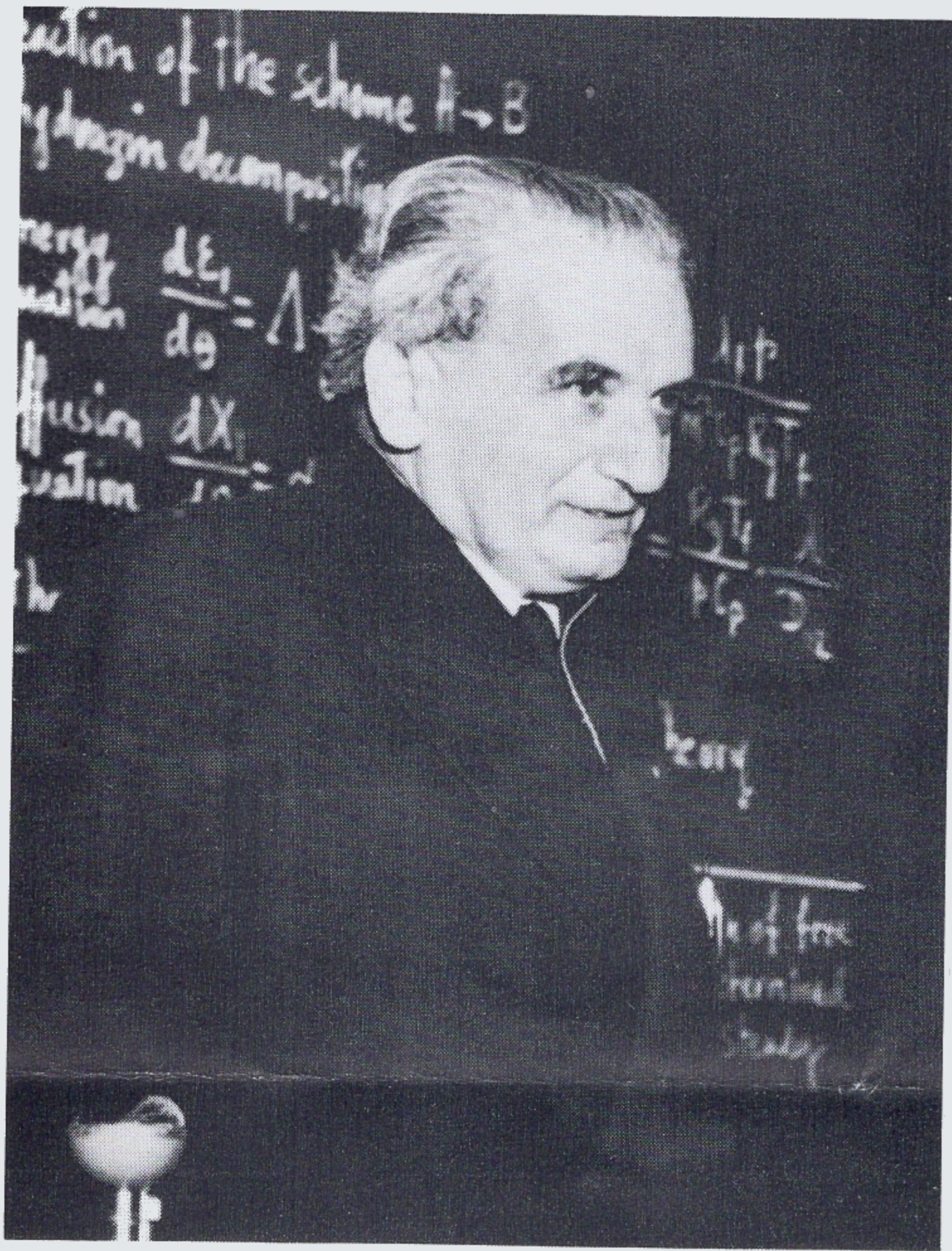


25th Anniversary Edition
Aerojet-General
BOOSTER

MARCH 1967



Dr. Theodore von Karman
1881-1963

25 years of DYNAMIC GROWTH

Twenty-five years — a quarter of a century — is only a microscopic bit of the recorded history of our world, but it has seen a truly remarkable surge of technical achievements by our country.

Only a few people envisioned 25 years ago what the world might be like today. One group of the visionaries felt it could contribute radically new ideas to the technological change, and formed a company to do something positive with the ideas.

Dr. Theodore von Karman and a few associates from the California Institute of Technology organized Aerojet Engineering Corporation on March 20, 1942, principally to produce rocket motors (called JATO) to boost heavily laden World War II aircraft off short runways and carrier decks.

From that start, their company (now known as Aerojet-General) has diversified into many technological fields ranging from national defense to nucleonics to electronics to automation to water purification to satellites. From a handful of employees in a former fruit juice factory, Aerojet has grown to more than 20,000 employees in 14 modern plants.

Shortly after the firm's founding, the technical genius of Dr. von Karman's group was augmented by the financial backing and business acumen of The General Tire & Rubber Co., providing the necessary combination of ingredients for growth.

Aerojet is a testimonial to Dr. von Karman and his conviction that advanced technology should be applied in many diverse areas. Since his death in 1963, his guidance has continued through the large number of his former students and associates now directing the company.



Aerojet's entire work force posed in front of the first plant (left) in Pasadena, California in 1942... now the company's far-flung activities are directed from a modern, four-story corporate headquarters building in El Monte, California.

ROCKETS FOR CIVILIAN USE

General Tire and Rubber Reports Market for Them

The General Tire and Rubber Company expects to make production of rockets at Pasadena and Azusa, Calif., for civilian use, William F. O'Neil, re-elected president of the company, said yesterday at the annual meeting of the company's stockholders. He said research in California had demonstrated that there are "many uses for the rocket in peacetime, just as ultimately there will be many uses for the power now used only in the atomic bomb."

New York TIMES, April 6, 1946.

Rocket Engineers Set Up Company

Jet propulsion experts file incorporation papers in California.

State corporation records of California recently filed by the new Aerojet Engineering Corp. of Pasadena, show some of the nation's leading jet propulsion experts on the board of directors.

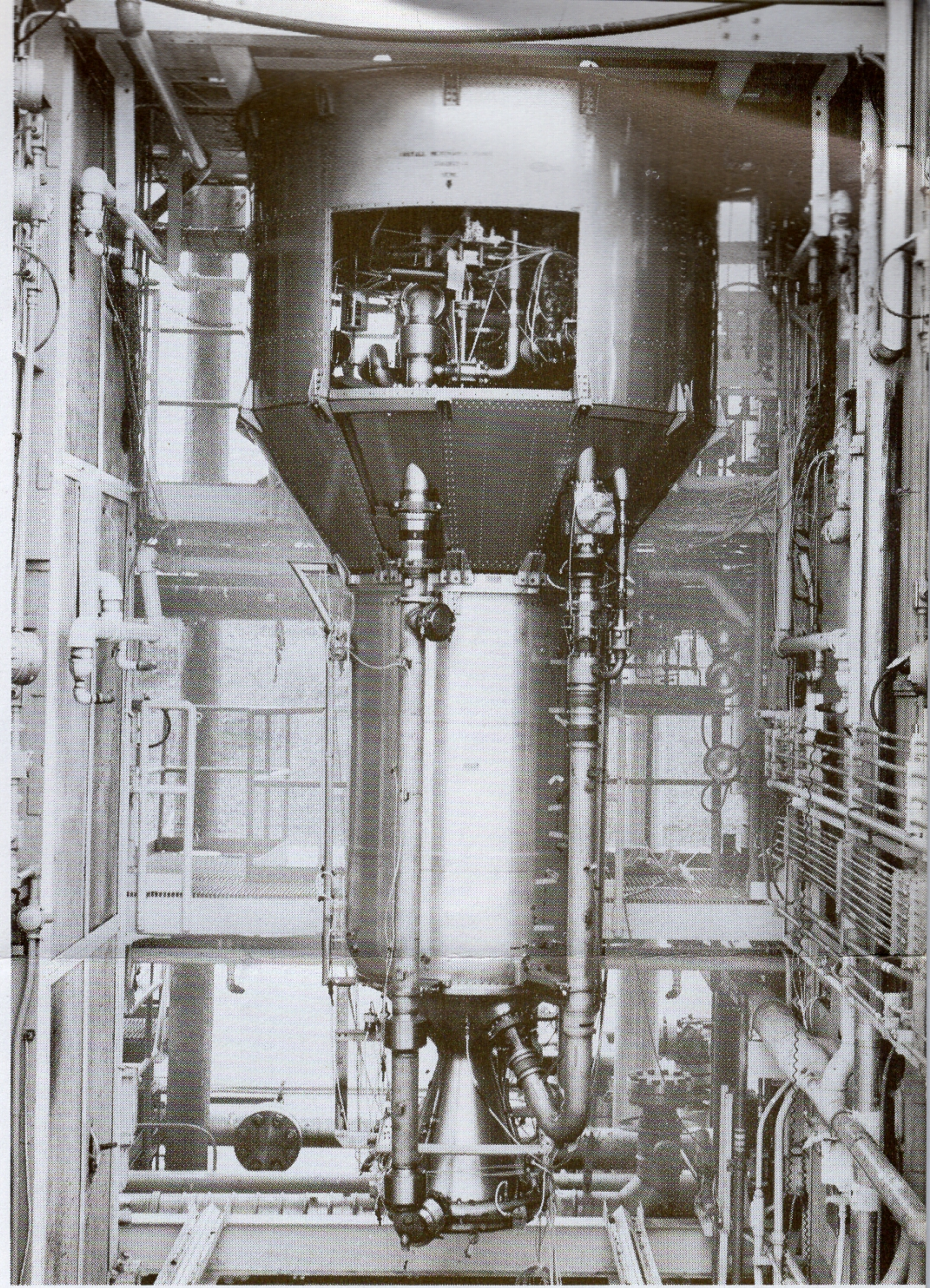
► Rocket Genius—

past decade, and Dr. Theodore von Karman, Cal. Tech.'s internationally famous director of aeronautics, heads the list of directors.

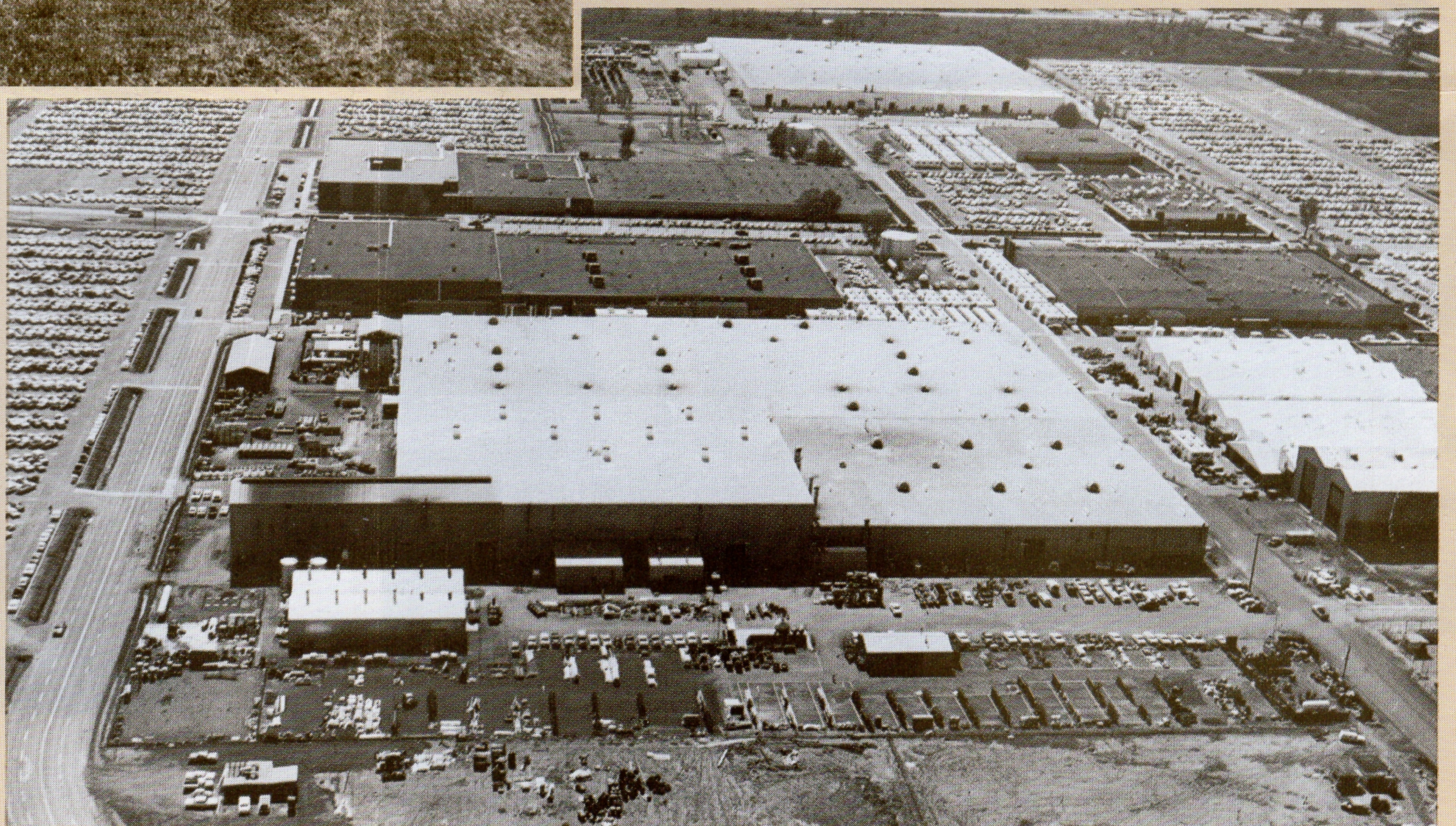
AERONAUTICS circa April 1942

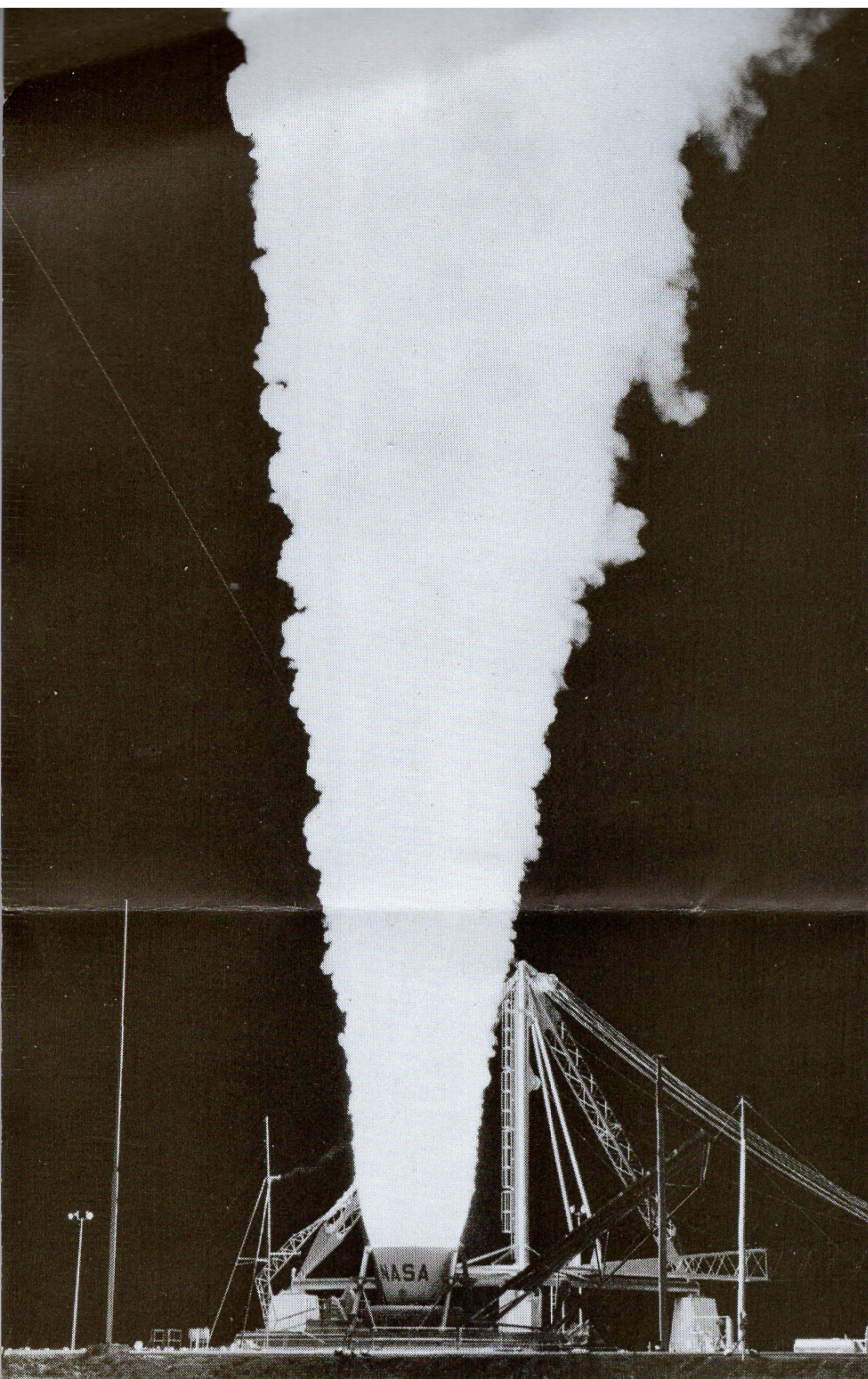


JATO rockets of 1942 were very basic devices; today's nuclear rocket engine (right) embodies many technologies then undreamed of.



Sheep grazed peacefully on land acquired for a new plant near Sacramento in 1950 (left). Today the 26,000-acre complex is the free world's largest rocket production facility.





Huge solid rocket motor, world's most powerful, a far cry from early rockets.

Twenty years ago Aerojet pioneered use of television for monitoring rocket test firings at close range.



25 years of ROCKETRY ACHIEVEMENT

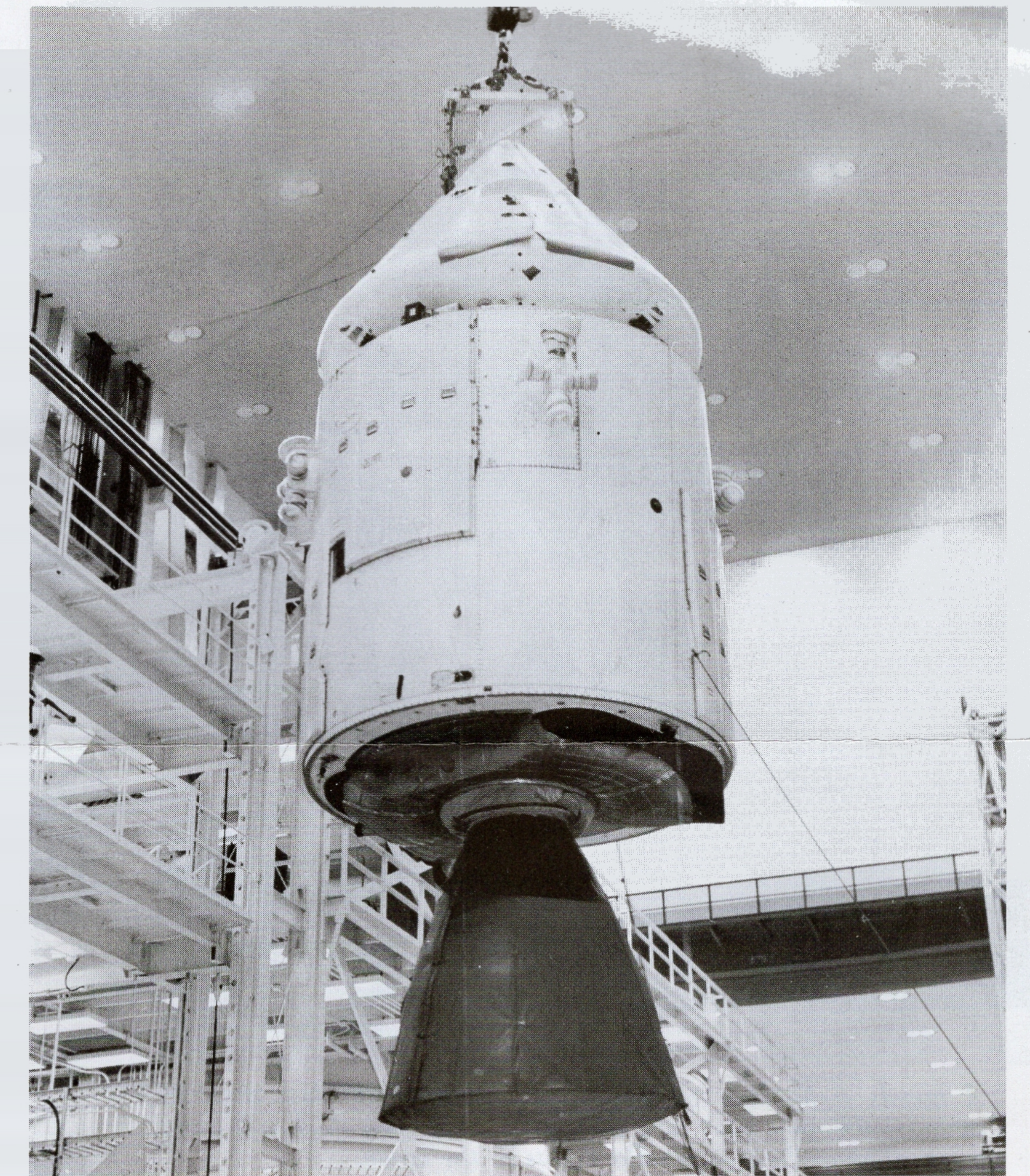
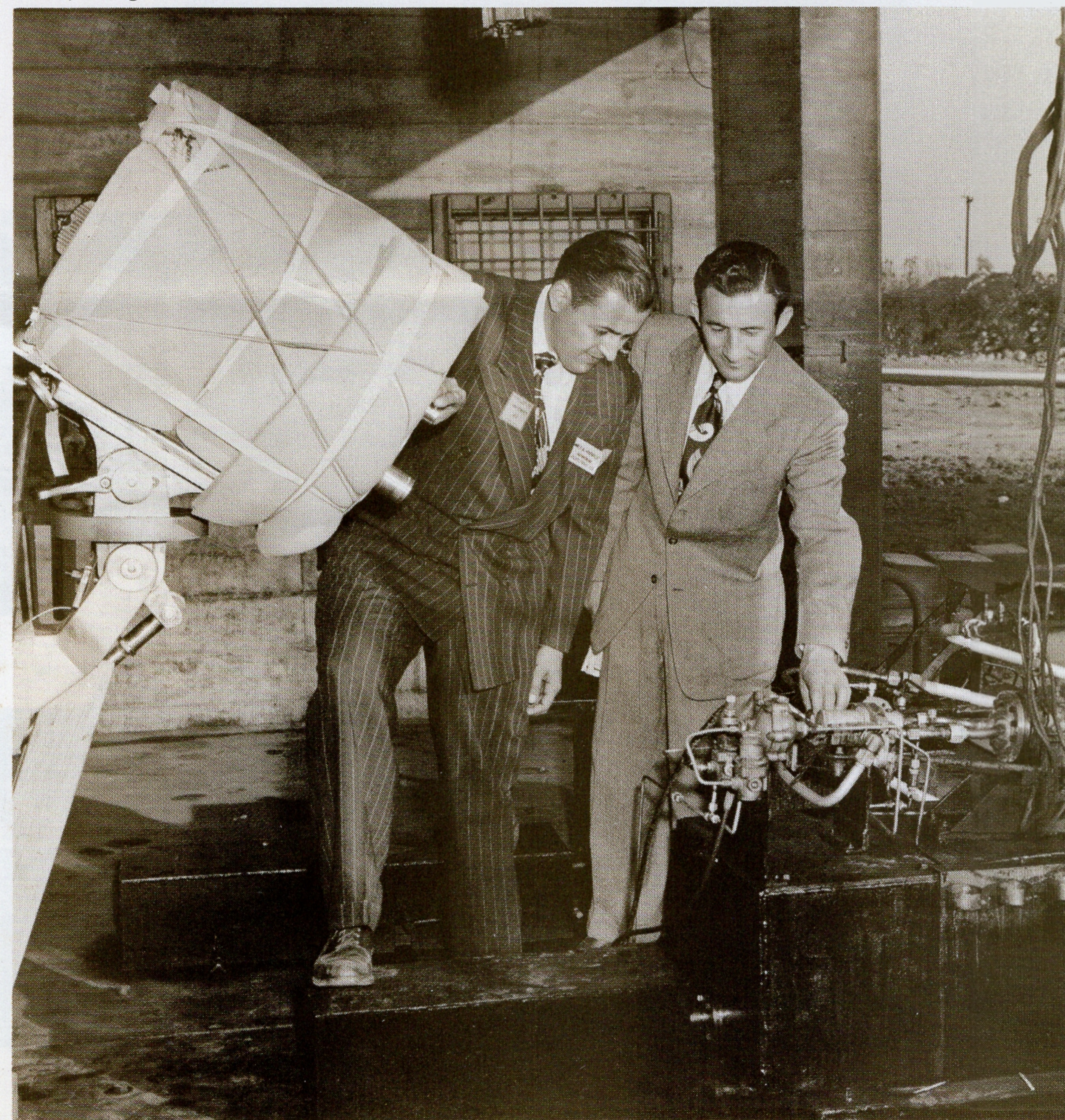
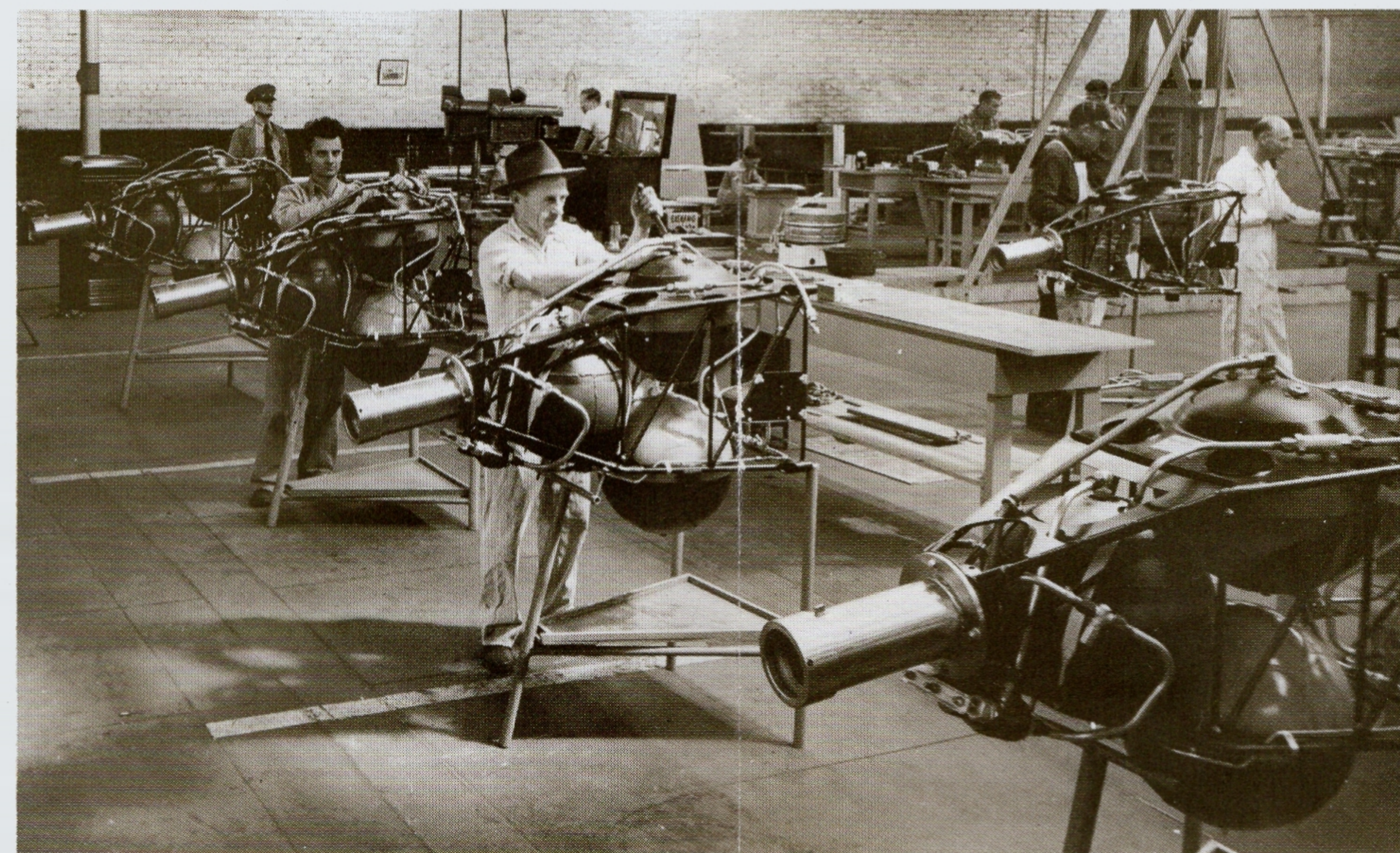
The simple equipment of 1943 — and the occasional blithe disregard of personal safety (above) — soon gave way to advanced facilities and modern, efficient procedures. A young, dynamic company in an exciting field, Aerojet attracted top scientists and engineers to conduct work on defense and space missile programs following World War II.

Rocket propulsion for 25 years has been the mainstream of business. As developer and builder of propulsion systems for missiles such as Titan, Minuteman and Polaris, Aerojet is

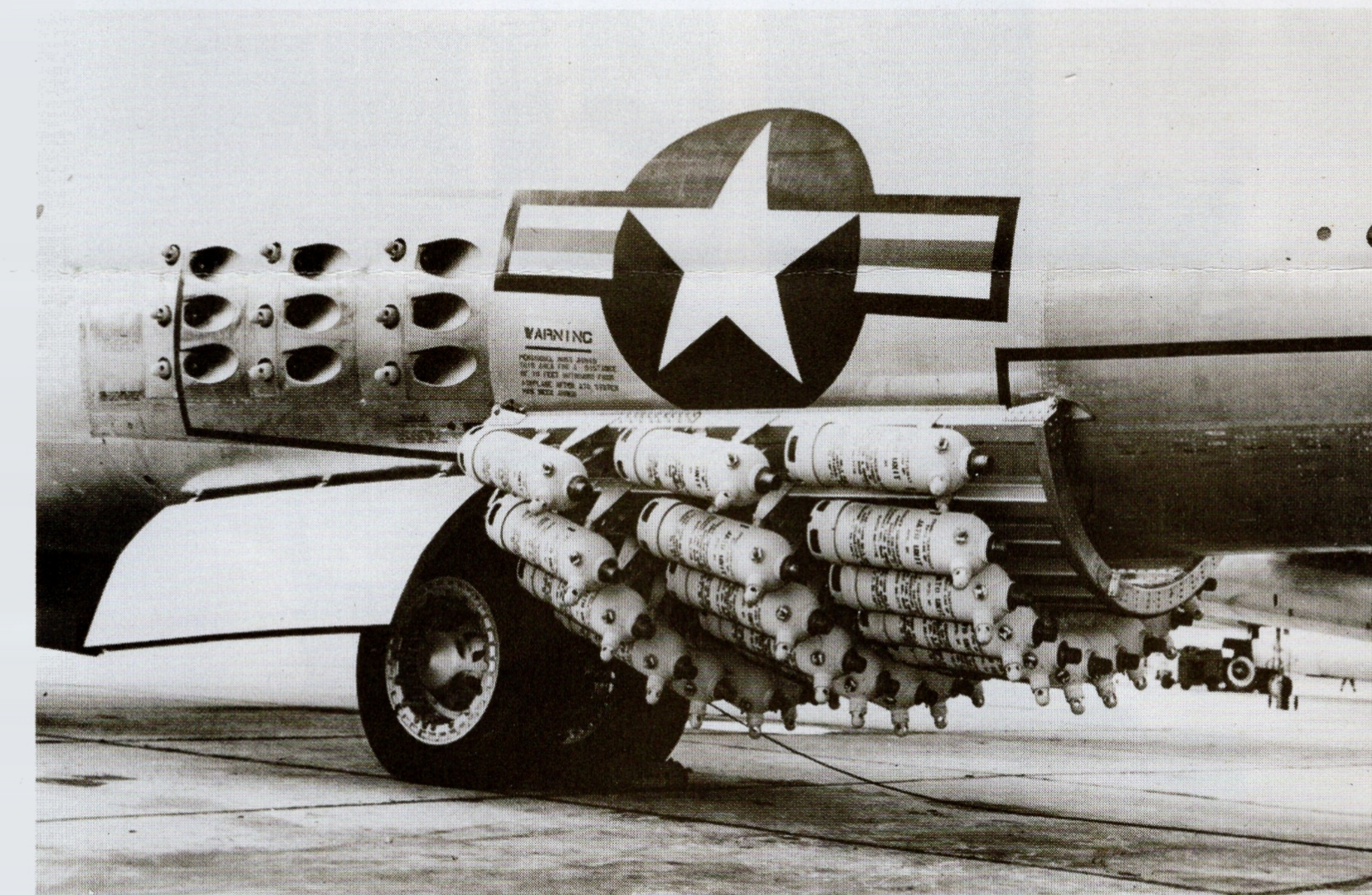
an acknowledged leader in the field. From its beginning, the company has made rocket engines using both liquid fuel and solid fuel; more recently, it was selected to develop this nation's only nuclear rocket, NERVA.

Completion of the Gemini program in 1966 was a source of major pride to all Aerojet employees, who contributed the engines which boosted the astronauts into orbit. Manned space flight continues with Aerojet providing the powerful spacecraft engine for the Apollo manned moon program.

Liquid propellant JATO rocket engines were in production in 1943.



Modern rocket technologies are embodied in this engine, designed to take Apollo astronauts to the moon and return them to earth.



For a 1952 test, a bristling array of JATOs was racked beneath an Air Force B-47 bomber; 18 more (nine on a side) were mounted in the fuselage.



The years of DIVERSIFICATION

While maintaining leadership in rocket propulsion, Aerojet vigorously extends its activities into other areas.

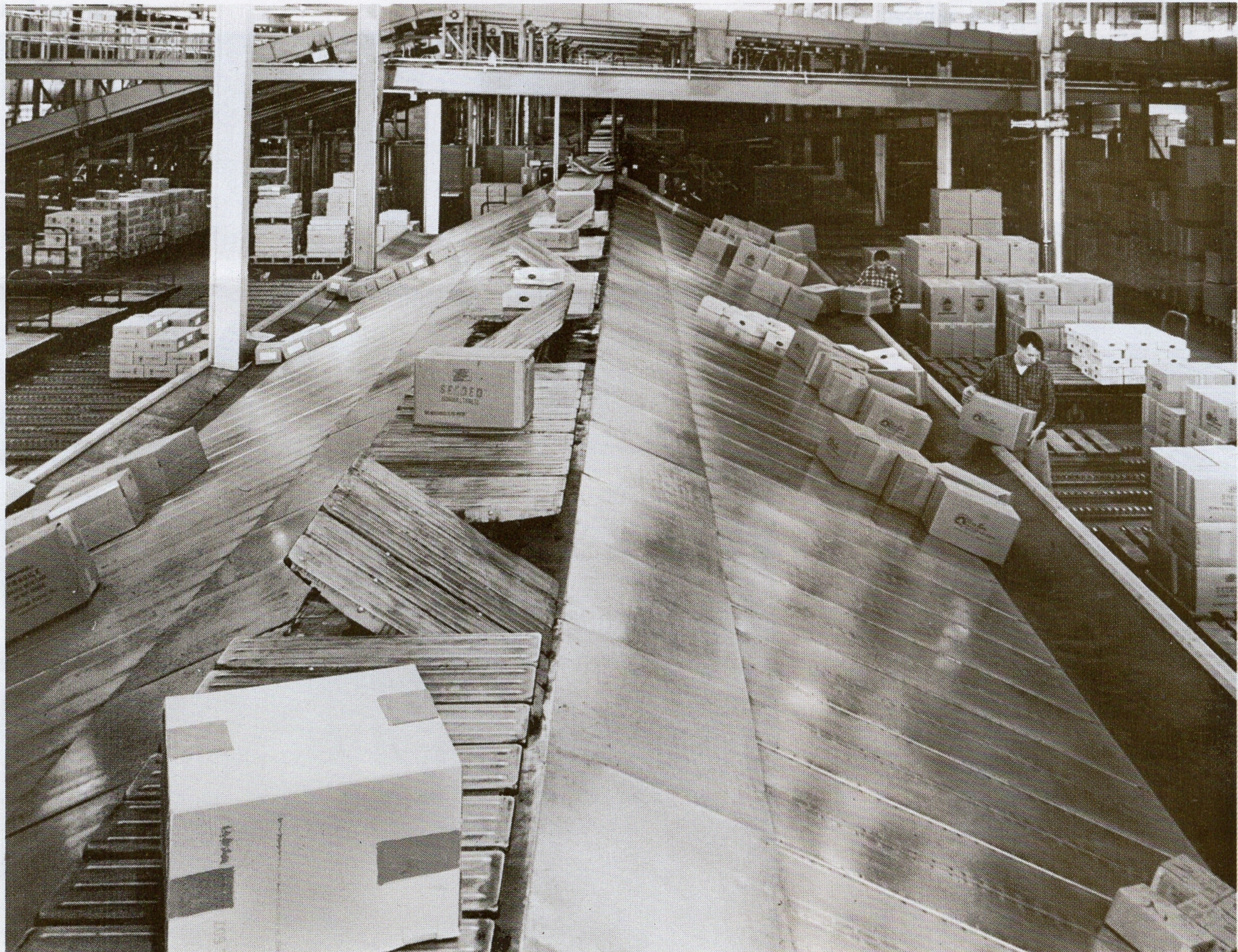
Complex technologies are utilized to develop and produce new hardware and equipment for the continuing improvement of the life of modern man and the struggle to maintain peace.

But there is more than development of hardware. Systems engineering techniques help combat problems such as environmental pollution control, crime, delinquency and welfare. A new subsidiary was formed near the riot area of Watts to provide employment for local residents.

In the next 25 years, Aerojet anticipates taking even broader avenues to make use of its increasing technical capabilities.

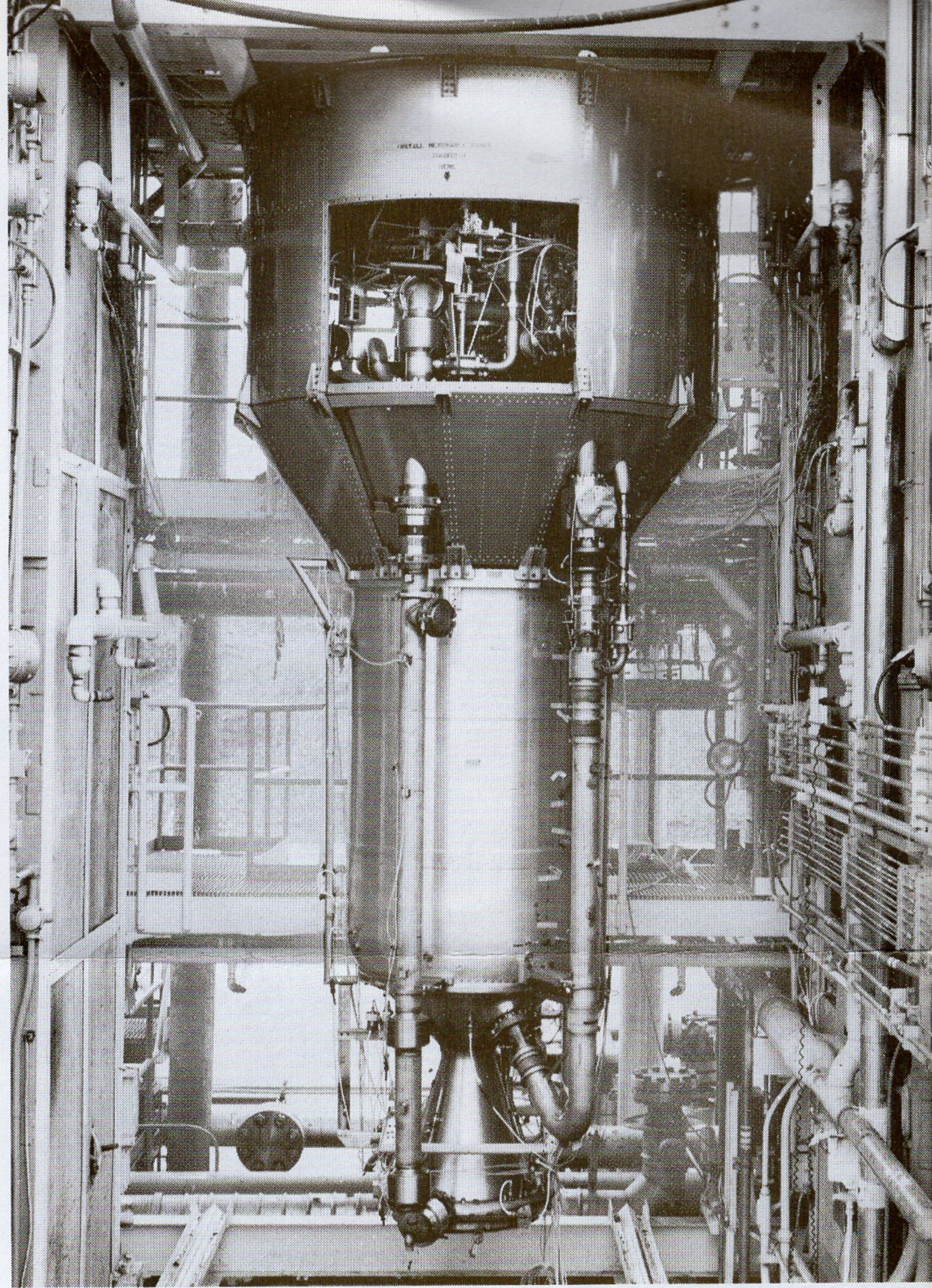
A metals technology challenge met: lightweight (less than 75 pounds) titanium alloy tank with walls 0.035-inch thick will carry a ton of propellant on Apollo flights to the moon.

This tilting slat conveyor, part of a computerized, automated materials handling system, moves packages swiftly and economically into and out of a huge warehouse.

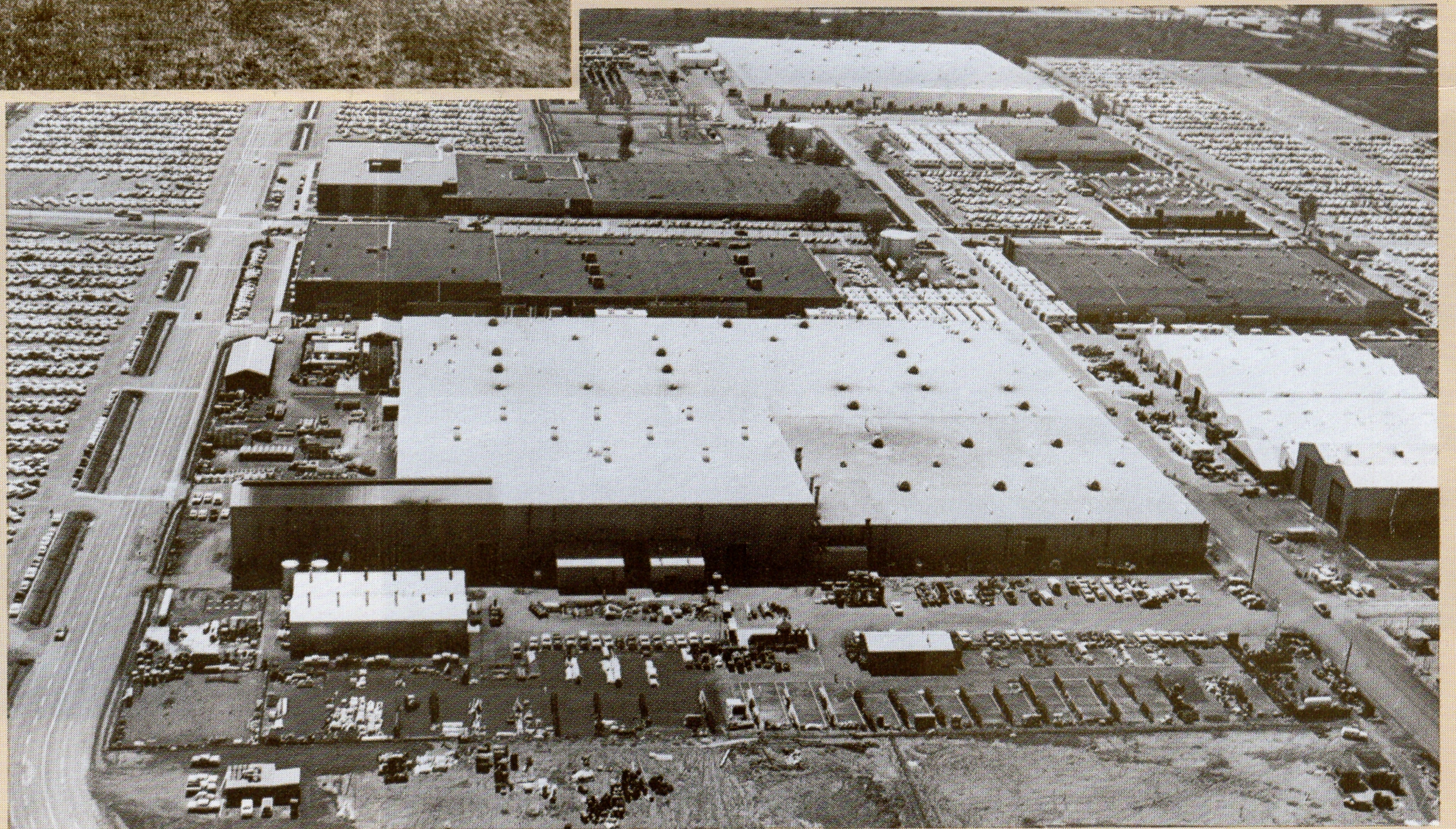


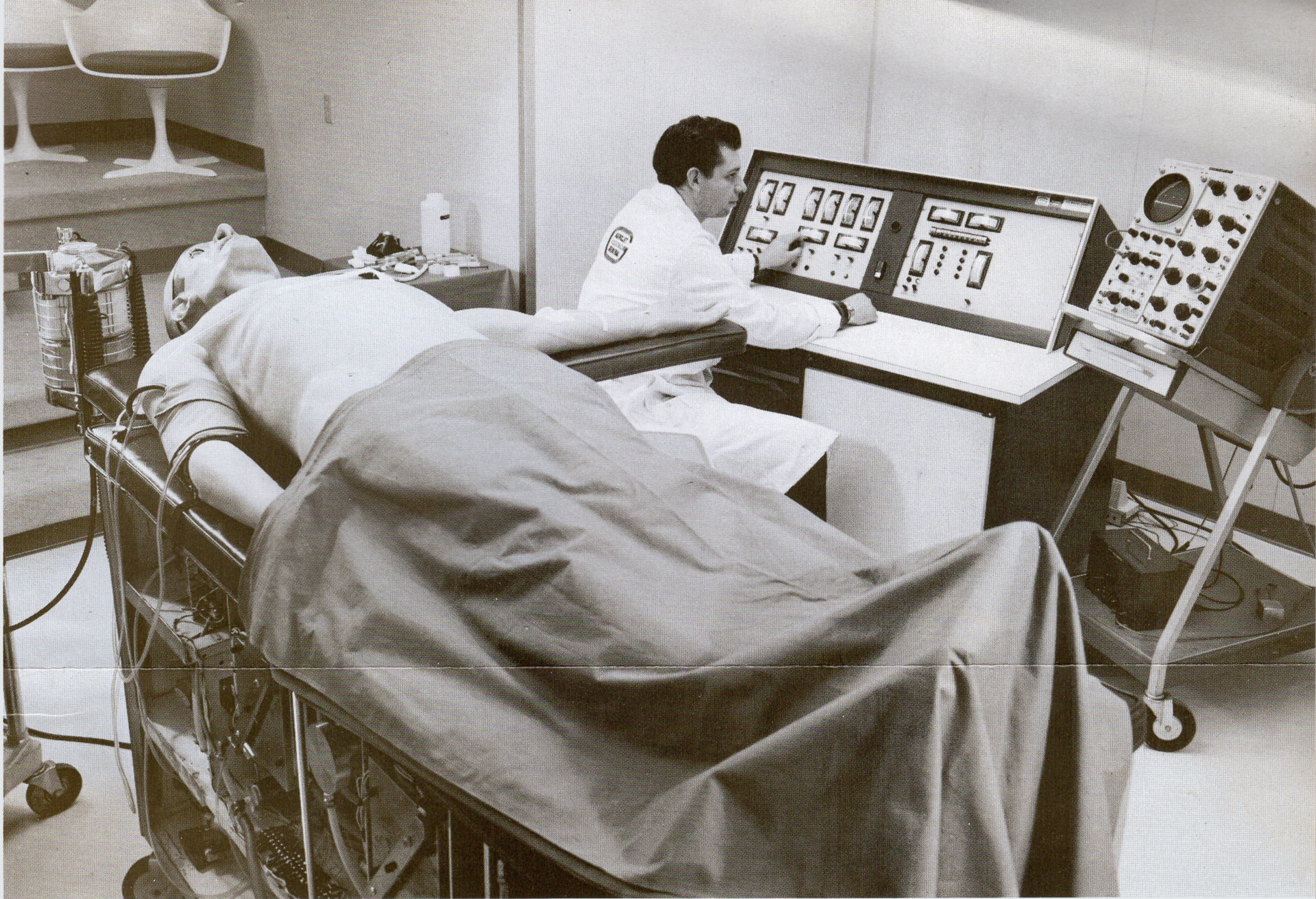


JATO rockets of 1942 were very basic devices; today's nuclear rocket engine (right) embodies many technologies then undreamed of.

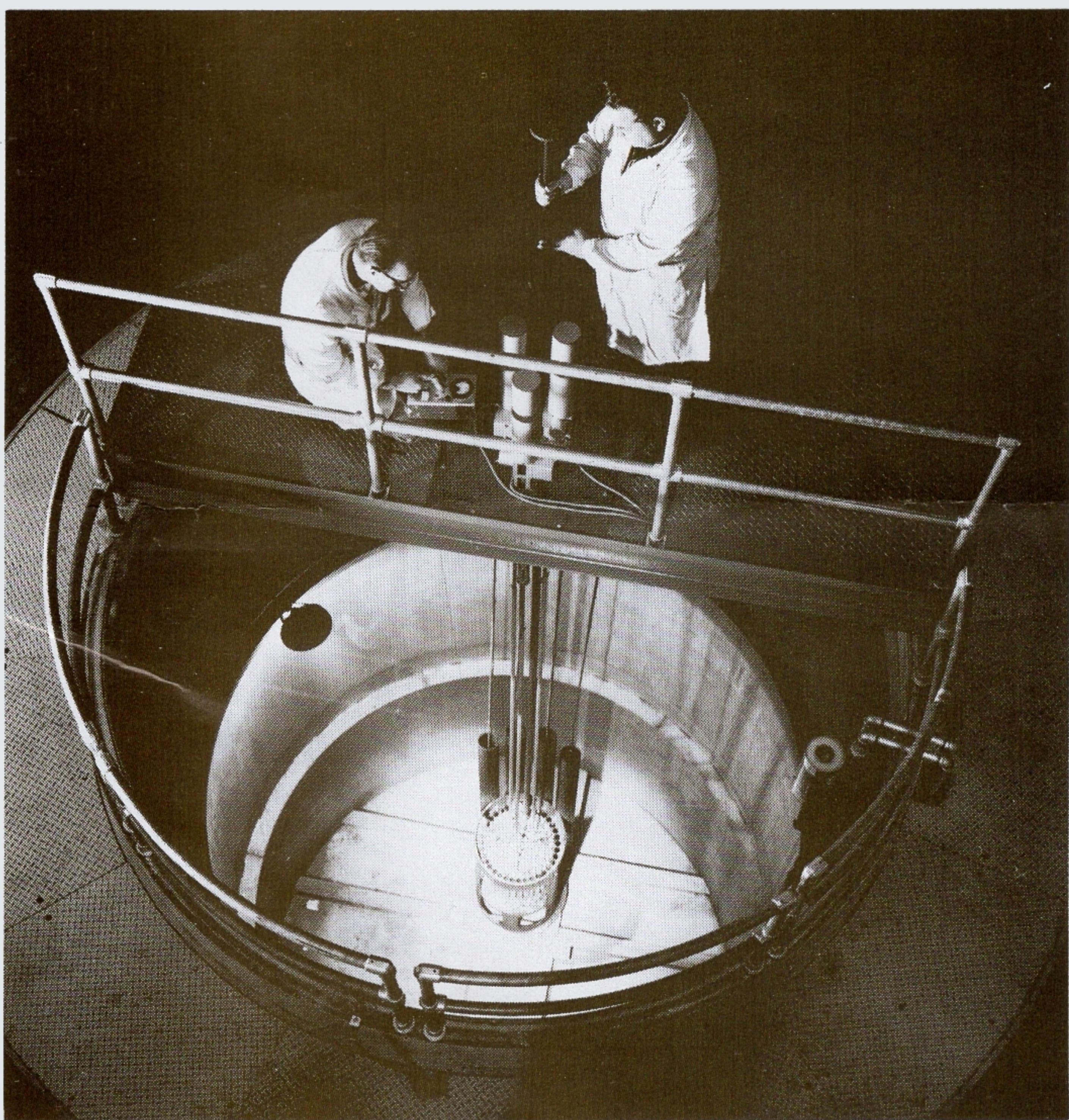


Sheep grazed peacefully on land acquired for a new plant near Sacramento in 1950 (left). Today the 26,000-acre complex is the free world's largest rocket production facility.

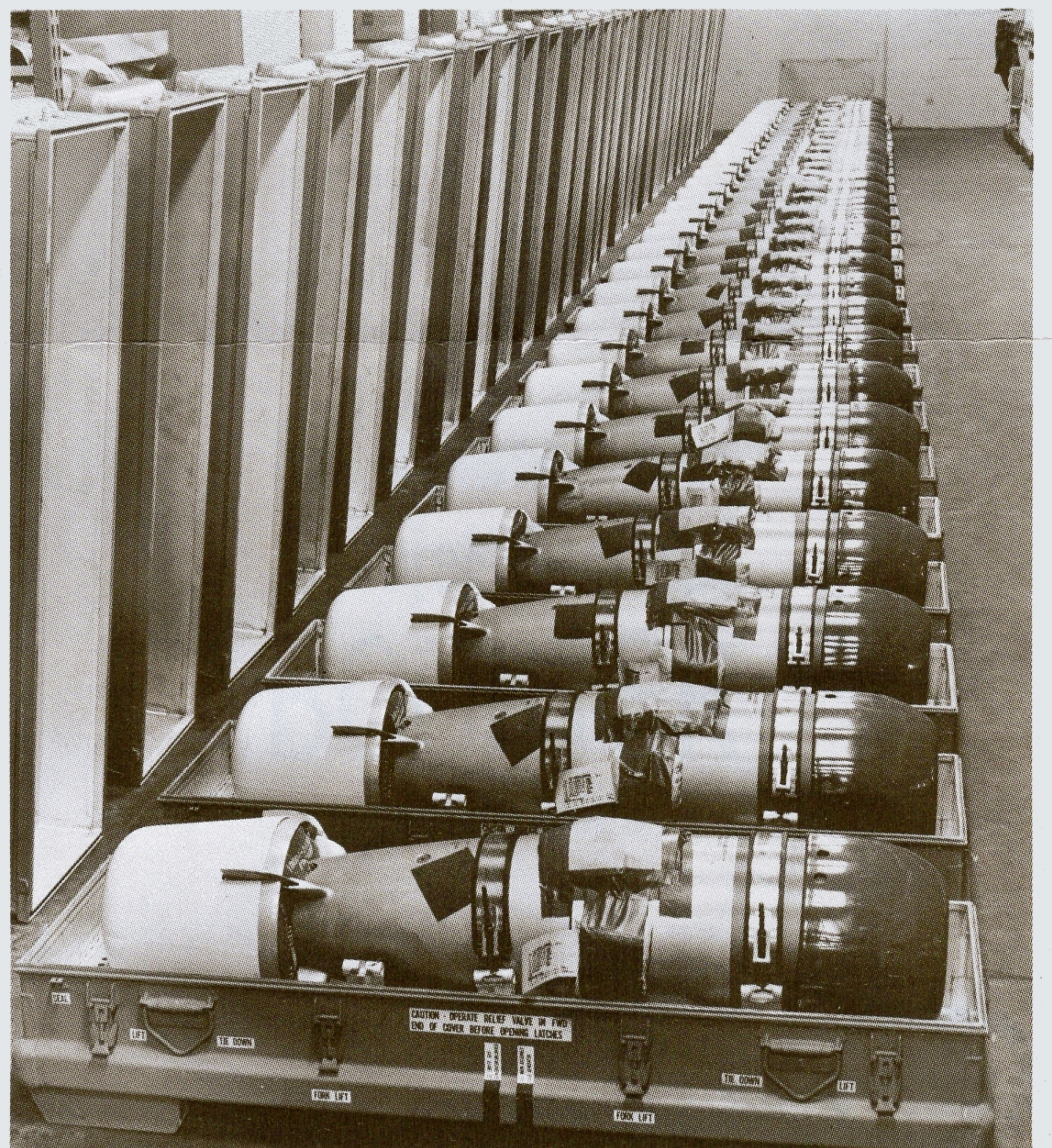




Lifelike, full-size manikin in a computerized system for training student anesthesiologists. Manikin simulates a host of human physical reactions with uncanny realism.



Industrial nuclear reactor for research and radioisotope production.



Production of Mark 46 antisubmarine torpedoes is a vital part of the nation's defense.

Aerojet is people—
people with ideas.
Ideas which have contributed
significantly to the growth
of our nation for 25 years.
We look forward confidently
to even greater contributions
from Aerojet people in
the years ahead.



25 years
of technological
progress

AEROJET-GENERAL CORPORATION, P.O. Box 702, El Monte, California 91734. A subsidiary of The General Tire & Rubber Co.