

FROM: Douglas Aircraft Company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sacramento, Calif., Oct. 4 -- The six-engine cluster of the Saturn S-IV rocket was static fired today for seven minutes in the first full-duration test of the powerful upper stage of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Saturn C-1 vehicle.

It was the seventh successful firing of the RL-10 engines in a series of tests at the Douglas Missile and Space Systems Division test installation near Sacramento. First fully powered flight of the C-1 is set for next year.

During an actual mission, the S-IV's liquid hydrogen-liquid oxygen propulsion system will operate for approximately seven minutes in outer space.

Static testing of the S-IV began last month at Douglas, Sacramento. Previous firings were of much shorter duration. In the static tests, the six-engine cluster is ignited and operated under simulated space conditions.

The six RL-10 engines generate a total of 90,000 pounds thrust. They are produced by Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Division.

Douglas Missile & Space Systems Division is prime S-IV contractor to NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. The giant C-1 will become operational in 1964 and will be used for exploration of space in preparation for flights to the moon.

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