

Probe For Moon Study Unveiled Here Friday

A compact instrument package, designed to help analyze the chemical composition of the moon's surface by remote, automatic means, was unveiled here Friday.

James E. Webb, chief administrator for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, was on hand to view the first public showing of the prototype instrument package being developed here under grants from NASA and the Atomic Energy Commission.

Webb, principal speaker at the Century Study Convocation Friday, toured the Nuclear Science Center and the Activation Analysis Research Laboratories during his visit.

He was accompanied by Cong.

Olin E. Teague (D-Tex.) of College Station, a member of the House Committee of Science and Astronautics, Gen. A. R. Lueddecke, general manager of the AEC, also viewed the instrument.

THE PROTOTYPE instrument package is being developed here under grants of \$84,000 from NASA and \$125,000 from the AEC for research directed by Dr. Richard Wainerdi, head of the A&M A.A.R.L.

The research is aimed at showing the feasibility of analyzing the elemental composition of the moon, work that promises to make an important contribution to an eventual manned flight to the moon, Wainerdi said.

In addition to the research work here, exploratory work is also being conducted at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, Livermore, Calif. The A&M-developed instrument is being considered by NASA for a moon-shot probe.

Goal of the moon probe research project is to ultimately expose a few square feet of the moon's surface to a stream of neutrons.

After neutron bombardment, each element in the exposed area would immediately give off rays characteristic of that element in its radioactive state.

DETECTORS, SENT to the moon with the neutron source, would collect data and relay it by radio to waiting scientists on earth. An analysis of the data would then give an accurate picture of the chemical make-up of the sample area.

The research here has involved use of A&M's nuclear reactor and the Data Processing Center by the A.A.R.L.

Looking like an out-sized "bug" of aluminum and wire, the prototype was mounted over a large barrel of sand.

The detector first scans an area approximately two centimeters by one centimeter to determine if there is any existing radioactivity. Then it automatically flips over to the other end to the neutron source, which sprays the surface with neutrons for a pre-determined length of time.

Rotating back again, the detector detects the gamma rays that each element in the exposed area gives off, giving characteristic clues of their chemical composition.

Rudder Calls Friday Session 'Great Day In Our History'

President Earl Rudder Tuesday cited the continuing messages of congratulations from over the nation as he called the Century Study convocation "one of the great days in our institution's history."

"I am deeply grateful to all who had a part, large or small, in last Friday's program," he said. "I wish to join the Board of Directors in its expression of appreciation."

Rudder noted the "long and tiring hours" which went into the planning and execution of convocation activities.

"The program was well planned and effectively presented," the president continued. "All segments of the college family worked loyally and efficiently under the able leadership of the convocation

committee. Those who produced the Century Study report and the resulting challenge of excellence from the college were significantly and warmly recognized."

Thousands gathered at the convocation to take a look at the future through the "Blueprint for Progress" from the Board of Directors.

"I am confident that all friends of A&M will continue their fine support in reaching the college goals set forth at the historic convocation," Rudder said. "We are especially proud of the manner in which residents of College Station and Bryan rallied behind the college in making the convocation a success. I know we can count on them to help as we strive for excellence at A&M."



Saw Solved Problems
Small chain saws like this one were beneficial in all areas of bonfire work over the weekend. Here junior Jim Meyer trims a log before it is added to the ever-growing stack. The saws were provided by Timberland Saw Co. in Marshall.

Annual Dairy Short Course Scheduled Here Next Week

Texas dairymen and others interested in the state's multi-million dollar dairy industry will attend the annual Dairyman's Short Course in the Memorial Student Center Nov. 29-30.

A. M. Meekma, an extension dairy specialist, said short course speakers will discuss a variety of subjects which are of vital importance to the Texas dairy industry.

Dr. Veal R. Smith, head of the Department of Dairy Science at the University of Arizona, will present late information on practical milking practices and reproductive management in his two appearances on the fast-moving day and a half meeting.

from Erath County, Larry Stewart and Miss Nova Wood, will speak on the value of records for profitable dairying.

"It Pays to Advertise" will be discussed by J. M. Frye, advertising manager for a large Fort Worth department store.

Other program speakers will be members of the A&M teaching research and extension staffs, Meekma said.

The main banquet speaker will be Dr. I. W. Rupel, head of the Department of Dairy Science, who will discuss "A Dairyman's Impression of a 'Round-the-World Trip.'"

Three Texas dairymen, J. Fred Davis, Haslet; S. R. Donaho Jr., Floresville; and Bobby J. Traweck, Dublin, will appear on the program as a panel to discuss dairy management pointers.

Two 4-H Club dairy members

from Erath County, Larry Stewart and Miss Nova Wood, will speak on the value of records for profitable dairying.

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Rupel is president of the American Dairy Science Association and after attending the International Dairy Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark, he and Mrs. Rupel continued on their world circling trip. The banquet will be held on the evening of Nov. 29.

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