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FOURTH U.S. MAN IN ORBIT

The flights by Major L. Gordon Cooper, Jr., and other American astronauts are a natural outgrowth of man's curiosity about the world. Each year since World War II man has reached higher into the heavens, first with small instrumented rockets, then with complex satellites, and since 1961 with manned missions. Space scientists perform basic research which is transformed into complicated mechanisms by engineers and technicians. The U.S. Government cooperates with industry and educational institutions in launching and tracking spacecraft that automatically radio much scientific data to ground stations. This information is needed to plan and conduct manned flights. Projects Gemini and Apollo will extend these early missions, until Americans land on the moon before the end of this decade.

The instruments and devices of a Tiros weather satellite are shown in this drawing. Tiros data were used by forecasters in preparation for Major Gordon Cooper's flight. Pictures taken by the television camera are sent to ground stations for distribution to weather-forecasting stations in many nations. The solar cells help to convert the sun's rays into electrical power.

(Photo No. 63-476. Accompanies packet F-63-1, "Fourth U.S. Man in Orbit.")

en español véase el 61-86

*Recommended by
Mr Krell*

