

Meeting speakers included ARS President John P. Stapp (photo at left) chatting with Gene Konecci of Douglas and William Radcliffe of Convair-Astronautics (in center); Maj. Gen. David Wade, USAF, Commander of the First Ballistic Missile Div., (center photo) talking with Ludwig Roth of Solar Aircraft; and James R. Dempsey of Convair (photo at right) looking over model of Outpost Satellite with Krafft Ehricke (right).

## Semi-annual meeting grows in scope

**T**HE INCREASED scope of the ARS Semi-Annual Meeting, which this year featured over 25 sessions in triple-feature halfday sessions, attracted an increased attendance totaling 3276 people. This total included 1826 technical registrants, of whom over 300 went on field trips, 750 exhibitor personnel who manned the 57 booths at the very successful ARS Astronautical Exposition, and 700 visitors to the exhibits. More than 45 ladies participated in the tours and social functions of the Ladies Program.

The meeting was held in the El Cortez Hotel in San Diego, June 8-11, with special field trips on June 12. Many of the 25 technical sessions were the first public program of some of the new technical committees. The sessions were amply attended, and only a few were uncomfortably crowded.

### Top Speakers Featured

The Meeting Committee, under the leadership of John E. Naugle of the Convair Scientific Research Laboratory, was fortunate in obtaining an excellent group of speakers for the banquet and the four luncheons.

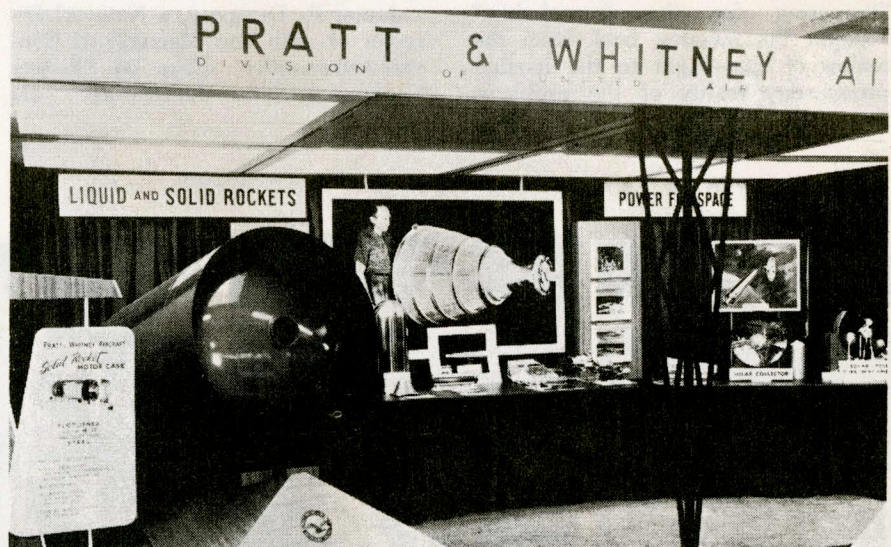
There can be no question that the historic highlight of the Semi-Annual Meeting was the banquet speech by Nobel Laureate Harold C. Urey. The title of Professor Urey's lecture was "Meteorites and the Moon," a scholarly review of the knowledge and understanding of the universe which earth-bound man has made to date with small budgets and a cloudy view through the earth's atmosphere. This review served as a subtle but formidable challenge to modern "spaceman," with his large budgets and unclouded view of the universe, to contribute a

correspondingly vast amount to man's knowledge.

Professor Urey ranged over the known data on the structure of meteorites and their ages. Using this information to construct a model for the origin of meteorites, he concluded that two sets of objects are required to account for the properties of meteorites. These are "primary objects" of lunar size and "secondary objects,"

which are surface regions of the primary objects.

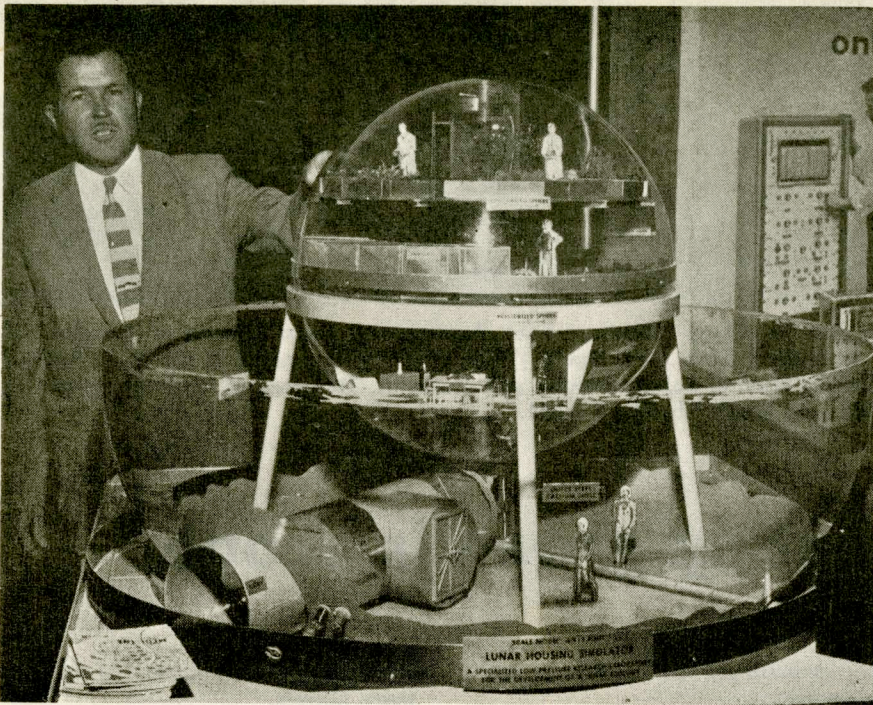
ARS President John P. Stapp spoke on "Man's Mission in Space" at the Monday banquet luncheon. "Man must either explore the extraterrestrial universe by every means he can develop or thereafter be a defector to the consistency of the scientific method, resigned to willful ignorance and no better than a speculative phi-



The Astronautical Exposition offered striking displays of new systems, processes, components, and planning for tomorrow's space projects. Above, Pratt and Whitney's booth; below, Marquardt emphasis on materials.







Martin-Denver showed this interesting model of a lunar housing simulator as part of its exhibit.

losopher," were the words used by Col. Stapp to define man's mission in space.

Maj. Gen. David Wade, Commander of the First Ballistic Missile Div., was the featured speaker at the Tuesday luncheon. His talk, entitled "Preparing for the Improbable," brought the meeting back from the realms of spaceflight to the harsher present-day reality of the problems

of developing and maintaining the necessary military posture for the "improbable" event of a nuclear war. That is, one prepares for an event which if your preparations are adequate will not occur.

James R. Dempsey, a National Director of ARS and Manager of Convair-Astronautics, spoke on "Project Centaur—A Space Laboratory." He

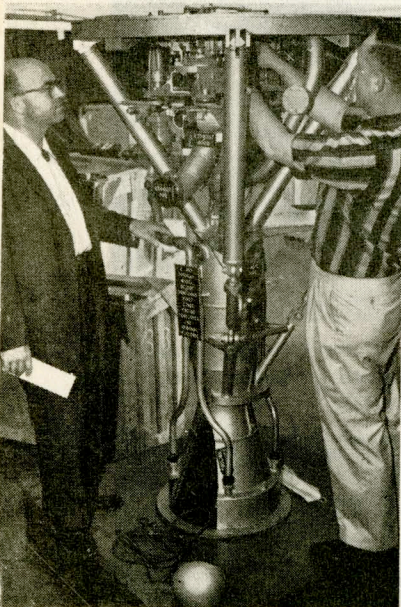
also described a proposed Project Outpost for establishing manned space units for 4 to 10 men (see page 20).

Abe Silverstein, Director of the Spaceflight Development for NASA, discussed a number of the problems involved in our national space program. The most important of these is reliability. Present-day rocket equipment is designed for 6 min of reliable operation. For the future, equipment which will operate reliably for a year or more must be developed, he said.

The fifth and final day of the meeting featured two classified field trips provided by the U.S. Navy. Nearly 130 persons were taken by the cruiser USS Hector to San Clemente Island, some 70 miles off the coast, to witness a simulated rough-sea launching of a Polaris missile. The members and guests were given additional information in lectures and movies during the trips to and from the island. The second trip, a cruise on the missile ship USS Norton Sound, was attended by 125 persons. The ship, and its facilities and equipment, were inspected during a trip out to sea for a firing of a Terrier missile.

This meeting was a really outstanding success, owing to the unstinting efforts of a great many persons. Brooks Morris, ARS National Program Committee chairman, coordinated the technical session program. The local committee, the many San Diego section members, and their associates gave unstintingly of their time and effort to make essential contributions.

—John Naugle and Richard Linnell



Left, Meeting Committee chairman John Naugle of Convair Scientific Research Laboratory looks over GE display of Vanguard first-stage engine; center, Martin model of Dynasoar makes a bow; and (right) the growing importance of precisely engineered minor components reflects in Robertshaw display of pressure regulators.

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