

FILM SCRIPT

for

SATURN QUARTERLY FILM REPORT NO. 9

(Covering July, August, September, 1961)

FILM

NARRATION

Fade in

UNCLASSIFIED title

MUSIC

Dissolve

Open with ground-level shot
of SA-1 vehicle standing
on launching pad at Cape

Superimpose first title:

The

GEORGE C. MARSHALL

SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

Presents...

Then, superimpose second title:

SATURN QUARTERLY FILM REPORT NO. 9

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FILM

Continue same scene used with titles; then, cut to two or three different views, ending with aerial

Overall view of SA-1 booster in Quality Div. (with upper stages alongside, too)

ST-90 on turn-tilt stand (from Quality Div. film)

NARRATION

As this report period ended, on September 30th, the first Saturn space vehicle, SA-1, had been erected on its launching pad at Cape Canaveral, Florida, and was undergoing final preparation for its history-making launch. The three eventful months of work and planning leading up to that climactic moment will be covered in this film report.

Final checkout of the SA-1 booster, together with its dummy second stage and payload, had been underway in the Quality Division at Marshall Space Flight Center since June 12th.

Among the items checked was the vehicle's stabilized platform, known as ST-90, which was mechanically tilted on this platform to simulate vehicle attitude changes. In this manner, attitude errors could be introduced and correction by the control system observed.

FILM

Interior of ground
telemetry station
(from Quality Div. film)

Control room activity
during simulated flight test
(from Quality Div. film--
without the lip sync)

Preparation for shipping
SA-1

NARRATION

Also verified was the telemeter ground station--the instrumentation system used to monitor information of the operation of all systems during flight. The station is equipped to receive 900 channels of information.

Culminating the various systems tests was the simulated flight test--in which all functions were performed in launch and flight sequence. With the successful accomplishment of this test, the SA-1 booster was accepted as flight-ready and released for shipment to the launch site.

On August 1st, the SA-1 booster, dummy S-IV stage, and dummy payload were "touched up" for shipping. The S-V dummy stage had already been shipped last April on the trial run of the Saturn barge "Palaemon."

FILM

SA-1 booster on transporter,
moving from FA&E; along road

Loading SA-1 booster
aboard "Palaemon";
leaving dock

Unloading SA-1 units
off "Palaemon"

Movement of SA-1 units
on road around dam

Loading SA-1 units
onto "Compromise"

NARRATION

On August 5th, the SA-1 booster and
payload were transported to the Saturn
barge dock on the Tennessee River. The
S-IV had been moved the previous day.

Here the units were loaded aboard the
"Palaemon" to begin the first leg of
their 2,200-mile trip to the Cape.

Several hours later, the "Palaemon's"
cargo was unloaded just above the
damaged Wheeler Dam, where collapse
of a lock last June had temporarily
interrupted river traffic.

The units were then hauled about one
mile overland, around the dam, on a
road which had been specially built
by the Tennessee Valley Authority...,

...and loaded onto a second barge, the
modified surplus Navy vessel named
"Compromise."

FILM

Loading booster simulator
onto "Palaemon"; loading
onto "Compromise"

"Compromise" leaving
Wheeler Dam

"Compromise" travel
scenes (might throw in
water scenes from
"Palaemon")

"Compromise" arriving
at Cape

NARRATION

The day prior to movement of the flight booster and inert payload, the water-ballasted Saturn booster simulator plus the flight S-IV dummy stage had been taken over the Huntsville-Wheeler leg of the trip, to verify loading and unloading procedures.

The entire transfer operation of all units from Marshall around the dam to the "Compromise" went smoothly.

The "Compromise's" circuitous voyage took it through waters of the Tennessee, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Atlantic Seaboard.

On August 15th, after a 10-day journey averaging about nine miles an hour, the Saturn-carrying craft arrived safely at its destination, Cape Canaveral.

FILM

Unloading dummy
payload

Unloading booster;
towing to pad

Unloading dummy S-IV;
towing to Hangar D

Checkout of support
and holddown arms on launching
pedestal

Preparation for erecting
booster; men studying
manual

NARRATION

The dummy payload was the first unit
to be unloaded from the "Compromise."

Then the huge Saturn booster was taken
off..., and towed directly to the
launching pad about two miles away.

The dummy S-IV stage followed. Both
the S-IV and the payload were hauled
to Launch Operations Directorate's
Hangar D for temporary storage.

After checkout and adjustment of the
launching pedestal's support and
holddown arms...,

...LOD personnel prepared for the
painstaking task of erecting the
gigantic booster. Following the steps
outlined in the erection procedure
manual...,

FILM

NARRATION

Erecting SA-1 booster

...the Saturn booster--some 80 feet in length and 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter--was raised for positioning in the 310-foot-tall movable service structure.

Setting booster
onto pedestal

Then the booster was slowly lowered onto the pedestal from which it would be fired...,

Service structure's
work platforms
embracing booster

...and the horizontally-retracting work platforms of the service structure were adjusted to embrace the vehicle.

Installation of
long cable mast

Installation of the long cable mast was next accomplished. The mast provides electrical, pneumatic, and cooling connections for booster checkout, monitoring, countdown, and rapid disconnect for the booster prior to liftoff. The long cable mast will be used for SA-1 through SA-4 in lieu of the umbilical tower.

FILM

NARRATION

Lifting and mating
dummy S-IV

After the booster was in place, the inert S-IV or second stage--measuring 40 feet long and 18 feet in diameter--was raised into position and mated to the first stage.

Lifting and mating
dummy S-V

Then the inert S-V or third stage -- 20 feet long and 10 feet in diameter--was hoisted aloft and mated to the second stage.

Lifting and mating
dummy payload

Finally, the inert payload for the first Saturn flight--a Jupiter nose cone and aft section--was lifted and mated to the third stage...,

Full SA-1 vehicle
in service structure

... and the fully assembled Saturn-- 162 feet high--stood enclosed by the work platforms of the service structure, ready to undergo vertical checkout and flight preparations.

FILM

Service structure
being rolled away

Saturn standing alone
on launching pad

Simulated flight test
using IBM 7090 computer

LS, man at analog computer

NARRATION

Later, the service structure was
rolled away...,

...and the Saturn stood alone on the
launching pad for the first time, while
various radio frequency tests were
conducted.

Long before the Saturn was erected,
though, back at the Marshall Center's
Computation Division, the vehicle was
being mathematically "flown" thousands
of times inside this powerful IBM 7090
digital computer. Such simulated
flights save NASA months of man-effort
and many thousands of dollars.

Using analog computers, Computation
Division had also solved numerous
Saturn problems...,

FILM

Man studies drawing of Saturn tanks and equation, checks diagram

Man turns to computer, plugs in wires, turns dial, pushes button

Recorder draws graph; close with overall of man and computer

Schlieren wind tunnel test

NARRATION

...for example, equations which describe the draining of the liquid oxygen tanks when the booster is fired.

Parameters of the system, such as orifice sizes and tank diameters, may be varied by adjustment of potentiometer dials.

Variables of the system, such as liquid levels or draining rates, are automatically graphed on the X-Y plotter in order to provide engineers with necessary design information.

Continuing Saturn wind tunnel tests--such as this one using the Schlieren optical technique--were run this quarter by Marshall's Aeroballistics Division. The test produces a picture of the air flow present around a Saturn model, thereby revealing any undesirable aerodynamic effects caused by body shapes or test conditions.

FILM

Saturn booster model
test in Tullahoma
wind tunnel

Saturn demolition tests;
open with a rather long
look at the tank before
it blows up; use as many
successive tests as
necessary to fill time

NARRATION

A 1/20th scale Saturn booster model was also tested in a 16-foot-diameter wind tunnel at Tullahoma, Tennessee, to measure the heat around the booster's base while undergoing various flight conditions.

(INSERT SOUND EFFECTS OF EXPLOSIONS
AT APPROPRIATE TIMES.)

Using these small tanks, a series of demolition tests--photographed at high speed--were run by Structures and Mechanics Division to determine the most effective means of Range Safety destruction of a Saturn vehicle in the event it should veer dangerously off course. Employing 100 grain primacord and flexible shaped charges as the explosive devices, tests indicated that the latter will initiate an explosion of less violent intensity, resulting in a minimum amount of blast destruction--thus realizing a higher degree of safety for both personnel and equipment without sacrifice of reliability.

FILM

SA-D in dynamic test
stand (before wind
screens added)

Dynamic test stand
with wind screens

Dynamic vibration
testing of SA-D

NARRATION

Dynamic vibration testing of the test
booster called SA-D in the new dynamic
test stand was delayed from June 23rd
to July 3rd...

...in order to allow time for installation
of wind screens around the stand. The
screens enable testing to be carried out
in winds up to 15 miles per hour.

The SA-D vehicle, a simulation of the SA-1
configuration, was suspended on steel
cables and excited through a frequency
range sufficient to determine the sig-
nificant bending, torsional, and longi-
tudinal mode shapes and frequencies,
including the damping coefficients
associated with each mode.

FILM

Continue action
(close with overall view
of dynamic test stand)

Flight simulation
and actuator load tests

NARRATION

Flight time conditions tested included: lift-off; 35 seconds; 63 seconds, at which maximum aerodynamic pressure is reached; and 119 seconds, or cut-off. Tests were conducted by S&M Division together with Guidance and Control Division.

The huge SA-D booster is suspended in the dynamic test stand in a manner similar to this tiny functional model, which is used by G&C Division to conduct preliminary investigations. Such information as effect of suspension on bending modes, spring resonance effects, and pendulum motions can be studied here, since the model can be pre-calculated.

FILM

Air bearing research

NARRATION

Research on a new method of measuring torques in air bearings--used in Saturn's guidance and control system--was also conducted by G&C. The flow of air within an air bearing gyroscope exerts a small undesirable force which tends to rotate the floating member of the bearing. Since the gyro cannot differentiate between this force and an actual change in vehicle attitude, it became necessary to devise this apparatus to accurately measure the force--in units of dyne centimeters of torque--for analysis and elimination of its causes.

FILM

Static test firing
of a Saturn booster
(stock)

Booster final assembly
(stock)

Checkout of SA-2
vehicle in Quality
(if nothing was shot
on SA-2, just use SA-1
scene)

NARRATION

(SOUND EFFECTS: STATIC FIRING)

Static testing continued this quarter, with five firings of the SA-T2 booster, which simulates the second flight booster, SA-2. The final SA-T2 firing, on August 25th, was a successful engine-out capability test, in which one engine was intentionally cut off at 94 seconds while the others ran to 114 seconds duration.

Assembly of the SA-2 booster, begun on December 27th of last year, was completed on August 1st...,

...and checkout of the vehicle by Quality Division started the same day.

FILM

Beginning assembly
of a Saturn booster
(stock)

Welding 105-inch tank
(stock)

Micro-welding

NARRATION

Assembly of the third Saturn flight booster, SA-3, got underway July 31st, and the last tank was installed near the close of this report period.

Fabrication was initiated on the fourth flight booster, SA-4, on July 31st.

The relatively new process of micro-welding, in which the operator must use a magnifying glass or microscope, illustrates the wide range of activity--from the mammoth to the minute--being accomplished in Marshall's FA&E Division. Wires or sheets as small as one-thousandth of an inch in diameter or thickness may be joined by this process. While booster and dummy S-IV fabrication continued at Marshall...,

FILM

Use series of scenes
from Douglas Quarterly
Film Report No. 4

(you may have to shorten
them somewhat):

Scene no. 10--Sheridan press;

Scene no. 40--wedding fixture;

Scene no. 43--welding;

Scene no. 60--cylindrical tank welding

Scene no. 26, 27, 28,

Douglas Report No. 4

(explosive forming)

Scene no. 75--G.S.E. area;

Scene no. 76--Test set fabri-
cation

Scene no. 77--control panel;

Scene no. 78--propellant
system panel

NARRATION

...manufacture of the flight S-IV stage
was underway by the contractor, Douglas
Aircraft Company in California.

The new technique of "explosive"
forming, shown being tested in this
slow motion sequence, is expected to
accelerate S-IV tank segment fabrica-
tion.

Besides vehicle manufacturing, work
also moved ahead on ground support
equipment, with several G.S.E. test
sets and control panels virtually
completed.

FILM

Scene no. 92--liquid
hydrogen tank;

Scene no. 93--liquid
oxygen tanks

Excavation for new
static test stand

FA&E construction

S&M construction

New pressure test
cell at Quality Div.

NARRATION

Construction of Douglas' 90,000-gallon
liquid hydrogen storage tank, and
liquid oxygen storage tanks, has
recently been concluded.

A concentrated build-up of facilities
at the Marshall Space Flight Center
was also in progress this quarter,
including excavation work on the new
\$10.8 million static test facility...

...additions to the Fabrication and
Assembly Engineering Division...

...a five-story addition to Structures
and Mechanics Division...

...and a large new pressure test cell
for Quality Division.

FILM

Aerial view of site
for VLF 37

Aerial view of SA-1
vehicle on pad;
MS, men working;
close with same ground-level
view of SA-1 vehicle used
at beginning of film

NARRATION

And at Cape Canaveral, site clearing
and earth fill was being done for
construction of a new Saturn complex,
Vertical Launch Facility 37, designed
to handle launching of Saturn vehicles
through the more advanced stages.

Meanwhile, approximately 5,000 feet
to the south at Cape Canaveral, the
first Saturn flight vehicle stood
poised on its launching pad at
Complex 34, and preparations were
well underway for its scheduled
date with history.