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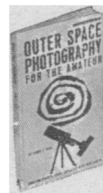
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ROCKETS AND MISSILES

Mobile Radar to Guide Space Vehicles' Return

► THE FIRST SPACE vehicles returning from outer space may be guided to a landing by a mobile radar system. This mobile system will provide greater flexibility in the choice of flight paths and landing areas in case of an emergency.

Scientists from Sperry Phoenix Company, a division of Sperry Rand Corporation, told the first International Congress and Exposition of Automotive Engineering meeting in Detroit that they have developed a compact radar system, which may be the forerunner of the actual system to guide the first space vehicle home.

The system, known as the Microwave Aerospace Navigation (MAN) System, is a completely integrated unit that performs the major functions required to guide a vehicle through its re-entry, approach and landing.

The MAN system locates the onrushing space vehicle by radar. After determining its exact position, pulsed radio signals sending coded messages to the space vehicle would then guide it to a safe landing.

The scientists said that the flexibility of the MAN system can be further increased by adding more ground stations or air relay stations for transmitting data to the space vehicle. Max I. Beers, Carl C. Stotz and Richard A. Wallace prepared the report.

• Science News Letter, 79:94 February 11, 1961

Do You Know

New York City has three times as many automobiles as France and Germany combined.

The American Cancer Society estimates that 37,500 Americans will die of lung cancer in 1961.

A diamond nail for uniting fractured bones prevents complications from setting in, and results in a shorter convalescent period for the patient.

A new instrument for measuring the speed of sound in steam under high temperatures and pressures has been developed.

• Science News Letter, 79:94 February 11, 1961

Questions

ASTRONAUTICS—How long was the chimp Ham's ride in the Mercury capsule? p. 83.

BIOCHEMISTRY—What are the two newest techniques used to separate different enzyme molecules? p. 87.

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