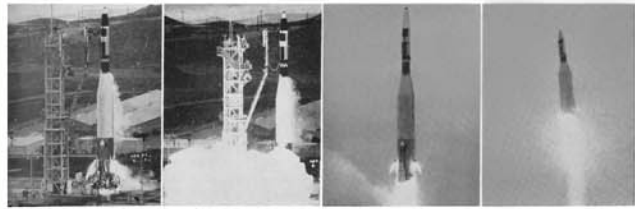




SNAPSHOT — Eve Jorgensen holds resolution presented by Los Angeles City Council to Atomics International for successful operation of SNAP 10A, first space nuclear power reactor.



REACTOR IN SPACE — Sequence from official Air Force film of last Saturday's SNAPSHOT shows lift-off of Atlas from Vandenberg Air Force Base. Photos show AEC's Atomics International-built reactor system (black and white section at top) riding into 3000-year, 700-mile-high Polar orbit.

SNAP 10A WORKS PERFECTLY IN ORBIT

Nuclear Space Device Exceeds Design Power in Polar Flight

VANDEMBERG AFB, Calif. (Special) — The United States' space exploration program took a major step forward on a cold, gray, rainy day last Saturday as a SNAP 10A space reactor system rose to full power in a 700-mile orbit above the Earth.

For the employees of Atomics International, the crucial moment was not at 1:28 p.m. when the giant Atlas-Agena vehicle roared off the pad, but rather at 3:05 p.m. when the reactor perfectly exceeded the job it was designed to do.

By this time, it had been established that the orbit was very close to the precalculated distance of 700 nautical miles. The actual orbit ranged from 699.5 to 717.5 nautical miles above the Earth.

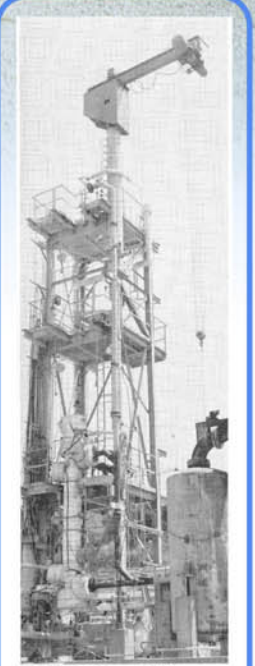
Radio Command — At 3:05 p.m., the Air Force tracking station in Hawaii sent a radio command to the SNAP-10A system as it passed over its second orbit.

Capt. Don Marsh, SNAP-SHOT project officer for the Air Force 6595th Aerospace Test Wing, announced at Vandenberg that the expansion compressor spalls had fired, the spring-loaded safety drums had snapped in, and stepping of the motorized drums had been initiated.

Although the reactor had not yet reached full power, the AI and AEC people at Vandenberg and the Satellite Tracking



IT'S A SNAP — Dr. Henri Polak, NAA S.A. vice-president, examines model of AI's SNAP 10A hardware displayed at Paris Air Show. Unit is part of Atomic Energy Commission exhibit.



TOWERING — Sodium-water test facility rises 60-feet in air at AI's Santa Susana site.



ATOM POWER — Giant atomic electric plants like Hallam Nuclear Power Facility, shown left, are being developed by AI. Interior shot of reactor floor shows tower-like fuel handling crane, and circular control rod housing at lower center. Right, Piqua Nuclear Power Facility, built by Atomics International, is the nation's first organic reactor to produce commercial power. The Piqua plant, under direction of AI, has been producing electricity for over a year.



CHAMPS—Finishing first in A Baseball League were Damifinos. From left, front row, Tom Lauer, Doug Follick, Tom Roderick. Back, Frank Burgett, Tex Airhart, Jim Spangler, Bill Lane.



MILESTONE — Jon Haugen, right, marks 5000th hour of continuous operation for FS-3 nuclear reactor at the Santa Susana facility. Rudy Bosinger, left, Dutch Sturtevant watch.



BUSY OFFICE — Source Inspection office located at Nordhoff facility is beehive of activity. At work in office are, from left, Dan Harvey, Charles Coomber, Don McIntosh, John Page.



THUNDERBALL