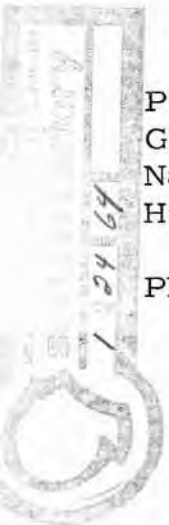


S-IC SIMULATOR

X1116.
X1112.



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HUNTSVILLE, Ala. --NASA Marshall Space Flight Center engineers and scientists will soon begin using a giant Saturn V booster simulator in making various tests of equipment and facilities here and at Michoud Operations, Mississippi Test Operations and Cape Kennedy.

The S-IC simulator, recently completed, will be used first as a substitute for an actual booster in testing the S-IC transporter, which is scheduled for completion here in February.

After transporter checkout, in March, the simulator will be moved to various buildings in the Manufacturing Engineering and Quality Assurance and Reliability areas to verify clearances and turning space-and to train personnel in handling techniques.

The simulator will then be taken to the Test Laboratory for checking out the S-IC static test stand and other equipment. Then it will go to the dock to be loaded aboard a barge for its trip to New Orleans.

At Michoud, MTO and Cape Kennedy, each facility which will eventually receive actual S-IC stages will be checked out first using the simulator.

MORE

The steel structure has the same dimensions as the booster. Large concrete blocks will increase its weight to that of a real booster. The blocks can be removed or moved about within the structure to simulate changes in weight and shifts of weight centers.

The simulator was designed by the Boeing Company under MSFC direction. It was manufactured in sections by Martin-Baltimore and shipped to Huntsville.

Under Martin supervision, Valley Steel Co. of Decatur, Ala. assembled the simulator.

Use of a simulator for necessary facility testing, rather than an actual vehicle, results in significant savings.

Another advantage of using the simulator is the ease of handling. The all-steel structure can be lifted, tilted, rolled, hung, hauled and handled just about any way without too much danger of damage.

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