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GO CLASSIFIED

Skepticism on Moon Shot; Said 'Hogging' the Budget

The busiest propagandists sounding off at luncheon meetings across the country these days are officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

It comes about in this way last summer President Kennedy announced a sort of low-grade crash program to land a man on the moon. The pur-

pose, of course, was to beat the Russians. This program was to cover, theoretically, 10 years, and Mr. Kennedy put the bill at \$20 billion. But he will leave office in six years, and can hardly say what the job will cost. Most Americans, observing the discrepancy between first estimates and final cost of government projects like

dams, would put the moon down for at least \$40 billion, and some sniffling ones would even call this an underestimate.

It is assumed by some military men that if the Russians can lodge a man on the moon first, they can dominate the earth by nuclear threat. But others note that already the

Russians can lob bombs into the United States, and vice versa, and many experts doubt there is any military value in reaching the moon first.

But Mr. Kennedy has spoken, and that is enough for the Space agency men. Besides, money means power and glory, and news manipulation can focus the latter on the

agency, and not on the humble scientists who do the work. Yet the agency men find considerable skepticism in the Congress, particularly about the lunar Project Apollo.

Typical is Chet Holifield, chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. Mr. Holifield

is sour on the moon, and thinks Apollo is hogging the field (it is reported to be absorbing 70 per cent of current space funds). The agency, which is spending \$3.7 billion this year, now proposes a \$5.7 billion budget, which would mean more moon money.

Provided you can get \$5.7 billion. In their spels the agency men have two pitches first that the space program is already "balanced," and second that civilian technology lays the groundwork for military technology. The idea is the Congress is less inclined to cut anything with military application.

Holifield and others doubt there is much "balance" in the program in view of Apollo's priority. Some want the allocations changed; for instance, more money for research and testing for nuclear-powered rockets.

In the public mind, Apollo is a prestige proposition. The question floating about the country slightly hush-hush but still audible, is: How prestigious can you get, and at what cost in money and common sense?

(Distributed by Chronicle Features)

SCOUT TRAILS

Cub Pack 906-C

Dens Two and Three dramatized the creation of the American flag at the meeting of Cub Pack 906-C Friday night at Seaside School. The audience participated in the singing of "America" as a finale. Special recognition was awarded Orin Walker Jr., who has served two years as a den chief for the cubs.

Other awards were: New bobcats—William Barnett, Michael Sinonek.

Service stars — Charles Gerhart, Mark Scott, Steve Burks, Vincent Vartanian.

BADGE AND ARROWS—Jim Weber, lion, gold and silver arrow; Vincent Vartanian, wolf, gold and silver arrow; Steven Makarzyk, bear; Paul Burks, wolf; Dana Marks, wolf.

ARROWS — Scott Spangenburg, gold arrow; Randy Elmer, gold arrow; Gary Saunders, gold arrow.

DENNER STRIPE — Rodger Marumoto.

ASSISTANT DENNER — Kevin Aiken, John Baxter.

WEBELOS — Randy Elmer, Kevin Aiken, Steve Burks.

THE FOLLOWING cubs received the Arrow of Light, the only award a boy may continue to wear on his uniform after he becomes a Boy Scout: Charles Gerhart, Mark Scott, Jim Weber, Kenny Steidley, Charles Rennie, David Winters, Ed Vrana, Alan Wightman.

Dens Two and Three received a letter of thanks from the Salvation Army in Redondo Beach for their Christmas contribution of food and toys.

Cub Pack 951-C

Cub Scout Pack 951 presented a check for \$104 to Chuck LaMoy, representative of Pack 82-C, at the pack's Jan. 11 meeting. Pack 82-C is composed of blind children and the money will be used to buy Braille Cub Scout books.

In keeping with the monthly theme of "Freedom" Bruce Johnston read the Gettysburg Address as the other boys held signs showing famous Civil War battles. Den mothers, Mrs. Donald Johnston and Mrs. Benjamin Hatfield led Den 1 in the above skit.

Awards presented were: Wolf badge—Denzel Martindale, Biff Mogor, Gregory Pase.

Bear badge — Michael Hatfield.

Lion badge—James Hatfield, Webelos den badge — James Hatfield.

Arrow points — Biff Mogor, Mike Hatfield, Mark Meltzer, James Hatfield and James Puls.

Bob Tracy, committee chairman, announced the pack would sponsor an outing to the Pro Bowl game.

Slates Picnic

The Kansas State Society of Long Beach will hold its Kansas Admission Day picnic Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bixby Park, Broadway and Cherry avenues, Long Beach.

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SLICED BROADBILL SWORD-FISH **69¢ lb.**

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FULL SHANK HALF SKINNED HAMS

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