

# Cape Mercury Site Dedicated Tuesday

## Honors Manned Flight

National leaders in government and industry plus two participating astronauts, gathered outside Pad 14 on Cape Kennedy this afternoon to dedicate a 13-foot high, shimmering stainless steel monument to the highly successful Mercury program.

Project Mercury's success "is a bright spot in the history of our nation to catch up to our Soviet competitors" President Johnson's consultant on space projects, Dr. Edward C. Welsh, told an audience of several hundred.

He continued, "Mercury served to lift the self-respect of our nation when it badly needed such a boost. I know that we still have widespread public support of our national space program in spite of the criticism of some short-sighted individuals."

Indicating a Presidential push for more federal spending in these areas when Congress meets in January, Dr. Welsh said further, "In my way of thinking, Mercury, Gemini, Apollo and MOL (the Air Force's manned orbiting laboratory) are the essential but still just the initial short steps in the great venture of manned space flight.

"We are moving ahead in these projects, and I would hope that the resources devoted least commensurate with the growth in our gross national product. Any slower pace would not be in our national interest."

When the late President Kennedy proposed the manned lunar landing program his financing was keyed to 1 per cent of our gross national product which today is a burgeoning \$620 billion yet the 1965 NASA budget is \$5.3 billion.

The ceremonies this afternoon were conducted cooperatively by the NASA, the Air Force and General Dynamics Corp. under whose division — Astronautics — the Atlas space booster was built and which jettied the Mercury capsule with four individual astronauts four times successfully into into earth orbit.

Present and representing all seven original astronauts were: Walter Schirra and Virgil Grisson.

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Time capsule placed in base of Project Mercury Monument on Cape

## Beaver's Slayer Being Held For The Grand Jury

Sheriff's criminal agents, investigating Sunday night's fatal shooting on Lake Dr. at the west Cocoa city limits where six shots fired at close range took the life of 27-year-old Joe Edward Beaver, today reported Beaver was mortally wounded when he went to talk to the man now charged with his murder.

Beaver was killed as he got out of his car at the residence of Nolan David (Nig) Dotson, 31, at 1417 Lake Dr.

The shooting came after Dotson and Beaver had been involved earlier in an argument concerning something Dotson allegedly war of the belief

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## Bennett Traffic Is Off 10,000 Cars

Traffic over the Bennett Causeway dropped nearly 10,000 cars since the opening of NASA Causeway at Addison Point, according to comparative figures released by Bennett Causeway Manager Dick Karlow.

During the week of Oct. 25-31, the last full week of operation before the opening of the NASA Causeway, 70,468 vehicles used the toll facility. And for the period from Nov. 1-7 60,592 cars crossed the Bennett Causeway, a traffic drop of 9,904 vehicles.

Karlow stated that the greatest drop in traffic, about 1,750 vehicles per day, occurs on weekdays with the remainder occurring on Saturday and Sun-

## Lockheed Forms Bid Team For MOL Contract

Lockheed Missiles & Space Co. has formed a team of leading aerospace firms to compete for the Air Force's proposed Manned Orbital Laboratory (MOL).

Joining Lockheed as subcontractors in the contract bidding will be Radio Corporation of America, and General Precision. Also lending support will be the AResearch Division of the Garrett Corp.

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The monument is constructed of the same type stainless steel used in the Project Mercury rockets. It stands 13 feet high, 8 feet wide and is fashioned in the shape of the astronomical symbol for the planet Mercury. The number "seven" in the center of the symbol denotes the seven Mercury astronauts.

A bronze tablet on the monument carries the inscription "Si Monumentum Requirit Circumspice" which is also found on the tomb of architect Sir Christopher Wren in St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

Translated it says "If you seek a monument, look about you."

Dr. Welsh was presented by Roger Lewis, General Dynamics president, who was introduced in turn by James R. Damesey president of the Astronautics division.

Rep. Carl Albert (D-Okla.) House majority leader and a member of the House Space Committee, spoke.

The Mercury program was initiated in 1958. Astronaut Alan B. Shepard made the first flight, a suborbital jaunt on a Redstone rocket. Astronaut Gus Grissom made another suborbital flight before John H. Glenn became the first American to go into orbit on Feb. 20, 1962. The program ended with the 22.9 flight of Gordon Cooper on May 16, 1963.

Gold medallions were received by: Dr. Edward C. Welsh, acting chairman and executive secretary, National Aeronautics and Space Council for President Johnson and himself.

Arnold Frutkin, director of international programs who received the medallion for James E. Webb, administrator of NASA, and Dr. Hugh L. Dryden, deputy administrator of NASA.

Ken Kleinknecht manager, Project Mercury, for himself and Dr. Robert R. Gilruth, director, Manned Space Flight Center.

Astronauts Wally Schirra and Gus Grissom for all seven astronauts.

Chris Craft, Flight director, Project Mercury.

G. Merritt Preston, manager, Cape Kennedy, Manned Spacecraft Center.

Dr. Kurt Debus, director, Kennedy Space Center.

Jack Kueltner chief Saturn system integration office, accepting for Dr. Werner von Braun.

Lt. Gen. W. Austin Davis, vice commander, Air Force Systems Command, accepting for Air Force Secretary Eugene Zuckert and Gen. Bernard Schriever, Commander of the Air Force Systems Command.

Col. Elmer Richardson for Maj. Gen. Vincent Huston, Commander, Eastern Test Range and Lt. Gen. Leighton I. Davis, Commander National Range Division.

Maj. Gen. Oamund Riland, deputy commander for Space Flight.

Col. Otto Ledford for Maj. Gen. Ben Funk, commander, Space Systems Division.

Rear Adm. H. G. Bowen, chief of the Project Mercury recovery forces.

Atty. Gen James Kynes accepting for Gov. Farris Bryant.

Industry participants were presented silver medallions and were received by:

Al. F. Donohovan, senior vice president, technical, Aerospace Corp., for Dr. Ivan Gettings, Aerospace Corp. president.

Ben A. Hohmann, group director, Gemini Launch Systems, Aerospace Corp.