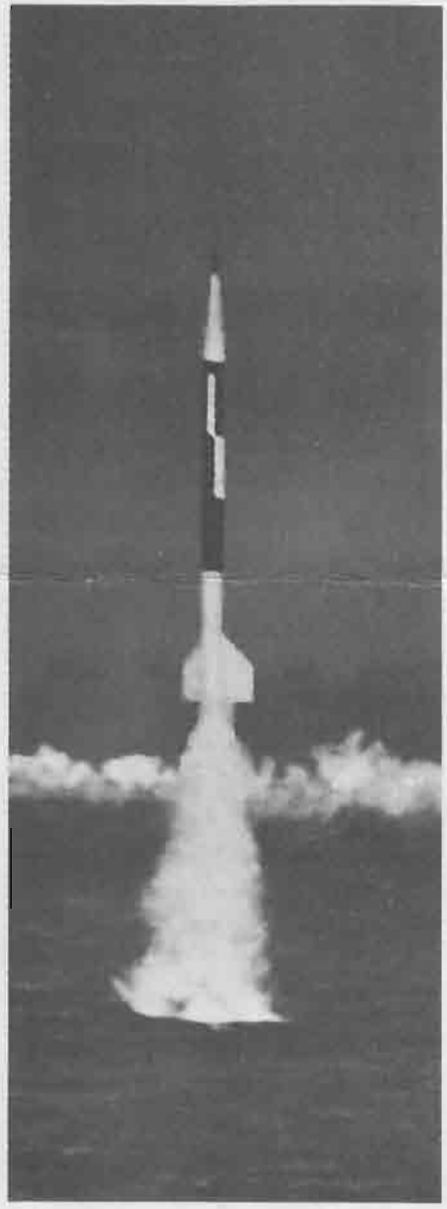


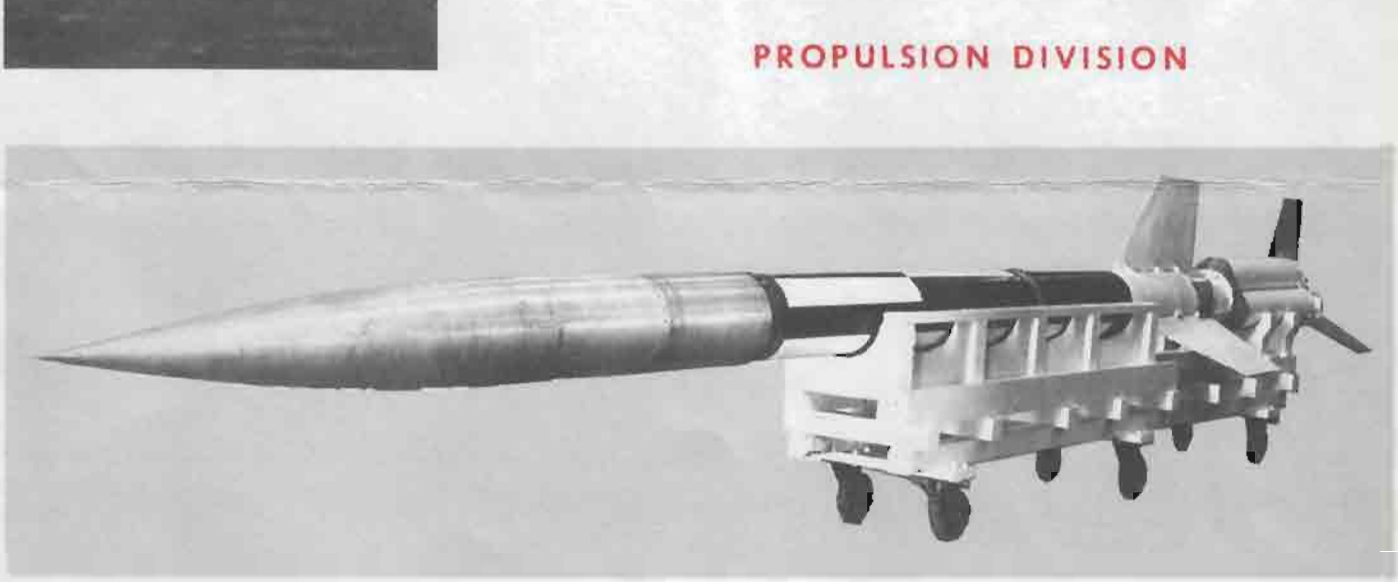
The IRIS® vehicle development program was originally sponsored by the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory and later transferred to the Goddard Space Flight Center, NASA. The vehicle configuration included four fins and a seven-rocket cluster for launch boost. The program was completed in May 1962 with four full-scale flights from the 150-foot launch tower at NASA's Wallops Island Station.

Concurrent with the latter part of the original program, the Cambridge Research Laboratory, U. S. Air Force, authorized a change of the design to a three-fin configuration and procured a number of production vehicles.

The Naval Missile Center then selected the three-fin IRIS vehicle to fulfill a high-altitude scientific mission sponsored by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, University of California Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, Livermore. Launch was accomplished by the hydra-launch technique, in which the vehicle and the short rail launcher are floating, totally submerged, at time of launch. The shorter rail necessitated an increase in booster thrust, which was provided by a cluster of three Sparrow missile rocket motors. Two test and evaluation vehicle flights proved this launch technique and vehicle configuration to be feasible. Six vehicles with scientific payloads have been flown.

ATLANTIC RESEARCH

PROPULSION DIVISION



For further information, contact: Sales Manager, Sounding Rocket Vehicles, Propulsion Division
Atlantic Research Corporation, Shirley Highway at Edsall Road, Alexandria, Va. 22314
Telephone 703-354-3400 TWX 710-832-9828 Overseas Cable ATRECO

©ATLANTIC RESEARCH CORPORATION, 1967
PRINTED IN U.S.A.