

EARTH VIEWS FROM ORBITING MERCURY CAPSULE

These views of earth were made by a 70mm camera aboard the unmanned Mercury space capsule during its 109-minute orbital flight September 13. The camera was pointed out of one of the two glass portholes in the vehicle to gain some idea of what an astronaut will see when he rides into orbit. Launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, the capsule attained an apogee of 158 miles (254 km) and top speed of 17,519 mph (26,767 kph). It landed in the Atlantic Ocean near Bermuda Island, within 10 miles of its predicted impact area. These pictures were made when the capsule was approximately 100 miles (160 kilometers) above the earth.

COAST OF MOROCCO — View looking northwest shows the west coast of Morocco (up center of picture) and Atlantic Ocean (upper left). The white area is a large coastal cloud bank. (61-12025)
(Picture should be viewed with sky at upper right.)



SCIENCE - HIST ROMANTICS: PROJECT MERCURY