

Vertical takeoff planes called significant advance

Vertical and short takeoff and landing capabilities represent as significant an advance for both civil and military aviation as did the introduction of the jet engine, a Marine Corps general declared Monday.

"In considering the fundamental advantages which V-STOL offers," said Maj. Gen. Homer S. Hill, "it seems incredible that this capability has not already been achieved in a large number of applications."

As the Marine Corps' deputy chief of staff for air, General Hill heads a project to incorporate a versatile and high-speed

V-STOL aircraft into the Corps' close air support concept.

The project centers around the British-made Harrier, which the Marine Corps will put into experimental service early next year.

Hill, a 1940 A&M graduate, discussed the unique plane and the V-STOL concept at a meeting jointly sponsored by the A&M Chapter of the American Society for Engineering Education and College of Engineering Lecture Series.

The general said a Harrier recently beat an F-4, the world's fastest military jet fighter, in

getting a person from downtown London to downtown New York. The Harrier took off and landed from helicopter pads in the heart of each city, while the supersonic F-4 had to utilize conventional outlying airfields.

The single-seat light attack aircraft is powered by a Rolls Royce Bristol Pegasus fan-jet engine and capable of operating at near the speed of sound. It accelerates to conventional wing-borne flight within 15 seconds following vertical takeoff.

"The introduction of Harrier will constitute a major step forward in military aviation," General Hill emphasized.

"No longer will we be burdened with the complete dependence on construction of large and costly runways and base developments and support," he added.

Hill, who will himself participate in Harrier test flights, said the aircraft can operate off any ship with a landing deck and can be employed ashore in the immediate vicinity of the ground units which it will support.

Hill predicted V-STOL aircraft have a great future in commercial operations. He said such aircraft can greatly reduce current air traffic congestion.

He noted, however, that too little is being done in construction of V-STOL aircraft.

Campus Briefs

Psychology seminar to be presented

An educational psychology seminar by A&M doctoral student Billie M. Trail of College Station will be presented Thursday in the departmental series.

Trail's topic will be "Criminal Psychopathic Versus Criminal Non-Psychopathic Scores on Porteus Maze Tests," announced Dr. Arthur J. Roach, educational psychology head.

The presentation will be at 3:30 p.m. in Room 326 of the Academic Building.

A&M veterinarians to present programs

Two A&M veterinarians will present programs to professional organizations this week.

Dr. E. Dean Gage, assistant professor of veterinary medicine and surgery, will address the 53rd annual meeting of the Southern Veterinary Medical Association in Mobile, Ala., Sunday through Friday.

His topic is "Head Trauma, Hydrocephalus Surgery and Spinal Trauma in the Dog."

Dr. George W. Klontz, associate professor of veterinary microbiology, will be in San Marcos all week conducting a short course on diseases of hatchery raised fishes for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department personnel.

Hastings to speak on internal organs

Dr. Frank W. Hastings, chief of the Artificial Heart Program, National Heart and Lung Institute, Bethesda, Md., will give a faculty lecture on artificial internal organs here Tuesday.

Sponsored jointly by the Colleges of Engineering and Veterinary Medicine, the program begins at noon in Room 316, Veterinary Medical Science Building.

Dr. Hastings' topic is "Problems and Prospects of Medical Device Development."

The program is open to all interested faculty members.

Halloween exhibits to be shown

Halloween starts Wednesday evening at A&M when approximately 60 student exhibits go on display in the Architecture Building lobby.

Asst. Prof. Rodney Hill said the general public is invited to

see the unique Halloween creations from 7 to 10 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday.

Hill, who is coordinating the show, said the exhibits were designed by College of Architecture and Environmental Design students as class projects.

The exhibits range from fancy jack-o-lanterns to special light shows, Hill said.

A&M to host Texas' highway short course

A&M will host the 44th annual Highway Short Course Nov. 17-19.

The meeting, jointly sponsored by the Texas Highway Department and A&M's Texas Transportation Institute and Civil Engineering Department, will include 12 technical sessions dealing with highway design, construction, maintenance and related activities.

TTI Director Jack Keese, short course general chairman, said the meeting will open with remarks by Ford D. Albritton Jr. of Bryan, member of the A&M University System Board of Directors, and Dewitt C. Greer of Austin, Texas Highway Commission chairman.

Keynote speaker will be Executive Vice President A. R. Leudecke.

Finance club to visit bank

The A&M Finance Association, a new student group, will make its fall field trip to the Federal Reserve Bank in Dallas, Nov. 6, Mike Kearney, president, has announced.

The field trip will include a presentation on current U. S. monetary policy, a film, and a tour of the bank.

Any finance major wishing to attend must sign up in the Finance Department office, room 156 of Francis Hall, by 5 p.m. Nov. 3.

All students attending will have an excused absence from all Friday classes, Kearney said.

FOR BEST RESULTS TRY BATTALION CLASSIFIED

Grad record system being applied here

A&M has designed an automated graduate student record system which is being studied for possible use at several other institutions throughout the nation.

Dr. George W. Kunze, A&M graduate dean, said the new computerized technique — first of its type in the nation — has helped solve a major administrative problem. The program has attracted the attention of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States.

"The American system of graduate education boasts of tailored programs of study designed to meet the objectives and needs of the individual student," Dean Kunze observed. "This is generally conceded to be a strong and desirable feature of the graduate programs in American universities, but it results in a monumental record-keeping chore for one or more offices of the university."

"The size, complexity and cost of present-day graduate programs require an expeditious and economical means for maintaining rapidly retrievable records from the admission of the student to his graduation," the dean said.

He added that such a record-keeping system is necessary for effective program management at all levels in the university and for the preparation and implementation of plans for graduate education.

Nearly 3,200 of A&M's 14,406 students are studying on the graduate level, giving the university one of the highest graduate student ratios in the Southwest.

A&M's automated graduate student record system makes maximum use of record systems previously in existence, Dean Kunze emphasized.

An essential ingredient for such a system, he added, is automated student registration for enrollment in classes each semester.

A&M initiated an automated registration system last spring. The system utilizes a computerized process of gathering student requests for courses and producing a class schedule for each student.

Both the automated graduate student record system and the automated registration system utilize the university's IBM 360/65 computer.

"In designing the automated graduate student record system," Dr. Kunze explained, "consideration was given to the specific information needs of the graduate student, his major professor, his department head, his academic dean, as well as to the needs of the Graduate College."

Capabilities of the system include an accurate record of the applicants for admission and their credentials, periodic reports on the academic progress of all active students, enrollment and course load data, financial assistance awarded students and exception reports which call attention to existing or potential irregularities.

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