

Plum Brook Project Given 'Green Light'

Space Unit Puts Unanimous OK On \$40 Million

The House Committee on Science and Astronautics has unanimously accepted a recommendation of a subcommittee calling for the expenditure of nearly \$40 million at Plum Brook in the next fiscal year.

The committee's approval means that NASA's plans for the sprawling former ordnance depot here are virtually certain to reach the House floor uncut. And a recommendation by the "space" committee in the complex field of rocket propulsion, and in Congress' current mood, is considered the next thing to money in the bank.

THE COMMITTEE made substantial cuts in NASA's proposed 1963 budget, totalling \$3,787,276,000. Altogether, about \$50 million was lopped off. But funds for Plum Brook were left intact.

NASA's proposed expenditures here were reported in the Register more than a month ago.

They include:

- A "space tank" to imitate conditions moon rockets will encounter outside the earth's atmosphere, at an estimated cost of \$25,000,000.
- A laboratory to test systems for storing and using liquid hydrogen at \$2,400,000.
- A huge test stand to operate motors which will return future moon explorers to earth at \$6,275,000.
- Enlargement of the facility's present small rocket test stand, with a new building and power lines costing \$3,500,000.
- Improvement of roads, administration buildings, and utilities, a new railroad spur and a new guard house, costing \$1,508,000.

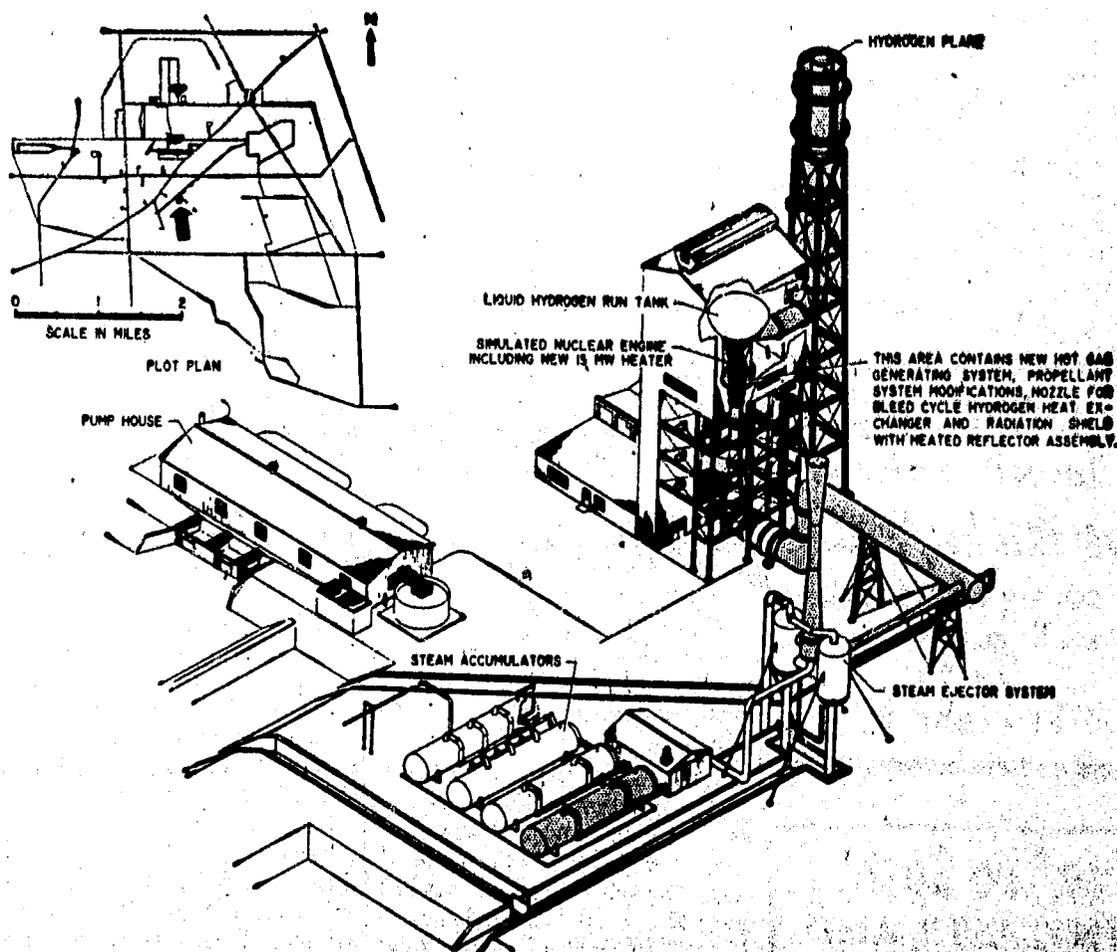
THIRTEENTH DISTRICT Congressman Charles A. Mosher, a member of the space committee, reported the approval of the subcommittee's report following an executive session today.

He said the special study group has been going over NASA's figures for more than a month with a fine-tooth comb.

Mosher added that the House would probably get

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NUCLEAR ROCKET DYNAMICS AND CONTROLS FACILITY



THIS IS ONE of three major new projects scheduled for Plum Brook in NASA plans accepted by the House "space committee." See other sketches, page 14.

Train Wreck Toll At 154; Probe On

TOKYO (AP)—An engineer and four other trainmen involved in Thursday's three-train wreck which killed more than 150 persons were arrested today on suspicion of criminal negligence.

Both houses of Parliament scheduled extraordinary Sunday sessions to begin an investigation of the tragedy.

Police, reducing their casualty figures, listed 154 dead and 165 injured. The fire department list had 152 dead and 336 injured, 144 seriously.

The engineer of a freight train involved in the crash, Norifumi

Injured, stunned survivors poured out of the passenger train's windows and doors and huddled in the darkness on a nearby track. Then another commuter train roared into the wreckage, sliced through knots of survivors, jumped the tracks and plunged down an embankment into a row of houses.

It was Japan's second worst train disaster since World War II.

No Americans or other Westerners were reported among the victims.

Espy, Armstrong Will Miss Game

Ben Espy from Sandusky High and Huron's Billy Armstrong will both miss Ohio State University's spring game Saturday, marking the windup of practice.

Espy, who had been one of the "Red 1" (offensive first team) halfbacks since practice began, suffered a leg injury earlier this week and the OSU athletic department said this morning he was definitely out of action for tomorrow.

Armstrong, the Buckeyes' regular center, is one of 22 lettermen from 1961 engaging in spring practice.

City Briefs

GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL
Patients from Good Samaritan Hospital were: Frank Dorpots, 615 Columbus Ave.; Mrs. Lee Asher, Huron; Mrs. Robert Bickley, Milan; David Strom, Huron; Mrs. Walter Bertach, 2504 Milan Road; Mrs. Frederick Orr, 423 Shelby St. and Mrs. Gregory Frankart, 808 Woodlawn Ave.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Discharged from Memorial Hospital were: Debra Caskey, 921 Fulton St.; Mrs. Ruth Cheek, Bay Bridge; Mrs. Ruth Senseney, Fremont; Mrs. Harold Iles and baby, Norwalk; Savi Ignatoff, 3608 Spencer Ave. and Forrest McCumber, Rt. 2, Port Clinton.

PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL
Released from Providence Hospital were: Kenneth Bongiovanni, 3225 W. Monroe St.; Leo Dendinger, Clyde; Mrs. Emma Lazzara, 216 E. Boalt St.; Mrs. Ralph May Jr. and baby, 2252 Pipe St.; Junior McGowan, 2608 Tremper Ave.; Carol Moore, 1407 Pierce St.; Mrs. Wesley Moyer, 2801 Fairmount Lane; Osmond Pearson, 1701 S. McDonough St.; Thomas McFarlin, 514 Putnam St.; Samuel Graves, 1210 Buchanan St.; Mrs. Dorothy Jagel, 1203 Johnson St.;

Catherine Shelton, 533 Winnebago Ave.; Alexander McKenzie, 1102 W. Madison St.; Mrs. Ida Seilagy, Gypsum and Benjamin Work, Rt. 1, Sandusky.

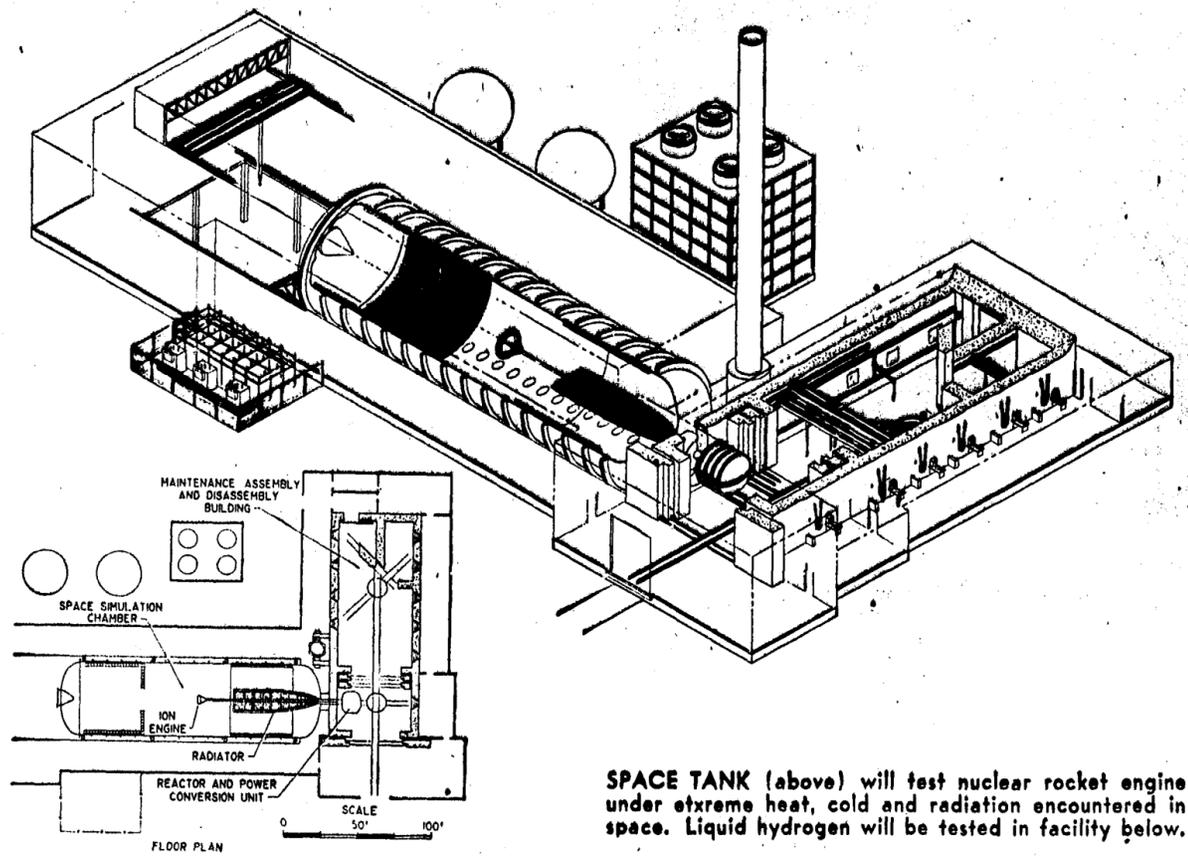
MARINE NEWS
The C. S. Robinson, W. W. Holloway, Steelton and Shenango have cleared the Lower Lakes Docks. Due are the E. L. Ford and U.S. Gypsum.

ASSOCIATION MEETS
There will be a meeting of the Sandusky Memorial Day Association in the Amvets club rooms at 8 p.m. today.

SENIOR PARTY WINNERS
Winners of the Senior Citizens Club card party Thursday afternoon at Holy Angels hall were: Louis Meyers, Mrs. Florence Windau, Mrs. Albert Homegardner, Michael Herb, Miss Etta Steinle, Miss Mathilda Fitz, Mrs. Walter Holzinger and Mrs. Clara Buiting.

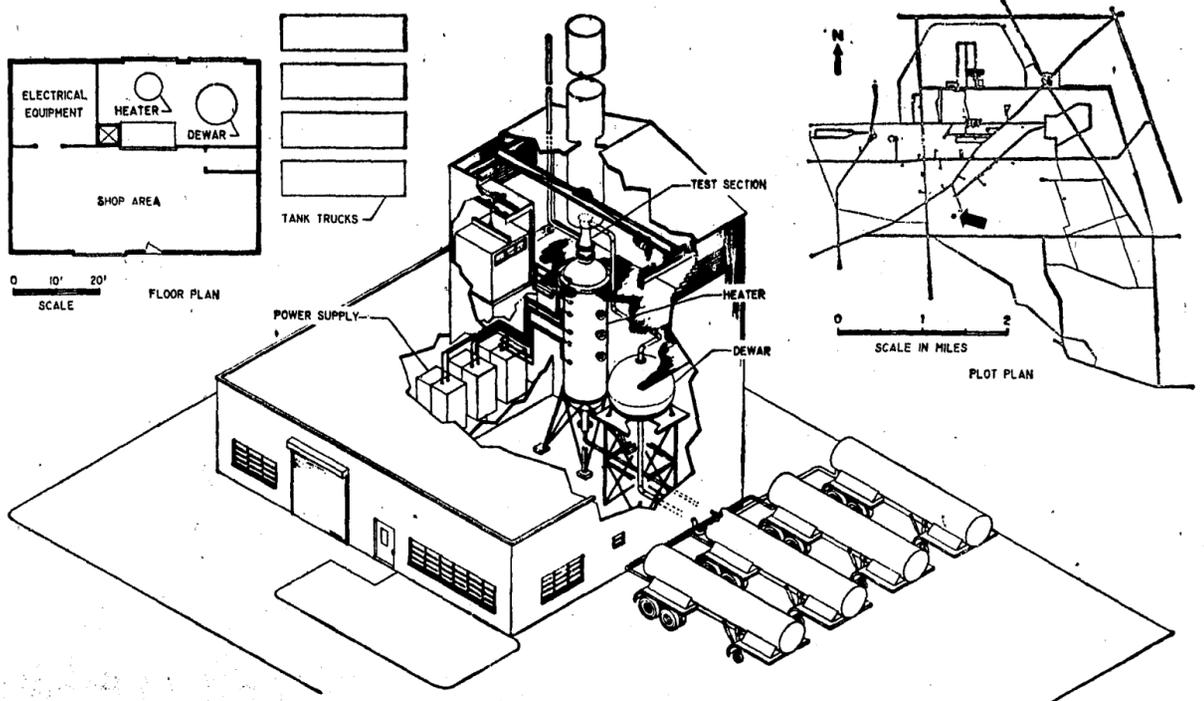
CARD PARTY WINNERS
Knights of Columbus card party winners Thursday night were: Elmer Brehm, Norbert Bock, Fred Hanneman, K. G. Martin, Burnell Frey and John Manuel.

SPACE PROPULSION FACILITY



SPACE TANK (above) will test nuclear rocket engine under extreme heat, cold and radiation encountered in space. Liquid hydrogen will be tested in facility below.

HYDROGEN HEAT TRANSFER FACILITY



Plum Brook Plan Gets Green Light

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the full committee's recommendation approving all of the Plum Brook funds next week, with passage of an authorization bill to follow.

NASA HAS ABOUT \$40 million invested in Plum Brook's atomic reactor and rocket research facilities now. The 1963 budget will nearly double that figure.

In addition, the space agency plans to spend nearly \$8 million here for operation expenses in fiscal 1963.

The "space tank" or space propulsion facility (see illustration) is the biggest item in the current expansion program.

THIS WILL BE a 100x350-foot building housing a tunnel-like vacuum chamber in which temperatures can be reduced to a minus 450 degrees. This will hold Plum Brook's second operating atomic reactor — a model small enough to power space ships.

NASA plans to modify the space tank eventually so that the atomic rocket engine can be subjected to extremes of both heat and cold at the same time.

Eventually, the facility will even be able to bombard its reactor with "solar radiation."

THE NEW TEST stand (illustrated) will fire rockets up to 60,000 pounds thrust. These will constitute the final stage of the massive "Apollo" moon vehicle. They will be used to slow the descent of America's first moon explorers toward the moon's surface, to boost them off the moon for the return trip and ease them back to a safe landing on earth.

Plum Brook does fire small rockets in its present test stand; these will be much larger.

But all the rockets fired will be firmly anchored to the ground.

THE HYDROGEN laboratory (illustrated) will test various methods of cooling rocket nozzles subjected to the intense heat of liquid hydrogen propulsion.

This facility was planned for Cleveland in NASA's 1962 budget, but shifted to Plum Brook partly because of the local station's "remote" location.

However, NASA says the building to house the lab will be "explosion proof."

MEANWHILE the Atomic Energy Commission has scheduled a public hearing May 22 on an application to operate the present Plum Brook reactor at full capacity.

The commission has stated that the reactor could operate without danger to the public at its full rated power level of 60,000 kilowatts.

So far, it has been tested at only 100 kilowatts.

The commission's final decision on the application by NASA will be based on the record of the hearing.

The commission said in an analysis of the Plum Brook facility that the nearest residence is approximately 3,200 feet from the reactor.

"THE AREA surrounding the facility is completely surrounded by dikes which impound surface drainage," the report said.

"A tornado is not expected to damage the reactor or contaminate the structure," it stated, and "if an earthquake should occur it is probable that the damage to the reactor would be negligible."

The report said, "The major hazard would result from release of radioactive gases into the atmosphere." It said the prevailing winds are from the south, southwest and west about 55 per cent of the time — "towards areas of high population density."

Deaths—Funerals

Henry A. Ahlers, Retired Brewmaster, Dies At 90

Henry A. Ahlers, 90, a retired brewmaster, died Thursday night in his home at 1335 Harrison St., after a lengthy illness.

Mr. Ahlers retired in 1948 after more than 60 years' service with the Cleveland and Sandusky Brewing Co. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church and Vacationland Aerie of Eagles.

Surviving are two sons, Arnold and Elmer and a daughter, Mrs. Gustave Hemmer, all Sandusky; eight grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, a great-great-granddaughter; two sisters, Mrs. Lena Lemke, Norwalk and Mrs. Louis Koch, Sandusky; a brother, Robert Stuewe, Orlando, Fla. and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Bertha, in 1951 and a son, Reinhold, in 1928.

Friends may call after 7 p.m. Saturday at Quick's Funeral Home, where services are to be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday, the Rev. Theodore Stelhorn Jr., officiating. Burial is to be in Oakland Cemetery.

MRS. HERMAN WOBSEY

Mrs. Nettie Jorgensen Wobsey, 80, died this morning in the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Casey, 623 Ogontz St., after a lengthy illness. Her home was at 112 W. Algonquin Trail, Bay View.

Mrs. Wobsey was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Venice, and its Women's Missionary Federation. Last July 4 she and her husband, Herman, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary.

Surviving besides her widower are three daughters, Mrs. Casey, Mrs. Wilbur Fish and Mrs. Willard Gadt, all Sandusky; a son, Clarence, Castalia; four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Lena Hocking, Oglesby, Ill. and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two sons and a

MEINRAD A. CECIL

Meinrad A. Cecil, 77, a native Sandusky, died Wednesday in his home at 4246 Root Road, North Olmsted, following a brief illness.

Mr. Cecil was a retired deputy collector for the Internal Revenue Service. He was a member of Clifton Lodge, F & AM; Thatcher RAM; Hollywood Commandery, Knights Templar; Lake Erie Consistory and Al Koran Shrine.

Surviving are his widow, the former Marguerite Clark; three brothers, Joseph, Otto and Linus and a sister, Mrs. Helen Freidel. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Leo and Edward.

Friends may call at the Mandley Funeral Home, 15480 Triskett Road at Lorain Avenue, Cleveland, where funeral services are to be held at 1 p.m. Saturday. The Rev. Alvin V. Ritts will officiate and burial is to be in Lakeview Cemetery.

MRS. NORA HECHT

Service for Mrs. Nora Hecht were held this afternoon in St. Paul Lutheran Church, the Rev. C. J. Mittermaier, officiating. Burial was in Oakland Cemetery with the Frey Funeral Home in charge.

Pallbearers were: Donald Jaffary, Ben Moore, Donald Alley, Edwin McCormick, Glenn Maus and Edward Browne.

MARCO J. TOFT

Services for Marco J. Toft were held this afternoon in the Andres Funeral Home, the Rev. Theodore Stelhorn Jr., officiating. Burial was in Oakland Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: John, James and Carl Toft, Robert and Russell Meisler and Oswin Hermes.

Aged Woman Starts Peace Corps Tempest

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these were discussed with her," he said. "One of them was that of all candidates for Brazil she had the lowest language facility."

Mrs. Fletcher told a different story—and she told it in a letter to her senator, John G. Tower, R-Tex. She said she was dropped because "the staff at the camp disliked me because I objected to the training. There could have been no other reason."

Adams said the Fletcher matter "is closed as far as we're concerned." But Tower demanded an investigation before the Senate votes on the corps \$63.75-million budget.

Mrs. Fletcher said younger Peace Corps volunteers at the Puerto Rico camp stayed up until the wee hours and did much drinking. She said she was "cursed and shoved beyond my strength" in a program that "would do justice to any army training."

Can't Imagine Cursing Shriver said he couldn't imagine

anyone in the training camp cursing the Texas schoolteacher. He said night discussion groups were allowed to drink beer, but there was no moral laxity.

He said Peace Corps selections are based on merit, not politics, race, religion or age. "We have said from the beginning that Peace Corps standards would be high," Shriver said. "They have to be and we don't intend to relax them because of political pressure."

Adams said Mrs. Fletcher was one of eight trainees dropped for various reasons from the Brazil-bound group.

"Every Peace Corps applicant is invited to training with the understanding that there will be no final selection for overseas assignment until it is over," he said.

He said three people over 60 successfully completed the training program in Puerto Rico without complaint and now are overseas.

WEATHER

Sandusky and vicinity: Clear and cool tonight, low 54. Saturday mostly sunny and warmer, high 84.

Islands, reefs and Sandusky Bay: West, southwest winds 12 to 18 knots tonight and Saturday with fair skies and cool weather tonight, fair and warmer on Saturday.

Sunset today 7:31. Sunrise Saturday 5:23, sunset 7:32 e.s.t. Barometer at 11:30 a.m. 29.45 at lake level and 30.13 at sea level, rising steadily. Temperature at 11:30 71, rising slowly. Low this morning 53 at 6 a.m., high Thursday 73 at 3 p.m. One year ago the high was 57, low 41. Record high for May 4, 89 in 1955; record low 34 in 1907 and 1954.

McElroy And DiSalle Slug It Out May 8

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On the Republican side, Robert Taft Jr., son of the late U.S. Sen. Robert A. Taft of Cincinnati, seems an almost sure winner over his only rival, State Sen. Thomas Lowell Fess of Yellow Springs, son of the late GOP U.S. Sen. Simeon D. Fess. Taft now is majority leader of the Ohio House.

Democrats have an 11-man sweepstakes going for their party's nomination for the Congress at-large spot. There is no solid favorite. DiSalle has said he intends to vote for John J. Gilligan, Cincinnati city councilman. However, Alan F. Reeves of Cleveland, a former aide to U.S. Sen. Stephen M. Young has