

Earth's Resources to Be Studied From Space

► PROJECT EROS (Earth Resources Observation Satellites) announced recently by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall is aimed at gathering facts about the natural resources of the earth from earth-orbiting satellites carrying sophisticated remote sensing observation instruments.

"Project EROS," Secretary Udall said, "is based upon a series of feasibility experiments carried out by the U. S. Geological Survey with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, universities, and other institutions over the past two years.

It is because of the vision and support of NASA that we are able to plan project EROS."

Secretary Udall reported that "this project will provide data useful to civilian agencies of the Government such as the Department of Agriculture who are concerned with many facets of our natural resources.

The support of these agencies is vital to the success of the program.

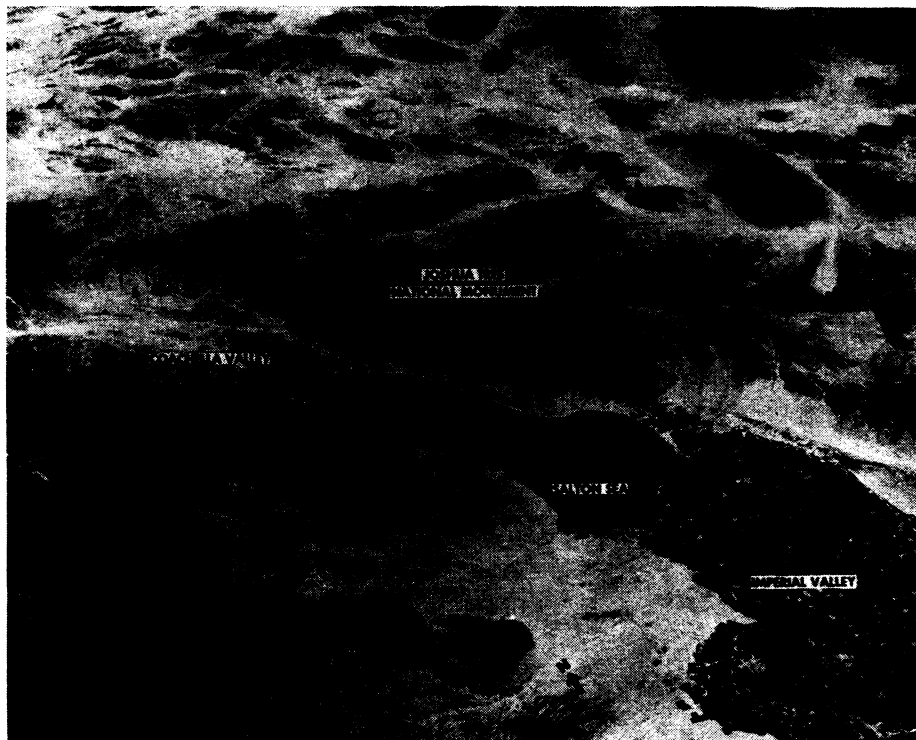
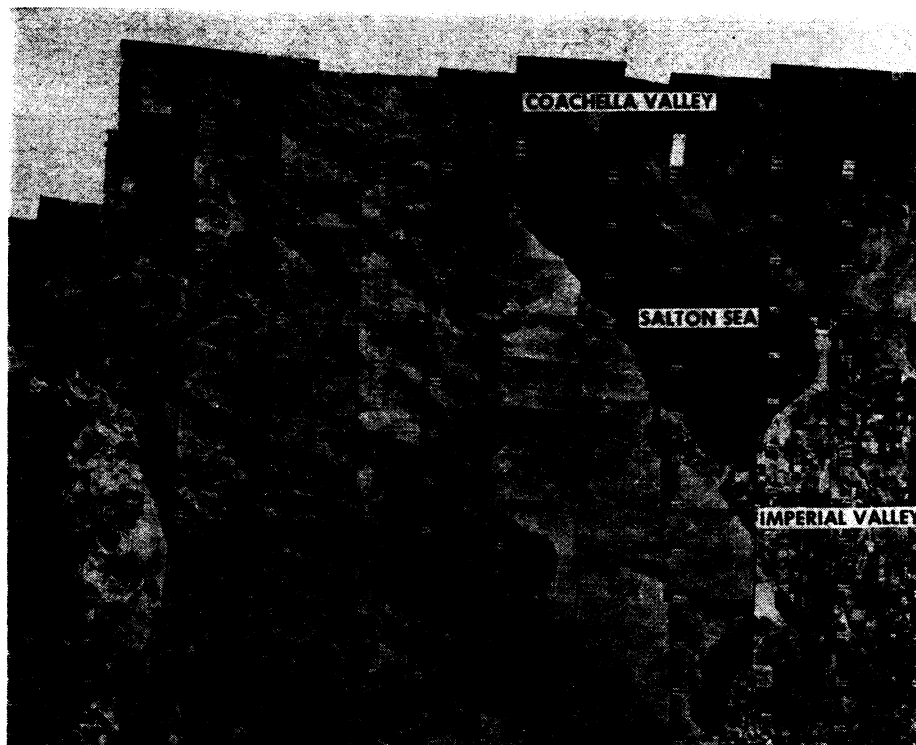
"The time is now right and urgent to apply space technology towards the solution of many pressing natural resources problems being compounded by population and industrial growth.

"The Interior Department program will provide us with an opportunity to collect valuable resource data and use it to improve the quality of our environment.

"Facts in the distribution of needed minerals, our water supplies and the extent of water pollution, agricultural crops and forests, and human habitations, can be obtained on a global basis, and used for regional and continental long-range planning.

"A team of knowledgeable scientists and resource data users will guide government and private agencies in making their data needs known."

Secretary Udall named Dr. William T. Pecora, director of the U. S. Geological Survey, to head the program.



U.S. Geological Survey

'THE WORLD AT A GLANCE'—The above is an aerial photograph of the Salton Sea in southern California. A mosaic of more than 500 such aerial shots would have to be pieced together to show the land area in the single photograph (below) taken by Gemini 11. The swirl in the sea indicates the movement of the water but is not seen in the aerial shot.

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