

The

SPACE



REPORTER

Published by  PRODUCTIONS

P. O. BOX 75

BROOKLYN, N. Y. 11237

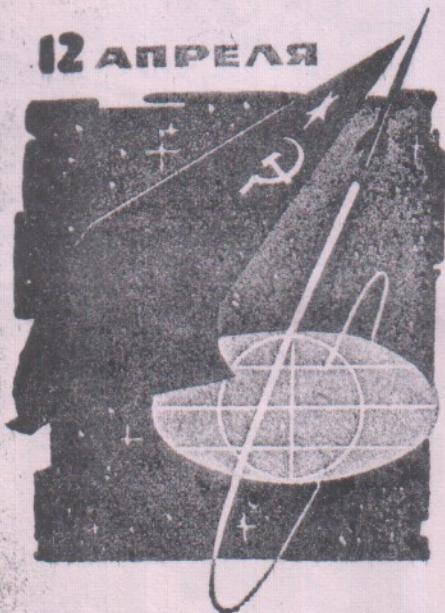
Illustrations by Howard De Garde



Выставка, посвященная
„Дню Космонавтики“

2 years
Gagarin
Nicolaiiev
\$1.00

12 АПРЕЛЯ



ДЕНЬ
КОСМОНАВТИКИ



Куда

Кому

12 АПРЕЛЯ
1963 -

Адрес отправителя



2 years
Gagarin
Simferopol
\$1.00

SPACE

Editorial

By

Tom Dixon

Christmas, 1964 finds me here sitting at my desk prepared to type out copy for another edition of "The Space Reporter".

It has been my habit, over the years, to sit back at Christmas-time and look back at the past years work and events. Some people do this on New Years with the ringing in of the bells but I always sit back retrospective of the past year at Yule Time.

One thing makes me very happy and that is the tremendous growth of Space Philately all over the world. Yes, each day that goes by adds to our hobby a growing respect and the life-blood of any hobby new collectors.

I am sitting here and thinking of the wonderful friends I have made over the years through Space Philately. It is interesting to note that most of them I have never met in my life, unfortunately. Some I have come to know thankfully and very well.

Its a funny thing how you get to meet people through the mails. I get my biggest chuckle when I think of how I met Ed Warhol of Garfield New Jersey. No not through Space Covers as one would think but Ed and I met through Space Age Banks. I get another chuckle when I remember how Hans Mueller and I were exchanging letters at a rapid pace until Hans came up with a tremendous idea ? and gave me his phone number. After all this did make it just a might bit simpler since we only live not more than 5 miles from each other. Both great guys Ed and Hans.

Or Jack Green of Wasau Wisconsin. For the life of us we could not get Jack's subscription to "The Space Reporter" squared away. After about 3 letters Jack's subscription was A-Okay. I wrote Jack and asked him how does he expect us to make money if we do not beat him out of a copy or two. To this came the offer of an invitation from Jack to a few beers if he ever gets to visit the World's Fair here in New York. Anytime Jack and the next four on me. After that I will get you on the pool table and that will be it. Top guy Jack.

There is a gent named A. Lang of Fairfield Connecticut whom I sure will get to meet someday soon. Another great guy is Bert Friedman of L.I.C., N.Y.. Bert the fireman and may he continue to miss me when he visits our retail store. Bert I have set aside a box of covers that is whamo and waiting for you but I would rather not be there to see you go.

There are 2 other real good people named Larry Frantzen of Palestine Texas and Dick Johansson of Tomelilla Sweeden whose veracity is strictly Top Shelf. Anything which Larry and Dick does is done in the finest of taste. I sincerely hope these fellows are around for a long time to come.

I met Chester Claff of Brocton Massachussets through those beautiful (Chester please note) tiny bits of paper called stamps. Chester is the kind of people who make a success of anything they do. I have attempted over the years to assist many collectors with their collections but I doubt if I ever took a more personal interest in any collection as that owned by Wil Wheeler of Baltimore Maryland. Chester and Wil another great couple of guys.

They do not come any better than Bill Luetge of Milwaukee Wisconsin or Joe Gearhart of Lititz Pa. I receive a most pleasant letter today for Johann Strauss of Chicago Illinois. Nice to see you back here in the states Sir and please stay here.

I could sincerely go on and on but space just does not permit. I have had the pleasure of meeting and corresponding with many more people through Space Philately and I have enjoyed every moment of it. I can only say I thank all of you for your friendship which I sincerely appreciate.

I have watched and been a part of the growth of TD Productions. From a mail order business at home to a large retail outlet and we now find ourselves in the coin business also. Yes, I feel I have much to be thankful for this year.

I am now looking forward to the future. Perhaps an association of Space Cover Dealers. Why not even a philatelic show devoted exclusively to the Space Thematic? If our hobby continues at its present pace the foregoing will not be out of the realms of reality. I promise you one thing if such a philatelic show should be organized. To all my friends I say after the show is over the first keg of beer is on me, but, with me as bartender of course.

We can as we go to sleep this Christmas 1964 thank our Astronauts, Shepard, Grissom, Glenn, Carpenter, Schirra and Cooper for lighting the path of the free world. We Space Cover Collectors are probably more appreciative of this fact since we have each and every U.S. Space triumph historically documented on cover.

My sincerest greetings to our readers of "The Space Reporter" for this Christmas 1964 and to all my friends I have made through Space Cover Philately.

end

Astronauts Autographs by Bill Luetge (U.S.C.S.#3938)

For those of you who are new to the hobby and have not as yet discovered how to obtain the autographs of United States Astronauts, here then is the procedure.

Address the Astronauts : Name of the Astronaut
 % National Aeronautics & Space Administration
 Manned Space Flight Center
 Houston 1, Texas

The Names of the Astronauts are:

Project Mercury: Alan Shepard, Virgil Grissom, M. Scott Carpenter, John Glenn, Walter Schirra, Gordon Cooper and Donald Slayton.

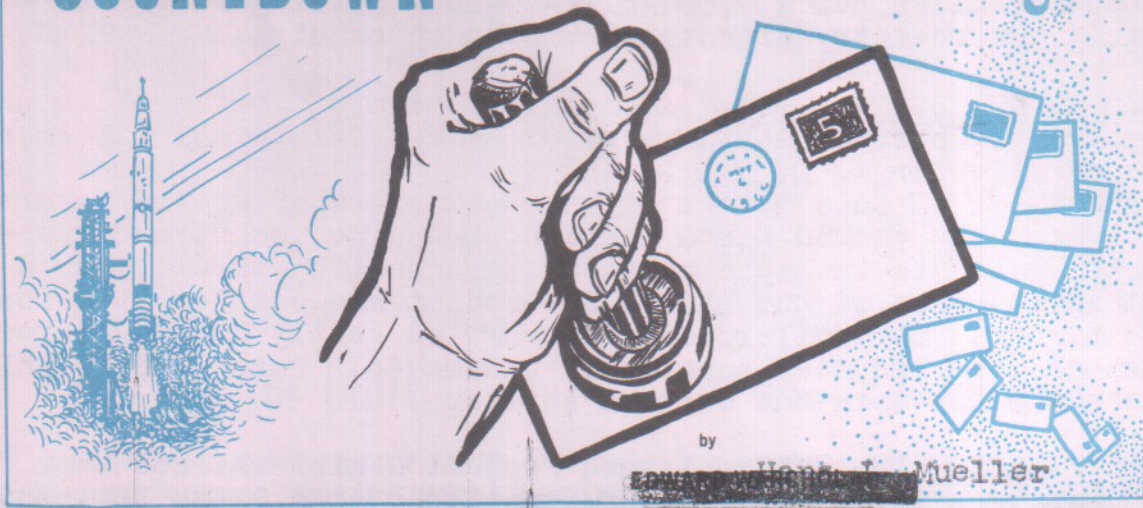
Project Gemini: Charles Conrad, James McDivitt, James Lovell, Frank Borman, Neil Armstrong, Thomas Stafford, John Young, Elliot See, Edward H. White 2nd.

Project Apollo: Edwin E. Aldrin Jr., William A. Anders, Charles A. Bassett 2nd, Alan Lavern Bean, Eugene Cernan, Roger Bruce Chaffee, Michael Collins, R. Walter Cunningham, Don F. Eisele, Theodore C. Freeman, Richard Francis Gordon Jr., Russell L. Schweikart, David R. Scott and Clifton C. Williams.

REMEMBER enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope for the return of the cover. Also **DO NOT** send more than one cover to be autographed and keep your letter brief.

end

COUNTDOWN



by ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Mueller

The last four weeks brought a surge in space activities, and here are the highlights:

PROJECT LUSTER: On Nov. 16 NASA launched its first Project Luster payload from White Sands Missile Range, N. M., aboard an Aerobee 150 vehicle. The payload consisted of an ionospheric instrument for the Defense Atomic Support Agency.

DUAL EXPLORER LAUNCH: NASA used a Scout rocket on Nov. 21 to launch its first double payload into the earth's upper atmosphere from Vandenberg AFB. The shot carried an Air Density and an Injun satellite. The Air Density satellite is a 12-inch-diameter, 19-lb. balloon and was designated Explorer 24. The Injun satellite, a roughly spherical, 90-lb object, studded with solar cells and designed to measure bombardments of the earth's atmosphere by energetic particles, was designated Explorer 25. Orbital data are apogee of 1,552 miles for Explorer 24 and 1,548 miles for Explorer 25; both satellites have perigees of 325 miles and periods of 116 minutes.

MARINER 4: The United States made a second attempt on Nov. 28 to send a Mariner spacecraft toward Mars. The 574-lb craft was launched from Cape Kennedy at 9:22 AM EST by a two-stage Atlas-Agena booster rocket. The television equipment onboard is rigged to take up to 22 pictures of the Martian surface and relay them back to earth. Mariner 4 is then to pass behind Mars and to go into a solar orbit. A mid-course correction maneuver was to have adjusted the miss-distance to about 8,600 miles. As a result of the firing of a mid-course rocket, it is now expected that the craft will fly by Mars at a distance of as close as 5,400 miles at approximately 2:10 PM EST, next July 14. Scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory are confident that Mariner 4 will accomplish its mission despite a recurring problem with the craft's Canopus sensor which continues to lock onto stars other than Canopus. If Mariner 4 is successful and sends its Mars surface pictures back to earth, these photos will most likely leave unanswered the age-old question about possible life on the planet but will tell us a great deal about its surface and possibly shed some light on the mystery of the "Martian canals". It is expected that the Mariner Mars photos will show details of the Martian surface in much the same way as the Moon's surface appears from earth through the best available telescopes.

ASSET: The Air Force on Dec. 8 launched successfully the fifth re-entry test vehicle in its series of six from Cape Kennedy. The 1,200-lb spacecraft was lofted by a Thor rocket to an altitude of about 31 miles for a 9,000-mile-an-hour gliding return to earth to study the re-entry affects on winged spaceships.

APOLLO ESCAPE SYSTEM TEST: An Apollo spacecraft boilerplate underwent an apparently perfect maximum-aerodynamic-pressure abort test at White Sands Missile Range, N. M., Dec. 8. A Little Joe II rocket soared from its pad at 10 AM to a height of some six miles above the desert. A signal from the ground fired the launch-escape rocket and the escape vehicle, mated to the spacecraft by a connecting tower, yanked the Apollo plate free of the Little Joe rocket and carried it almost two miles higher. The boilerplate was carried gently down by three main chutes and touched down apparently undamaged. Three additional abort tests are planned in the current series.

GEMINI FAILURE: The delay-plagued Project Gemini was set back further when less than two seconds after ignition of the Titan II launching rocket, a failure in a hydraulic line caused an automatic shutdown of both engines. The shutdown left the rocket sitting safely on the launching pad. The scene of this latest setback was Cape Kennedy on Dec. 9. A coolant tube in the engine bell apparently cracked and further damage, although not immediately assessed, appeared likely. This abortive launch attempt will necessitate postponing the next GT-2 attempt until sometime in January. The schedule slip will also affect the first manned Gemini mission. Most optimistic estimate for the GT-3 launch is now late March or early April.

TITAN IIIA: The Titan IIIA military space rocket registered its first completely successful test flight from Cape Kennedy on Dec. 10. Its third stage went into orbit as a launching platform, and then orbited another satellite. Because of the test nature of the flight, the satellite was a 3,750-lb chunk of metal with no scientific value. The Air Force Titan III rocket is slated to play a key role in United States manned and unmanned military operations in space.

CENTAUR LAUNCH: The severely lagging program to soft-land an unmanned spacecraft on the moon made some encouraging progress on Dec. 11. An Atlas-Centaur rocket, launched from Cape Kennedy, carried a simulated Surveyor craft into earth orbit. The achieved orbit was almost circular with an apogee of 107 miles and a perigee of 101 miles. A second objective of the shot, unrelated to the Surveyor program, and involving re-ignition of the liquid hydrogen upper-stage Centaur was not achieved because the rocket and still-attached Surveyor model had begun to tumble.

USSR EVENTS: The Soviet Mars probe Zond 2, launched from a vehicle in earth orbit Nov. 30, is, according to the Soviet news agency Tass, in trouble, because its power supply is apparently running 50% below expectation. -- Cosmos 51 was launched Dec. 10, and the unmanned earth satellite is, according to Tass, functioning normally.

COMING EVENTS: Scheduled for launch from Wallops Island very shortly is the previously postponed launch of the Italian 254-lb. San Marco satellite. An EPE-D (Energetic Particles Explorer D) satellite is slated for launch from Cape Kennedy Dec. 18 and will conclude the 1964 launch activities from the Cape.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend the Greetings of the Season to all of you and to wish you a healthy and prosperous, and space-philatelically successful 1965!

HJM 12-14-64



UNHINGED

by Chester Claff

Onward and ever onward march the printing presses of Paraguay. Today's set is the von Braun - Kennedy unit, 8 values perf (face value 55¢), 8 v. imperf in different colors (face 55¢), and perf and imperf S/Shts (face 41¢ each), issued September 24. Pictured are: 0.10 g Ranger 7; 0.15 g Wernher von Braun watching a launch of Titan II; 0.20 g five booster rockets and Kennedy; 0.30 g Ranger 7; 0.40 g von Braun and his rockets; 12.45 + 6.00 g von Braun and Titan II; 18.15 + 9.00 g von Braun and rockets; and 20.00 g + 10.00 g five boosters and Kennedy. The S/Shts include the 0.40 g and 12.45 + 6.00 g values, plus a portrait of Kennedy. Quantities printed were 200,000 of the perf five low values, 23,000 of the 12.45 and 18.15 g perf values, and 15,000 of the 20.00 g. Also 7,000 imperf sets, 8,000 perf S/Shts, 6,000 imperf S/Shts, and 1,000 of each variety overprinted "Muestra" (Specimen).

Hungary has issued a small Voskhod S/Sht, 10 ft (85¢), showing the Voskhod rocket in orbit around a globe, with a nice statuesque Venus reminiscent of Scott #1388, and the three astronauts' portraits.

Poland's Voskhod S/Sht incorporates three 60 gr (15¢ each) stamps, each showing one astronaut with the symbol of his profession (rocket, meter, and caduceus).

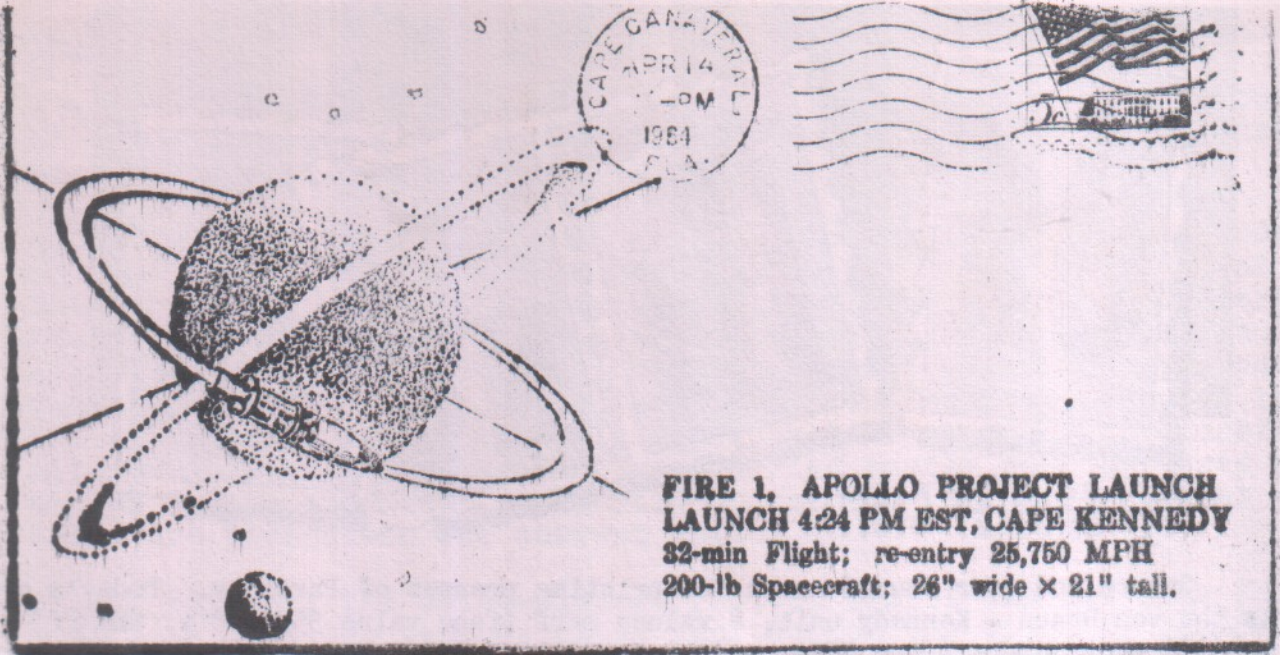
Czechoslovakia's sheet, 3 kcs (51¢) is similar to the earlier astronauts issue, on buff paper, with a mighty rocket flying over the heads of the three astronauts.

Ghana has reissued the IQSY stamps in new colors. Each of the three values was issued in a sheet of 12, with the stamps arranged in a square around a large central label showing the Unisphere of the New York Worlds Fair; 3 d (3¢), 6 d (6¢), and 1/3 d (15¢). These sheets were sold out rapidly and might prove a good investment.

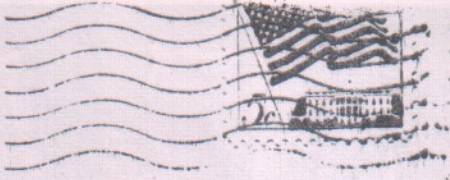
We might mention also the colorful label issued by the Europa committee in Naples, Italy for its exhibition of Space philately. It shows Gagarin and Glenn, as well as a rocket "San Marco" with the Italian flag. Very pretty.

Another label was printed by the Rocket Research Institute, Inc., for its Goddard Memorial rocket flights on October 5. It shows a portrait of Goddard, and was issued perf and imperf in limited edition. It is also available on rocket-flown covers posted with the Goddard airmail stamp at First Day headquarters in Roswell, New Mexico.

That about covers the new issues of the month. One point worth mentioning is the existence of numerous New York Worlds Fair issues showing the Unisphere with its metal orbits. These constitute borderline Space issues in the eyes of some.

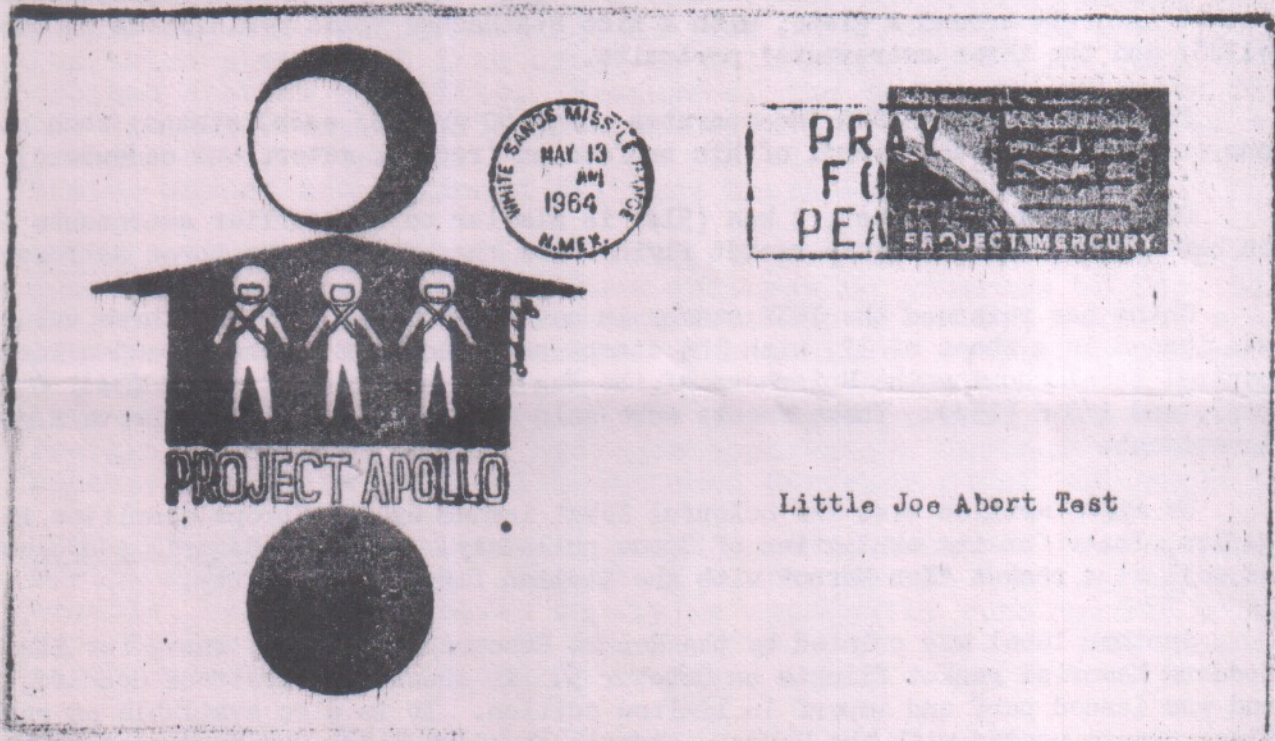


CAPE CANAVERAL
APR 14
1964
FLA.



FIRE 1, APOLLO PROJECT LAUNCH
LAUNCH 4:24 PM EST, CAPE KENNEDY
 32-min Flight; re-entry 25,750 MPH
 200-lb Spacecraft; 26" wide x 21" tall.

1.00



WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE
MAY 13
AM
1964
N.MEX.



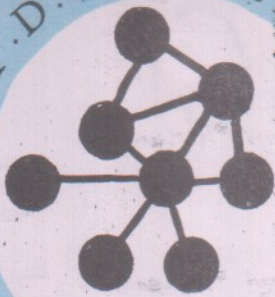
PROJECT APOLLO

Little Joe Abort Test

1.00

ASTRO

T.D. Productions



QUERIES

by

"Cover Research" by Bill Luetge (USCS #3938)

PROJECT MERCURY CACHETS PART III

M.W.B. Cachets Morris W. Beck, P.O. Box 116, Whitewater Wisconsin has sponsored covers for these flights since the Schirra Flight of October 3, 1962.

Covers for the Schirra Flight

Morris' covers for this flight consisted of an oblong cachet. At the top appeared the words "PROJECT MERCURY" with the Mercury Capsule below these words. Below the Mercury Capsule appeared: THIRD/U.S. Orbital Space Flight/Atlantic Recovery Force. Below these words appeared an oblong cachet with the name of the ship. Outside of the first oblong cachet appeared the cachet number.

Covers for the Cooper Flight

Morris' cover in commemoration of the Cooper flight pictured the head of Astronaut Cooper in a circle. The map of the world was also pictured along with the Mercury space capsule. The wording on the cachet stated: Major L. Gordon Cooper, Jr./ ORBITS THE EARTH/ DATE OF RECOVERY/ U. S. Navy Recovery Force/ PROJECT MERCURY. Below these words appeared the cachet number.

N.S. Chapter

Nuclear Ships Chapter No. 61 of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society also sponsored cachets for these events. Unlike the Beck cachets, which were applied to self addressed, stamped envelopes before the flight and then sent to the ships, Nuclear Ship's Chapter's cachets were applied to covers for these flights, which had been already cancelled on the flight date.

Covers for the Schirra Flight

N.S. prepared three cachets for this event. The service fee was two cents a cover and a self addressed, stamped envelope for the return of the covers.

The first cachet depicted a Mercury Capsule within a circular cachet. This wording appeared on the outside of the circular cachet: CDR. WALTER M. SCHIRRA/PROJECT MERCURY. On the inside was the wordings: THIRD/U.S. Orbital Space Flight/ SIGMA 7/ 3 OCTOBER 1962.

The second cachet, circular shaped, stated: NAVAL/RECOVERY/FORCE.

The third cachet, circular shaped, stated: SALUTES/CDR./SCHIRRA.

I will continue this listing in the next issue of "The Space Reporter". If any one of you has any information regarding the cachets which the ships of the recovery force used PRIOR to the recovery of Astronaut Schirra, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. My address is: William Luetge, 3211 North 44th Street, Milwaukee Wisconsin 53216. Thank you

SPACE STAMPS

300 Oak Street

OAK RIDGE STAMPS

Brockton, Mass. 02401

FIRST DAY COVERS OF NEW ISSUES:

| | |
|---|-------|
| *PARAGUAY 9/24/64 (5 v. short set) Von Braun, Kennedy, Ranger VII, FDC. | .50 |
| *PARAGUAY 9/24/64 (18 v.) Von Braun - Kennedy complete unit on 6 FDC's. | 34.50 |
| *PORTUGAL 8/12/64 (2 v.) IQSY, orbit symbol, FDC. | .95 |

NEW YORK WORLDS FAIR NEW ISSUES WITH SPACE MOTIF:

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|
| AFGHANISTAN (1 v.) Scott 677 | \$.22 | MOROCCO (1 v.) Scott C12 | \$.33 |
| BURUNDI (7 v.) Scott 88-94 | 2.00 | PAKISTAN (2 v.) Scott 206-7 | .38 |
| *BURUNDI (7 v.) imperf, Sc 88A-94A | 7.50 | *PANAMA (4 v.) Unisphere | 4.60 |
| BURUNDI (2 v.) S/Shts, Sc 94A | 4.95 | *PANAMA (2 v.) S/Shts perf-imp. | 6.95 |
| CHINA (2 v.) Scott 1420-1 | .20 | SHARJAH (3 v.) se-tenant | .70 |
| DUBAI (9 v.) Unisphere etc. | 2.35 | SHARJAH (3 v.) imperf se-ten. | 1.60 |
| KOREA (2 v.) Scott 432-3 | 1.30 | SHARJAH (1 v.) S/Sht Unisphere | 1.05 |
| KOREA (1 v.) Scott 433A S/Sht | 1.50 | SPAIN (5 v.) Scott 1239-43 | 1.50 |

DECEMBER SPECIALS - MINT SETS

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------|
| Albania Gagarin Airs, BLACK o'pts. \$14.50 | Poland 1093 V. 3 & 4 S/Sht | \$.65 |
| Argentina 677 IGY | Romania C58 Lunik I | .85 |
| Belgium 3605, Antarctic, dogs | Russia 2158-60, Rocket | .65 |
| Bulgaria C76 Sputnik 3 | Russia 2160 Rocket single | .50 |
| Bulgaria C76A Sputnik 3 imperf | Russia 2350 Sputnik 4 | .20 |
| Bulgaria C77 Lunik I | Russia 2383-4 Sput. 5, dogs | .70 |
| Czech. 1186-7 Vostoks 5 & 6 | Russia 2456-7 Venusik | .38 |
| Germany, E. 370-2 IGY | Russia 2463-5 Gagarin | .35 |
| Hungary C219-20 Vostoks 3 & 4 | Russia 2491-2 Sputniks 9-10 | .12 |
| Liberia 415-17 IMPERF, NEW ISSUE | Russia 2509-10 Titov | .20 |
| Mongolia (1963) rockets, 5 v. | Russia 2534 o'pt on foil | 2.15 |
| Mauritania C23-4 Telstar | Russia 2578 (2) anniversary | .35 |
| Panama C277A Glenn S/Sht | Russia 2586 Cosmos 3 | .12 |
| Paraguay Schirra 5 v. short set | Russia 2622-3 Titov annivers. | .37 |
| Paraguay Glenn, 8 v. perf cplt, | Russia 2630-1 Trophy | .30 |
| Paraguay Glenn, perf S/Sht | Russia 2651 Sput. 1, 5th anniv. | .18 |
| Poland 1091-2 Vostoks 3 & 4 | Russia 2830-5 Sputniks | .95 |

DECEMBER SPECIALS - FIRST DAY COVERS:

| | |
|---|---------|
| ALGERIA C63 on FDC stamped "First Postal Flight by BALLOON, Mil. Exposition at Algiers, 10-13 Nov. 1949", commem. cachet, control #, 11/11/49 | \$21.50 |
| ARGENTINA 737 on cacheted cover with special postmark 5/3/62 for the visit of Jean's capsule "Friendship 7" to Buenos Aires | 1.25 |