

[1965]

File
used for Ray
Scherer show

I am delighted, of course, with our space accomplishments this past week. They were superb.

~~Ray~~, we have just seen on this show how many people are involved in this program, how widespread its scientific effects and economic influence.

Our successes with Saturn-Pegasus and Ranger show what can be done when we combine technical competence with a pioneering spirit, when we have good solid teamwork between government and industry. Every American should be most proud.

But, beyond these immediate accomplishments, I am very enthusiastic about the goals of our entire national space program. It is a vital part of our efforts in seeking the Great Society. Our national space program is a vigorous element in a scientific and technical revolution . . . a revolution which can benefit mankind and encourage progress everywhere.

Our space skills, facilities, and experiences are great national assets. They increase our national security, aid our international relations and prestige, and further the cause of world peace. They encourage economic development and stimulate the development of new products, new processes, and new managerial

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techniques. They foster higher educational levels throughout our land.

That is why I am so pleased to have a role in this program as Chairman of the National Aeronautics and Space Council. We are just beginning to unravel the mysteries of space. The first satellites circled the globe just a few years ago, yet this past year we put 70 spacecraft into earth orbit or in escape journeys beyond the pull of the earth's gravity.

And we are going to do more.

The President who, by the way, has tremendous interest in this program told Congress just last month that "Substantial strides have been made in a very brief span of time -- and more are to come. We expect to explore the moon, not just visit it or photograph it. We plan to explore and chart planets as well. We shall expand our earth laboratories into space laboratories and extend our nation^{al} strength into the space dimension."

Let me say, finally, Ray, that there is every reason to expect that our space activities will more than pay for the tremendous investment required. In fact, I am certain that we will get more than full payment through just the space developments in communications, meteorology, and navigation.

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Brief Comments by the Vice President on Our National
Space Program

I am enthused, of course, with our space accomplishments of this past week. They were just perfect. Moreover, they were the result of good solid teamwork between Government and industry. They also showed what can be done when one combines technical competence with a pioneering spirit.

I am also enthusiastic about the accomplishments and the goals of our entire national space program.

It is a vital part of our Great Society.

It is a growth effort. I have great confidence in the growth potential of this country, and I consider the space program to be an outstanding example of the type of growth of which we are capable.

Our space skills, facilities, and experiences comprise viable national assets. As such they enhance our national security; foster higher educational levels; stimulate the development of new products, new productive processes, and new managerial techniques; improve our international relations and prestige; encourage economic development, and further the cause of world peace.

Our national space program is a vigorous element in a scientific and technical revolution. This is the kind of revolution which benefits mankind and encourages progress across the board.

We are just at the beginning of our effort to unravel the mysteries of space. It has just been a few years since the first few satellites circled

the globe. Yet last year alone, we placed about 70 spacecraft into earth orbit and sent 4 more winging their way in escape journeys away from the pull of earth's gravity. There is every reason to believe that the benefits from our space activities will more than pay for the investment required. In fact, I believe we will get more than full payment through the space developments in communications, meteorology, and navigation.

As we look ahead to a growing space program, I think it is most effective to quote President Johnson's message to the Congress last month:

"Substantial strides have been made in a very brief span of time -- and more are to come. We expect to explore the moon, not just visit it or photograph it. We plan to explore and chart planets as well. We shall expand our earth laboratories into space laboratories and extend our national strength into the space dimension."

E. C. W.
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