

It will guard against the possibility of technological "surprise" by supporting the continued advancement of an industrial technology.

It will maintain the forward momentum that space technology has given our competitive position in the world market place through research and development for our industrial technology.

It will support the broad base of research and development vital to our security as a nation.

It will avoid the waste, the dissipation of a space capability assembled in painstaking fashion over the period of a decade.

It will hold open the opportunity to return direct benefits to man on earth in the next phases of space activity, maintaining the momentum achieved thus far.

It will take advantage of the tremendous opportunities for expansion of knowledge at a time when space-based astronomy and exploration embracing the whole field of space science show promise of breaking through into an era of real discovery.

It will provide the means to meet the challenge of the future in space at a relatively modest cost as measured against a percentage of the gross national product. The peak was in fiscal year 1966, when NASA expenditures totaled 0.83 of 1 percent of the gross national product. In the current fiscal year they are 0.73 of 1 percent. In the budget proposed for fiscal year 1968, the total would be 0.66 of 1 percent.

Finally, it will provide the capability to expand our space activity if the international situation should change. The resulting stabilizing benefits would thus be insured because this proposed program would keep the space team together, and in a position to respond to economic developments on the national scene.

MISSION OPERATIONS

A YEAR OF INITIAL FLIGHT TEST

For mission operations, 1966 was a year of initial flight test of the Apollo space vehicle and exercise of mission operations support equipment (fig. 95, MA66-9631).

Two of the successful unmanned Apollo flights were from Launch Complex 34, and one from Launch Complex 37. We encountered a number of problems during



1966

A YEAR OF INITIAL FLIGHT TEST

- THREE SUCCESSFUL UNMANNED FLIGHTS
- SHAKEDOWN OF L/C 34 & 37
- SHAKEDOWN OF APOLLO LAUNCH DATA SYSTEM
- DELIVERY OF APOLLO MISSION SIMULATORS
- INSTALLATION OF USB EQUIPMENT AND DATA PROCESSORS
- DELIVERY OF FIRST APOLLO SHIP
- USED TWO CONTROL ROOMS AT SAME TIME
- TRAINING OF LAUNCH, FLIGHT, NETWORK AND RECOVERY PERSONNEL
- DEVELOPMENT OF LAUNCH AND FLIGHT ORGANIZATIONS AND PROCEDURES

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FIGURE 95