Lincoln Laboratory Aids In Missile Reentry Research

MIT's Lincoln Laboratories are sponsoring an extensive research program in the field of reentry physics. The program being sponsored by the Advanced Research Projects Agency under a contract with the U. S. Air Force, and will serve several purposes.

Serves Defense Effort
Information from this research will assist in the solution of problems related to defense against ballistic missiles. It will also assist in developing techniques which will permit more accurate location and better communication with vehicles.

Affects Communications
Phenomena associated with reentry produce conditions which influence the effectiveness of all known communications, detection, and tracking techniques. A better understanding of these phenomena will provide more information about their effects and how to adjust for them in the development of the technology needed for the space age.

The project is being attacked from several angles. The program includes laboratory and theoretical investigations, as well as field experiments. Among the investigations of the mechanism of when a vehicle travels into and exits the earth's atmosphere, observations are being made of small projectiles fired at reentry velocities up to 25,000 feet per second in ballistic facilities. The experiments are being carried out in cooperation with the Ames Research Center of NASA in the Ames hypervelocity ballistic range and at the Lincoln Lab in a newly constructed hypervelocity range at its Lexington Field Station, adjacent to the main buildings of the Laboratory.

Crossroads Africa
Underdeveloped Nations Discussed

A conference was held November 11 and 12 at Princeton University to discuss the merits and methods of action on various proposals to create a "Point Four Youth Corps" of college graduates to help the emerging nations and underdeveloped areas of the world. Romney Belfulph, Chairman of the Student Committee on Educational Policy, represented MIT as one of 45 participating colleges.

Proposals Advanced
The various proposals advanced included President-Elect Kennedy's recent version of a "Peace Corps." All of the proposals agreed that there is a great untapped reservoir of interest among recent college graduates which, if harnessed and directed, can be an expression of the American ideal.

Crossroads Africa and similar organizations were represented at the conference, but could not offer the framework upon which to commence such an undertaking. MIT's plan of placing some of its Course XV M.S. graduates in international organizations engaged in economic development activities was presented as a working example of private placement. Under this pilot program, financed by the Ford Foundation, eight men will serve two years of duty as staff assistants.

Steering Committee
The conference concluded with the resolution that a steering committee be established to act as a center of coordination and information; present its recommendations to the President-Elect, Congress, and other appropriate government agencies; undertake a pilot project in one or several of the new states, draft immediate plans for such a project, and seek financial support.

Eleanor Roosevelt Meets Tech Dames

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was to be the guest of the Technology Dames last Monday, November 14, at Kresge Auditorium.