

Biggest Red Rocket Yet Is Paraded

Launching of Space Station Toward Moon Revealed

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The Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW, May 9—The largest Soviet rocket ever shown in public and the first Soviet rockets reportedly powered by solid fuels were paraded through Red Square today.

But although these rockets were revealed, to mark the 20th anniversary of victory over Hitler Germany, they were not rattled in the speeches of the leaders.

After the parade, Russia announced her latest space feat—the launching of an automatic space station toward the moon.

Tough Threats Lacking

Defense Minister Rodion Malinovsky, in the address of the day, roundly scored American foreign policy but neither mentioned the new Soviet missiles nor made any hard threats. The American Ambassador stayed away.

[In an anniversary statement made public by Tass, the Soviet Union called for “all nuclear powers solemnly to announce to all the world their renunciation of the use of nuclear weapons,” the Associated Press reported.

[The message called for a halt of “U.S. aggression in Viet-Nam” and appealed for general and complete disarmament, the closing of all military bases on foreign soil and reductions in military budgets.]

Five New Weapons

Five previously unparaded weapons were shown to the Soviet leadership massed on Lenin's Tomb to a rim of spectators and to a national television audience.

Qualified western observ-

ers were respectful but not surprised. Space shots, missile tests and intelligence usually supply better information on the Soviet military than Red Square parades and much of what rolls by for the first time has been in use for up to four years.

So it was with today's 110-foot three-stage intercontinental rocket, 32 feet bigger than the longest previously shown. Tass said it was “similar to” those which have orbited the cosmonauts since 1961.

Power Not Revealed

The Tass wording left unclear whether it was powered by solid fuel. Solid-fueled missiles, unlike liquid-fueled ones, can be fired instantly from underground silos and stored indefinitely. They are cheaper, simpler and more reliable.

The American land-based Minuteman and sub-launched

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Picture on Page A6.

Russians launch instrument-loaded rocket toward moon. Page A6.

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Huge Rocket Paraded in Red Square

Polaris are operational and solid-fueled. With a force still largely liquid-fueled, the Russians are heading towards an operational solid-fueled force, according to specialists.

Tass stated clearly that a newly displayed 60-foot strategic rocket was solid-fueled and like the big one, it had three lattice-joined stages and was tractor-hauled.

The seams and access doors on both were like features for

the “plumbing” of liquid-fueled American rockets, but informed sources assumed nonetheless that the solid-fuel claim was accurate.

Self-Propelled Missile

A 40-foot self-propelled missile also supposedly solid-fueled zipped by. It had not been seen before and was barely seen today since it was hidden in a green pod.

Tass said the Soviet missiles were “unparalleled.” Of the anti-missile missiles viewed it said, “no offensive weapons can overcome this protective barrage.”

A “new” antitank vehicle appeared with six stubby rockets instead of the old four, and 20 “new” 3-year-old medium tanks also sped across Red Square.

Leaders Atop Tomb

The victory celebration began as the political leaders mounted Lenin's mausoleum. The marshals, all with the silhouette of Otto Coglson's Little King, stood one level below. Among them was the freshly rehoned Georgi Zhukov.

Marshal Malinovsky trooped the line in an open, blue convertible and a band of perhaps 1000 men played.

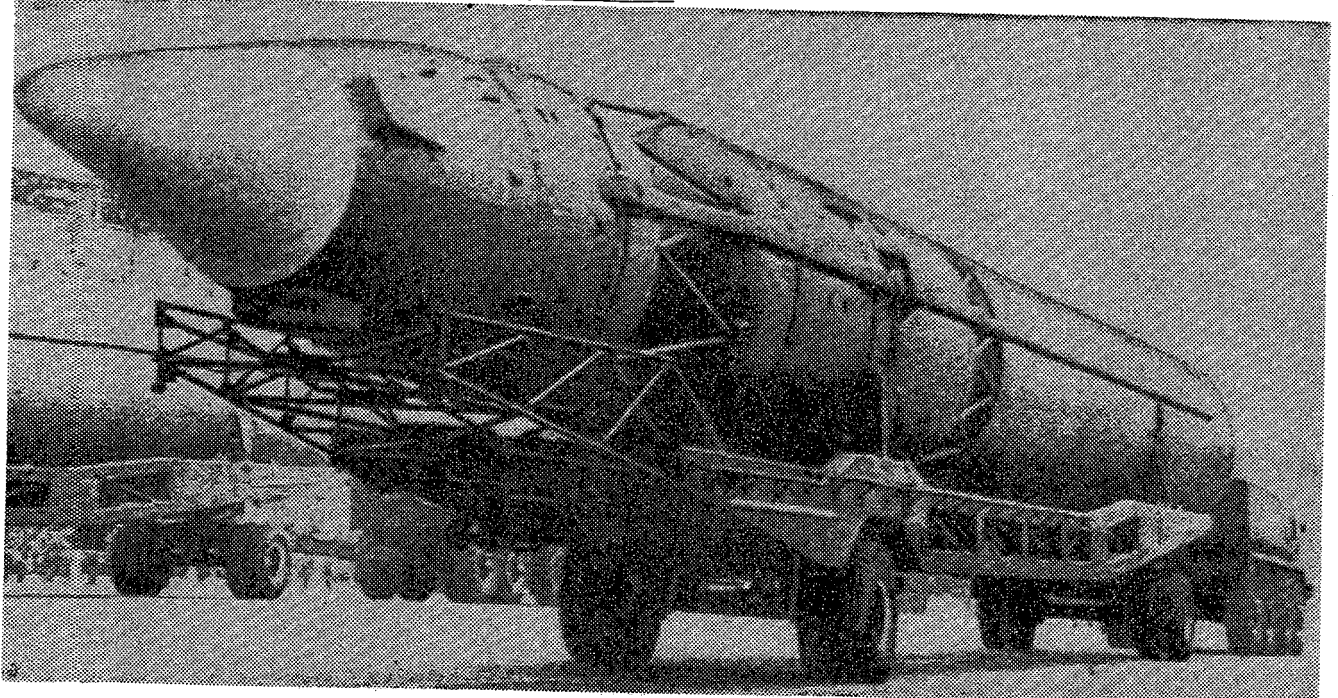
In a prideful, brief speech, Malinovsky said that the United States was “threatening mankind with war” and committing “most evil crimes” in Viet-Nam. He declared that the Red army with its socialist allies could deal “a crushing blow to any aggressor.” Observers found this mild for Malinovsky.

Diplomats Not Invited

U.S. Ambassador Foy Kohler was absent. Diplomats were not “invited” to the parade, they were sent passes; it is awkward for a diplomat to walk out on an event to which he has not been “invited”.

Embassy sources would not say why Kohler boycotted the parade, but apparently he figured that the situation would not have allowed the appropriate response to an anti-American speech.

Among NATO members, only the envoys of France, Iceland and Turkey attended the parade and only Kohler and the German Ambassador boycotted the Kremlin reception which followed it.



A new intercontinental ballistic missile, believed to be of the type that launched the Voskhod and Vostok space-

Photo and basic caption material from Tass Photo via UPI
crafts, is trucked through Red Square in Moscow's Victory Day celebrations conducted there yesterday.