Static Test of Saturn V S-IC

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HUNTSVILLE, Ala. --The NASA-Marshall Space Flight Center conducted a 125 second static test of its second flight Saturn V launch vehicle booster here Tuesday.

The test was called a complete success by engineers after a quick look at data recorded during the firing.

Marshall Center Test Laboratory personnel conducted the test.

The big booster is 138 feet long and 33 feet in diameter. It will be the first stage of the second Apollo/Saturn V space vehicle to be launched from Kennedy Space Center.

Approximately 1,200 measurements of booster performance were recorded during the static test. This is the only captive test planned for the flight stage.

Four of the stage's five F-1 engines were gimballed during the test. Engines gimbal or swivel to guide the Saturn V rocket through space. The five F-1 engines produce a total of 7.5 million pounds of thrust.

Newsmen from area newspapers, television and radio stations saw the firing and, earlier, demonstrations of an experimental lunar roving vehicle (Mobility Test Article) and a smaller vehicle envisioned as a means of transporting an astronaut.

The large four-wheel test vehicle was built by Bendix Corp. for the Marshall Center. It will be used to gather data for use in designing a Local Scientific Survey Module--a vehicle astronauts could use in traveling about the moon's surface.

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The demonstration included moving the unique vehicle over rough terrain including a ditch, a steep incline and obstacles.

A motorized mockup of a small vehicle built by Brown Engineering Co., Huntsville, was also demonstrated. Such a vehicle is being studied to provide transportation for one astronaut on short exploration trips.

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