

CASA 14



DISCOVERER CAPSULE AT WHITE HOUSE -- President Eisenhower examines the Discoverer XIII instrument capsule, first man-made object known to have been recovered from outer space. With Mr. Eisenhower at the White House in Washington are Gen. Thomas D. White (center), U.S. Air Force chief of staff, and Col. Charles G. Mathison, who directed the capsule recovery team. In foreground is the parachute which slowed the descent of the device after it re-entered the atmosphere. Discoverer XIII was launched into a polar orbit from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California on August 10. The capsule was released as the satellite was over Alaska on the 17th orbit. It was spotted by U.S. Air Force search planes as it descended and was retrieved from the ocean by a U.S. Navy frogman some 300 miles (480 kilometers) northwest of the Hawaiian Islands. It had been in orbit approximately 27 hours; the descent from orbit to the ocean surface took seven minutes. The capsule is being placed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, where many of the United States technical and scientific "firsts" are on view. (50-14923) CASA 14

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