

Canada Establishes First Air Link With Moscow

➤ CANADA'S national airline, Air Canada, will begin regular scheduled service to Moscow beginning Nov. 1, making it the first time a North American airline has operated into the Soviet capital on a regular basis, according to the airline.

Aeroflot, the Soviet airline will begin service to Montreal on a weekly schedule as part of a reciprocal agreement signed between Canada and the Soviet Union. Air Canada will handle the Russian TU-114 turboprop aircraft while Aeroflot will service the Canadian carriers DC-8 jets in Moscow.

Flights of the Canadian line will be via Copenhagen. Air distance between Montreal and Copenhagen is 3,600 miles (statute) and between Copenhagen and Moscow 950 statute miles.

Nov. 4 will mark the start of the first scheduled air service by the Soviet carrier Aeroflot to North America.

TECHNOLOGY

Army Advisor Endorses Bombs for New Canal

➤ A U.S. ARMY consultant has endorsed the use of atomic explosives to construct a new Panama Canal.

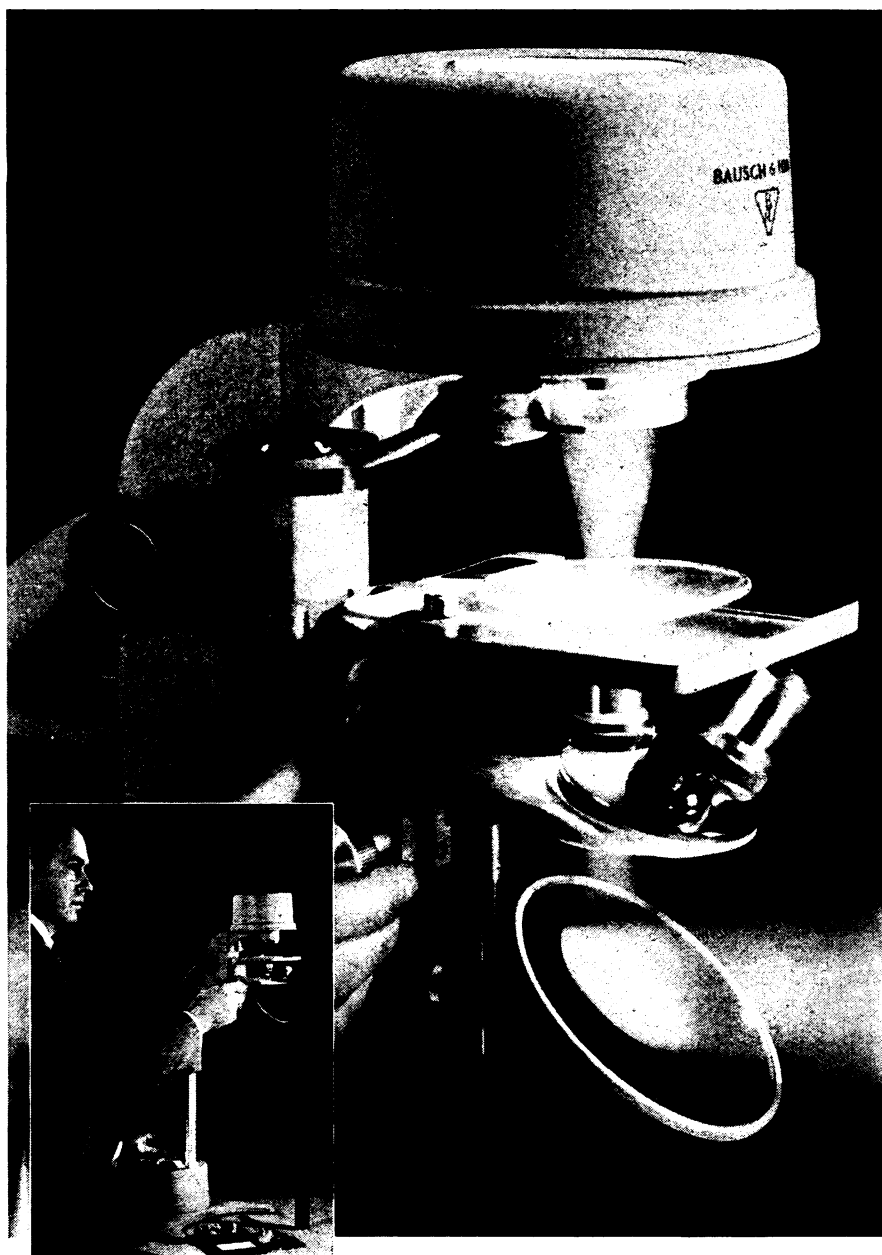
Dr. Aleksandar Vesic, professor of civil engineering at Duke University, says our most effective tool for building canals to meet world population growth is "atomic cratering," which would be both cheaper and quicker than conventional methods. Bringing bloom to the world's unproductive desert land could be accomplished by no conventional means, he said.

Dr. Vesic's report, which will be officially presented to Congress in January, includes a proposal to construct a new Panama Canal across Central America, to replace the present "outdated" one.

This could be accomplished at less than half the cost and about one-third the time needed for excavation with conventional tools, he said.

The atomic explosions are set off at depths which insure that 98% of the resulting radioactivity remains underground. Atomic devices are getting "cleaner and cleaner," he said, and recent advances have substantially reduced the size of the area that must be evacuated.

Dr. Vesic sees the possible use of atomic cratering in constructing a canal across the southwestern United States, and in forming harbors. But, he says, atomic devices are still an explosive issue in political circles, and it may be some time before test ban treaties and Congressional reservations are overcome.



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