

Washington Report

Vivian Tells Of Plans For Gemini

In addition to his work on general legislation before the Congress, and his work on behalf of particular concerns of his District and his constituents, every Congressman serves on at least one Committee of the House of Representatives. In my own case, I was pleased to have been elected to the Science and Astronautics Committee.

This assignment matches my own background. Until January of this year, I had been Vice President of Conduction Corporation, an electronics research and development company based in Ann Arbor. On being elected to the Science Committee, I severed all relations with the company.

The Science Committee has as its main tasks overseeing the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation.

How Does One Get A License For Jirricksha?

LAWSING If you were manager of a branch office of the Secretary of State and someone came in and wanted to register and license a jirricksha, what would you do?

This perplexing situation arose just a few days ago at the Farmington branch office when John A. Stebbins of Birmingham appeared and wanted to register his new motorized rickshaw.

Since there is no Michigan law covering motorized rickshaws, branch manager Howard Arnold was at a loss. After some consultation with Secretary of State James M. Hare, it was decided to register the Oriental vehicle as a motor cycle.

Hare said the situation was "quite unique" and to his knowledge, no vehicle of this type had ever been registered in Michigan before.

I should like to describe for you some of the long-range planning of NASA, in the course of my next two reports from Washington.

To probe the unknown vastness that surrounds our planet, we already have letted many instrumented satellites and space probes, of increasing sophistication and complexity.

Our country's manned space efforts began with Project Mercury, in which we developed the spacecraft and hardware necessary to support one man in a capsule orbiting the earth. We are now well into Project Gemini, perfecting two-man space flight, increasing the lengths of missions, and learning to maneuver in space.

Most recently, during the Gemini 4 flight, you remember that Major Edward White demonstrated the ability of man to maneuver outside the spacecraft itself.

In the middle of August, Gemini 5 will further test our capabilities, with two men staying in orbit for eight days. During this time experiments will be conducted with rendezvous and docking techniques—skills that must be learned if we are to make a successful lunar landing.

The focal point of manned space flight in this decade is Project Apollo. Project Apollo means development by 1970 of a powerful launch vehicle that can send a three-man spacecraft beyond the earth's gravity, place it in orbit around the moon. Two of the astronauts will detach from the main craft in a smaller vehicle, land on the moon's surface, return to earth, and then rocket safely back to earth.

A manned lunar expedition will, of course, give us first-hand information about the nature of our own planet's natural satellite, the moon. For the first time the people of earth will have eye-witness accounts of what the lunar surface looks like.

Since the moon has no atmosphere, its surface has for centuries been being damaged by wind or rain. As a result, our scientists hope to learn much about the enigmas of the origin of the universe and our planet earth. From this information we will be able to determine much about the requirements of further planetary exploration. We can develop from these lunar landings the techniques that will enable us to go to Mars or Venus.

Exploration of other planets of the solar system may follow. Indeed, the vistas of space are unlimited. As we develop the

means and the knowledge, we shall be faced time and again with the question, "Shall we move outward?" and we shall have to decide each time if we are willing to devote resources to the next step.

I am proud of the role which the United States Congress has played in the conquest of space. It is a task which demands vision and perseverance of our leaders and citizens—and which demands true courage of our astronauts.

In my next report from Washington, I shall write about some of the unmanned satellite work which is being carried out by NASA.



PRIZE WINNER: Jane Sikes, 36524 Dover, Livonia, was among the lucky prize winners on Ladies Day at the Detroit Race Course. Mrs. Sikes won a coffee maker. It was one of the 10 major prizes awarded to feminine fans.

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