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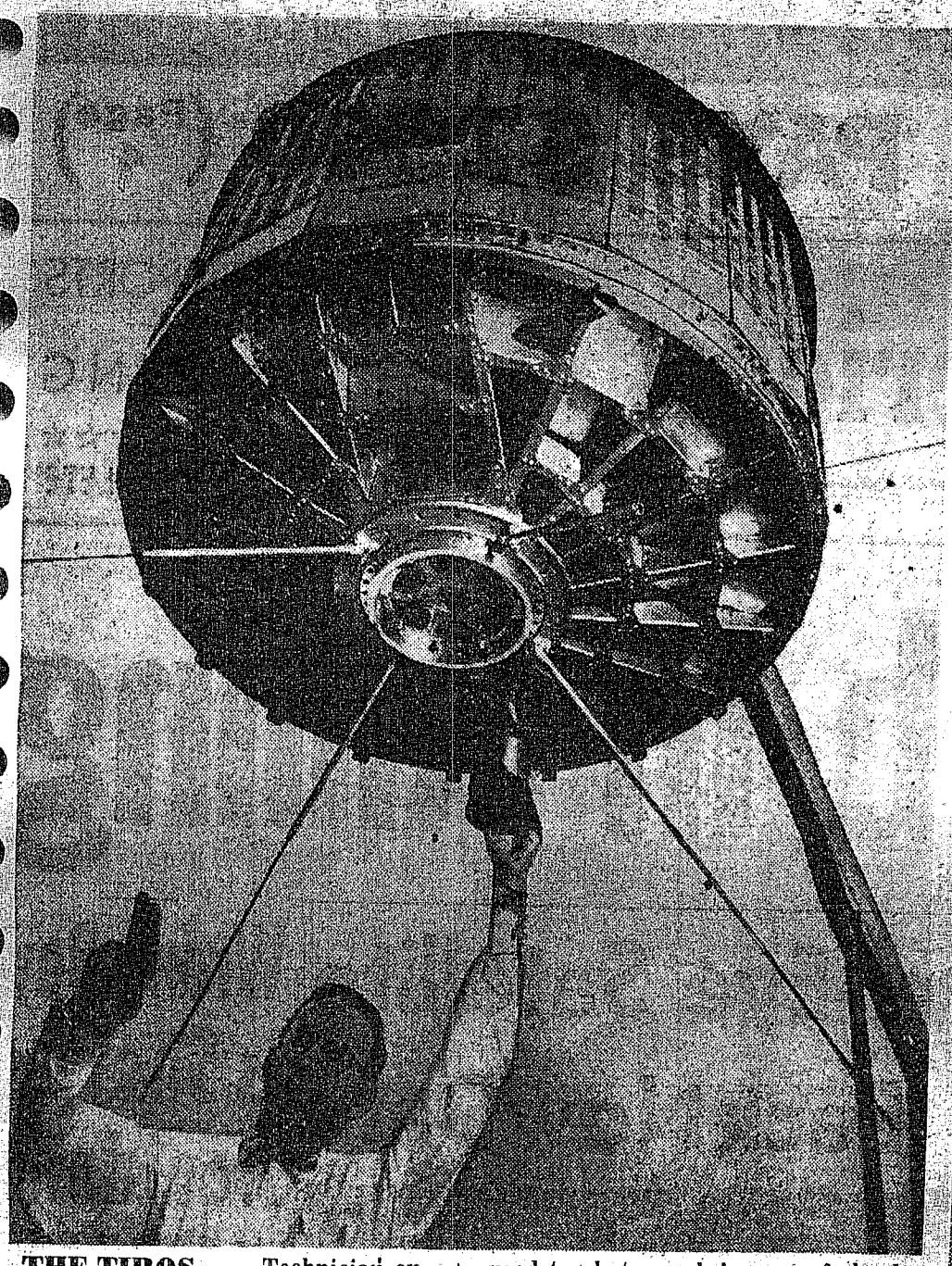
Weather-Eye Satellite Speeding Back New Data



THE TIROS . . . Technician examines underside of weather-eye satellite during tests at RCA Laboratories, Princeton, N. J., before yesterday's launching. With one hand he has the wide-angle lens used to photograph images of cloud formations for the built-in TV cameras. Small whip-like rods are transmitting antenna. Sides and tops of satellite consist of solar cells to power electronic equipment.
AP Photo

Ike Hails 1st Photos

WASHINGTON, April 2 (AP).—The first weather-eye satellite raced on today in one of the most perfect global orbits ever achieved, ready to feed back more pictures on how clouds cover the earth.

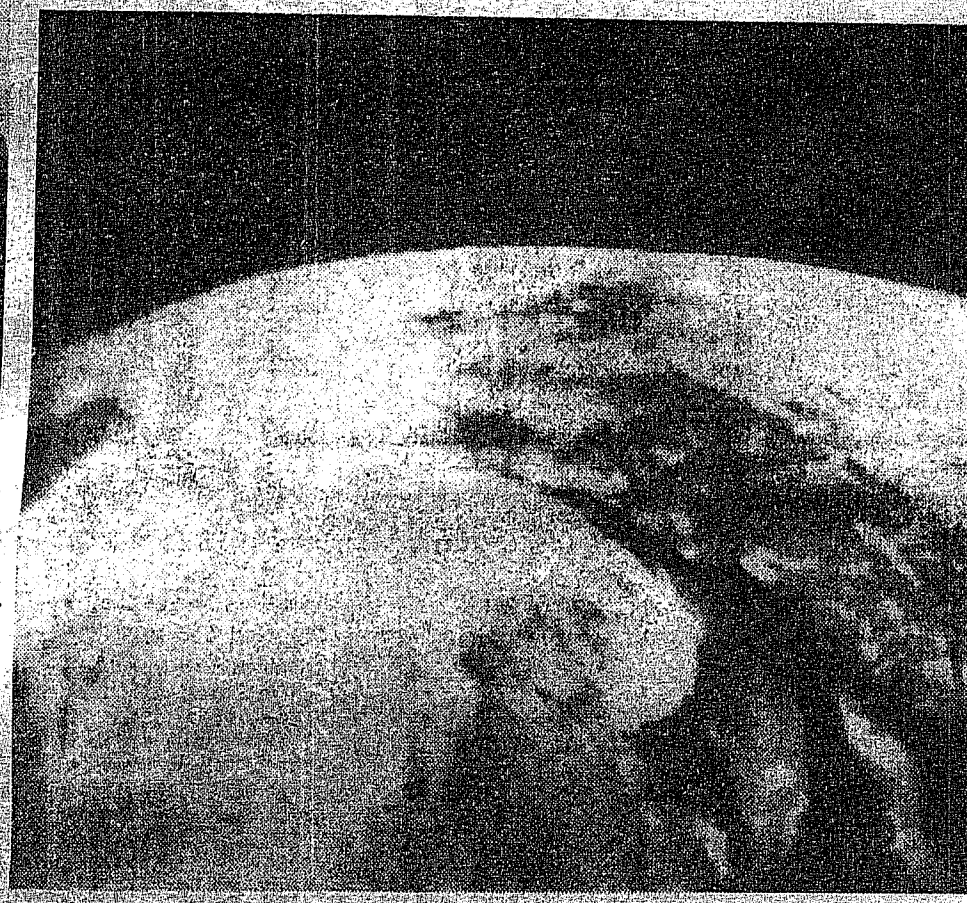
The first cloud pictures radioed yesterday by the new U. S. satellite brought an expression of "marvelous" from President Eisenhower. Needless to say they delighted scientists who had fired Tiros I into its round-the-world orbit.

Taken 450 miles up the first photographs were remarkably clear for such an experimental forerunner of what may be a network of weather watchers that could forecast big storms all over the world.

They took in an enormous quadrant of the earth, centered on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Fleecy clouds spread over much of the U. S.-Canadian area.

Everything about the Thor-Able launching rocket and the 270-pound satellite worked in fine style after they rose on a thunderous tail of orange flame from Cape Canaveral, Fla. All three stages fired with split second precision.

Tiros was supposed to go into a circular orbit 450 miles out. When the checking was finished, scientists found it varied from this ideal by less than 20 miles at its high and low point.



VIEW FROM SKY . . . This is one of a series of photos made by TV cameras in the Tiros satellite from an altitude of about 450 miles. The white area shows clouds over the northeastern portion of the U. S. and Canada. Dark area at bottom right is Gulf of St. Lawrence . . .
Wirephoto from AP