



MAR. 2. 1961

SELECTED ASTRONAUTS — These three Astronauts have been selected for intensive training in preparation for the first space rides inside the Project Mercury capsule in the U.S. man-in-space program. They are, from left: Alan B. Shepard Jr., Virgil I. Grissom and John H. Glenn Jr. A Redstone rocket is scheduled to be used in these early "sub-orbital" ballistic flights from Cape Canaveral, Florida. The other four Astronauts are continuing their training for the later orbital flights in which an Atlas booster will be used as the launching vehicle.

In announcing the selection for the Redstone program, Robert Gilruth, director of Project Mercury, said that the men would begin "concentrated training immediately with the spacecraft programmed for the initial flight and with the personnel who will be involved in the launch, tracking and recovery program. The specific pilot who will make each flight will be named just before the flight.

"I would like to emphasize," he added, "that all seven of the Mercury pilots are eligible for selection for later ballistic and orbital flights."

Shepard, 37, is a commander in the U.S. Navy; Grissom, 35, is a captain in the U.S. Air Force, and Glenn, 39, is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps. (61-146)



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