



TIROS III PHOTOGRAPHS THUNDERSTORMS IN GULF OF MEXICO — This photo, taken from an altitude of about 460 miles (740 kilometers) by a camera aboard the Tiros III weather observation satellite, shows a line of thunderstorms (irregular white area) extending west of the Florida peninsula into the Gulf of Mexico. The picture was made July 14, during the satellite's 13rd orbit of the earth.

Tiros III, a 285-pound (130-kilogram) drum-shaped space package equipped with two wide-angle television cameras and additional infrared cameras, was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida July 12. Tiros I and II, both of which were launched in 1960 and are still in orbit and transmitting, have also sent back many useful photographs of the earth's cloud cover. One of the special missions for the newest Tiros is to photograph areas where hurricanes and other tropical storms are born.

(Note: Photo should be viewed with Florida peninsula at upper right.)

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SCIENCE — PRINCIPAL SATELLITE TIROS