

# Jupiter-C Puts Up

## Wait Of Sirens Brings In Era On Space Here Eisenhower Officially Announces Huntsville Satellite Circles Globe

### Thousands Gather On The Square For Noisy Success Demonstration

By ALEX THOMAS  
Of The Times Staff

The wait of sirens, blasting horns and the fiery trails of store-bought rockets ushered in the country's first step toward the conquest of space at Huntsville last night.

Less than an hour after a Jupiter-C missile built at Huntsville hurled America's first satellite into an orbit around the earth's surface, the ear-splitting whines of sirens told local people of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency's success.

Success was sweet, but it came after several years of frustration, setbacks and delays before the Army and its Ballistic Arsenal scientists were allowed to prove themselves.

An thousands of people gathered on the Courthouse Square, the one generally held responsible for much of the Army's troubles—former secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson—was harnessed to effigy, while thousands cheered and waved American and Confederate flags.

The din grew louder on the Square as word spread of the satellite's success. People crowded to the center of town from outlying areas and distant towns.

Flashes proclaimed "Over Sputnik," "Our Missiles Never Miss" and "We Doed It." appeared in the crowd and waves above the mass of people. The sound of sirens and blasting horns were punctuated by the shriek of skyrocket and exploding fire-crackers.

"The South did rise again," a voice shouted above the racket. The chant was taken up and spread through the crowd before dissipating into "War Eagle" cheers.

"I'd like to have the concession for recharging all these batteries," a wag shouted aloud to friends at the rear of horns row in the Square.

As in all crowds, there were those who wondered what the confusion was about. "What's going on here?" a puzzled visitor asked a man waving a placard. "The satellite's up," he was told. The man shook his head and walked away.

"He thinks a satellite is something a farmer handles on his horse's saddle," another voice said.

The 8 1/2 ft fire engine rumbled onto the Square with tooting horns, transporting dozens of people. They were directed to the engine pulled out to circle the block.

Band representatives of Decatur's annual Chamber of Commerce banquet left in a rush and headed back to Huntsville followed by a sizeable convoy of Decatur residents. Other cars lined the Square here license plates from Limestone, Marshall and Morgan counties.

The nation's press took immediate notice of the celebration going on in the streets of Huntsville. A Times reporter spent more than an hour on a telephone in a restaurant on the Square relating details of the celebration to The Associated Press, United Press and International News Services.

Representatives of Life magazine mingled with the crowds along with numerous from area newspapers.

At midnight, the wire service flashed the news that official Washington announcements revealed that the Explorer, the nation's first satellite, was circling the earth.

This news had no effect here, for it was reliable news that the satellite was in orbit before Mayor H. B. Sorey ordered the City's sirens into action at 11 p.m.

According to unofficial reports, top officials and scientists were expected to return here early this morning from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Testatively, a more formal recognition of the Jupiter-C's success—perhaps a parade—is being planned sometime Monday. After 2 a.m., as this is being written, no official decision has been announced about the continued celebration.

### 3 Labs Here Aided Project Of Launching

### It Took Every One To Successfully Put Up 'Moon' Vehicle

The concerted efforts of all laboratory facilities of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency, headed by the Army's successful launching of a scientific satellite.

Each of the agency's nine labs, which comprise the Development Operations Division, had a share in the intricate job which led to the development and firing of the rocket. Dr. Werber, now Braun is director of Development Operations.

The satellite project, assigned to the Army, was a joint undertaking of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. ABMA supplied the main stage of the rocket in a modification of the Jupiter C, and JPL furnished the upper stages assembly, plus the satellite vehicle.

Responsibility for the preliminary design, and the later development, construction, population and mechanical design of the vehicle, was assigned to the ABMA Structures and Mechanics Laboratory. This included, among other things, increasing the size of the thrust unit while reducing tank skin thickness; modifying the thrust unit to accommodate the development of a special fuel; and development of a system to decommission separator of the thrust unit and instrument compartment. The lab also designed and developed the skin launchers for the JPL upper stages. Spinning the upper stages by means of electrical machinery provided a stabilization similar to that of a rifle shell.

Structures and Mechanics. In addition, was responsible for technical coordination with JPL, and was the project engineering unit within Development Operations.

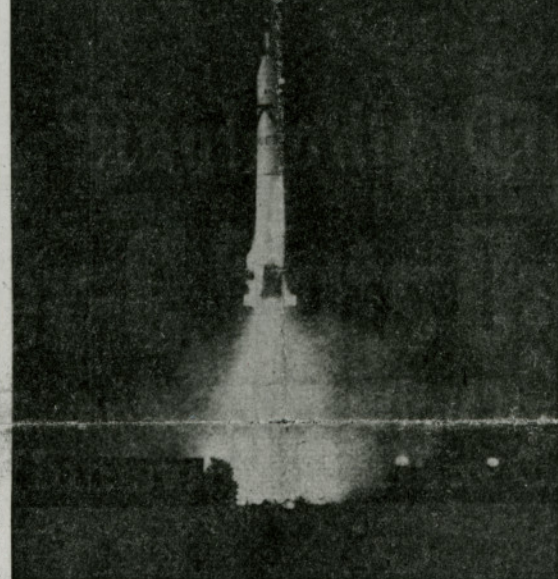
The Aeroballistics Lab had charge of the flight performance and aerodynamic problems. In particular, this lab and JPL studied the feasibility of the project in its beginning. Aeroballistics Lab planned the succeeding trajectory and established the exact flight data for the firing, including the possible pattern of expected or largest deviations. The Lab's duties also included responsibility for the aerodynamic behavior of the satellite.

### Satellite Gets Official Name; It's 'Explorer'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (AP)—The name of the satellite that was launched by the Army Ballistic Missile Agency's Jupiter-C rocket carrying the satellite, is Explorer.

In announcing the name, officials emphasized they did not yet know whether the satellite had actually gone into orbit.

Shortly after the launching, Secretary of the Army Brucker sent word to President Eisenhower at Augusta, Ga., of the successful firing.



JUPITER-C IN TAKEOFF—The Jupiter-C rocket is shown at the moment of takeoff from Cape Canaveral, Fla. at left is the missile service tower. (AP Wirephoto).

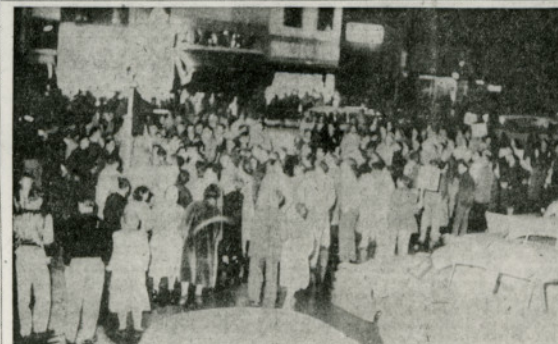
### Here Are The Basic Facts

Weight of satellite proper—13.13 pounds.  
Weight of final stage—12.67 (after burnout).  
Total weight orbiting—30.80 pounds.

The Army satellite was launched by direction of the Department of Defense as a part of America's contribution to the International Geophysical Year scientific research program. Within the Army, the project was undertaken jointly by the Army Ballistic Missile Agency and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The satellite was launched by the modified Jupiter-C missile, which is an Army vehicle developed for nose cone re-entry tests.

Instrumentation and telemetry in the satellite is gathering and transmitting four types of information.

These are: skin temperature (i.e., surface of the



THOUSANDS THROUGH THE SQUARE—Here are some of the thousands of persons who crowded into the Square in downtown Huntsville about 11 o'clock last night after word was received that the Army missile team from Huntsville had orbited the nation's first earth satellite. Screaming sirens, whistles and horns proclaimed the news.

### Weather Change Sped Launching

AUGUSTA, Ga., Feb. 1 (AP)—President Eisenhower announced early today America's first satellite is in orbit around the earth.

The President's dramatic announcement was issued at his vacation headquarters a few minutes before 1 a.m. EST by White House press secretary James C. Hagerty.

The satellite was launched at Cape Canaveral, Fla., at 10:48 p.m., EST, last night.

### Army Reveals Second Moon Is Scheduled

With thousands of other Americans all over the country, Eisenhower waited about two hours after the launching for word the satellite was in orbit.

The text of the President's statement:

"Dr. J. Wallace Joyce, head of the International Geophysical Year office of National Science Foundation, has just informed me that the United States has successfully placed a scientific earth satellite in orbit around the earth.

The satellite was orbited by a modified Jupiter-C rocket.

This launching is part of our country's participation in the International Geophysical Year. All international participation will be made available in the scientific community of the world.

The three paragraphs constituted the President's official announcement.

Eisenhower was kept closely posted regarding the launching preparations and the actual firing from last yesterday afternoon until word of the orbiting was received here.

Eisenhower flew here from Washington this afternoon for a weekend of golf and relaxation. It was his first time on a golf course since he suffered a stroke Nov. 25. He played 18 holes and reported he enjoyed it very much.

As a former five-star general and an Army man for 40 years, Eisenhower was even more deeply interested in the satellite launching than otherwise would have been the case.

The Navy a few days ago had to give up temporarily in its efforts to launch a Vanguard test satellite. Its first effort Dec. 8 failed.

At the Augustan National Golf Club, the President's weekend headquarters, the chief executive was kept informed regarding steps leading to the Jupiter launching.

Word when he left Washington had been the Army probably would not make another launching attempt until early next week. But weather and wind conditions at Cape Canaveral improved unexpectedly and Eisenhower was advised late yesterday afternoon that there might be a launching during the night after all.

When the launching did come at 10:48 p.m., EST Eisenhower personally got on the telephone to Washington—on a line which had been open and manned by Hagerty for some time—and received the report the flight progress of the Jupiter-C.

A word picture of that progress into space was relayed to the President from Cape Canaveral by way of the White House and the Pentagon.

These reports were made every 30 to 60 seconds during the first few minutes of the flight. Eisenhower was on the phone for slightly more than 30 minutes.

Here is Hagerty's version of how the word came to the President:

Established on Feb. 1, 1958, ABMA will open its birthday program this morning at 9 a.m. with a parade.

Gen. J. B. Medaris, White House staff secretary and liaison man with the Pentagon, arrived at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville at 8:30 a.m. today and reported directly to the birthday program, despite his strenuous overnight yesterday.

Included in the overall program will be exhibits of missile that point was 10:34 p.m.

That message was relayed to command equipment, models of Eisenhower who had just come missions and demonstrations of off the top page and had settled

Army activities.

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