermediate step between Mercury and Apollo, the objectives of Project Gemini, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, are:

1. To provide early manned rendezvous capability by (a) developing techniques, (b) assessing pilot functions, (c) developing propulsion, guidance and control, (d) developing pilot displays, and (e) training pilots and providing them with rendezvous experience.
2. To provide long-duration manned flight experience by (a) studying effects of weightlessness, (b) determining physiological and psychological reactions to long-duration missions, and (c) developing performance capabilities of the crew.

The Gemini spacecraft is basically similar in shape to the Mercury craft, but it weighs approximately twice as much as the Mercury capsule, is twenty percent larger and has about 50 percent more volume. The Gemini launch vehicle is a modified Titan II, a second-generation launch vehicle. As the target vehicle for Gemini rendezvous and docking, an Agena D vehicle will be used.

For the later manned flights in the program, all of the 18 tracking stations in the Project Gemini network will be used, including two tracking ships.

Program schedules call for a total of twelve flights, including two unmanned missions and six rendezvous missions. The official designation for these flights is "GT" after the Gemini-Titan II configuration. The flights are now slated to end in 1966, but a tight launch schedule calling for four flights in 1965 and five in 1966 is almost certain to slide into 1967. At the same time, NASA officials expect that new requirements developing in the next two years will extend the useful lifetime of the two-man spacecraft into the end of the decade.

While the order of the rendezvous and long-duration missions has not yet been definitely determined, preliminary plans have been laid down, according to which Project Gemini will shape up as follows:

- GT-1 The first Project Gemini flight, placed in orbit on April 8, 1964, from Launch Complex 19 at Cape Kennedy, proved the structural integrity of the Titan II launch vehicle and its 7,000-lb. Gemini payload. GT-1 was described as a "story book" flight. It was tracked by six network stations successfully participating in this mission. The flight was unmanned, and an attempt at recovery of the vehicle was not made.
- GT-2 This will be another unmanned flight, a ballistic flight to last about 19 minutes to qualify the spacecraft's sub-systems, to demonstrate the craft's re-entry heat protection, and to provide a training exercise for recovery methods and forces prior to the GT-3 manned flight. It is scheduled to impact some 1,850 miles down-range, and recovery is planned. This flight is slated to take place in August or September.
- GT-3 The first manned Project Gemini flight, with Astronauts Grissom and Young participating, will be a three-orbit mission scheduled for late this year or early 1965. It will involve the first controlled re-entry test.
- GT-4 Operational mission will get underway in 1965 with GT-4, which is scheduled to last for four days. Primary purpose of this flight - to take place late in the first quarter - is to investigate the effects of prolonged periods of flight on the astronauts. It will also involve cabin depressurization and opening the hatch as preliminary to extra-vehicular activities.
- GT-5 This flight will last seven days. Extra-vehicular activities will continue and the first rendezvous evaluation test will be made with a pod ejected from the Gemini spacecraft.
- GT-6 The first actual Gemini rendezvous mission will be made with GT-6, slated for the third quarter of next year. Its main objective will be to prove that rendezvous can be accomplished.
- GT-7 This will be the first attempt at a two-week-long manned flight. The mission is scheduled for the last quarter of 1965 but may slip into 1966.
- GT-8 Rendezvous mission will resume with GT-8 in early 1966. During this flight the astronauts will attempt for the first time to achieve the docking maneuver with the Agena D without the aid of automatic equipment.
- GT-9 This flight will feature the opposite approach - a completely automatic rendezvous using radar computer mode.
- GT-10 The first rendezvous mission directly applicable to Project Apollo will mate the Gemini craft with the Agena D shortly after insertion into orbit.
- GT-11 and GT-12 will practice LEM abort procedures and post-docking maneuvers in which the Gemini will disengage from the Agena and then attempt to hook up with it again.

See you next month - and don't forget to keep sending me your questions!