SOVIET FIRES EARTH SATELLITE INTO SPACE; IT IS CIRCLING THE GLOBE AT 18,000 M. P. H.; SPHERE TRACKED IN 4 CROSSINGS OVER U. S.

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By WALLACE SULLIVAN

The New York Times Staff Correspondent

The Soviet Union has launched a satellite, a great world event.

The Soviet government announced today that it had successfully launched a satellite, which it called a "space laboratory," into orbit around the Earth.

The satellite, which was named Sputnik, began circling the Earth at a speed of about 18,000 miles per hour.

The United Nations was notified of the launch, and Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold said it was a "tragedy for humankind." He said the United Nations would take action to prevent further tests of the kind.

The Soviet Union announced that the satellite would be used for "peaceful purposes," and said it would be placed in a "neutral" orbit.

The U.S. government announced that it would launch a satellite of its own, to compete with Sputnik, and that it would be used for "scientific purposes." The U.S. government also announced that it would send a message to the Soviet Union requesting cooperation in a "peaceful" use of space.

The International Geophysical Year, which begins today, is expected to be a focus of attention.

The International Geophysical Year is a worldwide scientific project, which is expected to involve scientists from many countries.

The Soviet Union has already sent messages to scientists around the world, inviting them to participate in the International Geophysical Year.

The United States, Canada, and Mexico have already accepted the invitation, and are expected to send scientists to study the effects of the launch on the atmosphere.

The Soviet Union has already sent up several smaller satellites, which were used to study the Earth's atmosphere.

The Soviet Union has also sent up a rocket, which was used to study the Earth's magnetic field.

The United States has sent up several rockets, which were used to study the Earth's atmosphere and magnetic field.

The International Geophysical Year is expected to be a time of great scientific cooperation, and is expected to bring about a "new era" in space exploration.

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SATELLITE FLIGHT IS STEP INTO SPACE

Soviet Project Appears to Go Beyond Plans Made by U. S. Scientists

By ROBERT W. FLINT

In a bold, sometimes almost grandiose, but always masterful and methodical, way the Russians stripped the thin veil of mystery they had draped over their satellite venture. They announced it had been launched and then had it fly over the United States. They did it in the way they went to space, in the way they went to the moon.

The announcement itself was not a surprise. The scientists and engineers who were on hand to watch and record the events knew the moment of release. But the way it was done, the manner of the announcement, is what had the world talking.

The satellite was a triumph of science and engineering. It was a triumph of courage, of daring, of risk. It was a triumph of the human spirit, of the human will, of the human imagination.

The satellite was a symbol of the potential of mankind, of the power of the human mind, of the strength of the human spirit. It was a symbol of the future, of the possibilities of the future.

The satellite was a symbol of the past, of the progress of the past, of the achievements of the past.

The satellite was a symbol of the present, of the challenges of the present, of the opportunities of the present.

The satellite was a symbol of the future, of the dreams of the future, of the possibilities of the future.

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