Here is a strong of the state

REPORT NO. RP-TM-0007

T₀

SPACE NUCLEAR PROPULSION OFFICE - CLEVELAND EXTENSION

PHOEBUS-2

HYDROGEN DISPOSAL BURN POND

OCTOBER 1966

İ

CONTRACT SNPC-35

AEROJET-GENERAL CORPORATION

HTS TRACK THE STATE

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

DISCLAIMER

This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency Thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof.

DISCLAIMER

Portions of this document may be illegible in electronic image products. Images are produced from the best available original document.

SHILLER SHIPS

i sa mga katalog ng pagkalang ng
Pagkalang ng pagkalang ng pagkal

REPORT NO. RP-TM-0007

PHOEBUS-2

HYDROGEN DISPOSAL BURN POND

OCTOBER 1966 CONTRACT SNPC-35

AEROJET-GENERA L CORPORATIO N A SUBSIDIAR Y O F TH E GENERA L TIR E & RUBBE R COMPAN Y

PERIODICAL PRODUCT

PAGE BLANK

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

 \sim

J.

 $\hat{\phi}$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\rm{in}}$

 \bar{u}

HTE HERBERT

ABSTRACT

The Phoebus-2 Hydrogen Disposal Pond (Burn Pond) Report includes a survey of available hydrogen disposal methods, a discussion of problem areas in using a hydrogen disposal pond system, the hydrogen disposal method to be used by Aerojet-General, and the testing which leads to the final hydrogen disposal pond design.

C. 8. Boncore, Manager REÓN Test Facility Design

iii

strategie von de staten

PAGE BLANK

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

 \sim

J.

 $\hat{\phi}$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\rm{in}}$

 \bar{u}

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SENIERS IN 1999

Page

Page

TABLES

Table No.

 \blacksquare

 \blacksquare

 \blacksquare

 \blacksquare

1

 $\ddot{\bullet}$

 $\ddot{\bullet}$

1

 \blacksquare

dariiska baa

V

BEDERSTEINE

ILLUSTRATIONS

 $\hat{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}$

D

H

þ

h

þ

ł

ł

ł

ļ

ł

J.

BECLOSSIFIED

AND MANUEL AND STARTED

 \sim \sim

 $\ddot{}$

ILLUSTRATIONS (cont.)

designed and the second se

I. INTRODUCTION

Because of the impracticality of using an actual reactor-engine, rocket nozzles developed for nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site, under the NERVA and PHOEBUS programs, are performance-evaluated in chemical simulation firings using liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen as propellants. Normally, in liquid rocket systems, the hydrogen is first used to regeneratively cool the nozzle and is then mixed with the propellant for combustion. In the case of the nuclear nozzles under development, however, the total coolant flow exceeds that required for combustion simulation during firing and, thus, an appreciable quantity of the available hydrogen coolant must be dumped overboard. For chemical testing of the PHOEBUS nozzle, the hydrogen coolant and propellant lines have been decoupled from one another to permit independent variations in engine performance without affecting cooling characteristics. This results in a need to dispose of the total nozzle coolant hydrogen (up to 250 lb/sec) in a safe and controlled manner. Combustion with atmospheric oxygen is the only feasible method for disposing of gas at these high flow rates, over about a 17-second period.

Conventional flare stacks were considered as means of disposal. However, such factors as the wide range in anticipated hydrogen flow rates, very large purge-gas requirements, low combustion efficiency, and marginal satisfaction with existing single and multiple-stack installations prompted the selection of an alternate concept: the so-called "burn pond" disposal method. Essentially, this is a system in which the coolant hydrogen is ducted to an area sufficiently remote from the test stand to be safe, is dispersed through a pipe manifold submerged in water from which it evolves into the atmosphere above the pond, and is there ignited and burned. While the water serves primarily as a seal to prevent backmixing of air into the distribution manifold and pipeline, it also protects the manifold and the pond from thermal radiation damage. In effect, the burn pond is a high-discharge area stack of zero height, with a water seal.

HUITEN MARTIN

BECTHERING

This basic concept has been used with success, both at Complex 37B at Cape Kennedy and at the Douglas Test Site in Sacramento. However, the Aerojet facility is required to operate under such stringent conditions as to pose a completely new set of problems. The Complex 37B pond, for example, is designed to dispose of about one lb/sec of hydrogen at minimum backpressure, whereas the Aerojet system must handle up to 250 lb/sec at disposal line inlet pressures up to 1220 psi. Other installations then could offer only the most general of guidelines in the planning and operation of the Aerojet pond. (See Reference l).

BEDE ACTIVE

II. SURVEY OF AVAILABLE HYDROGEN DISPOSAL METHODS

A. DISCUSSION

Two general methods are available for disposing of flammable waste gases: venting to the atmosphere without ignition or combining with an oxidizer to form a non-hazardous, or readily disposable, product which may be ignited. Collecting and re-use was also a theoretical possibility; however, the cost and complexities of a system for catching and storing hydrogen at low temperatures and at flow rates up to 250 lp/sec were immediately evident.

This section discusses the various methods of hydrogen disposal investigated which culminated in the decision to adapt the burn pond concept to the PHOEBUS-2 hydrogen disposal requirements.

B. SINGLE AND MULTIPLE FLARE STACKS

Waste hydrogen gas can be conventionally disposed of by expelling through commercially available flare stacks. (See Reference 2). The discharge gas (mixing with the atmosphere) is ignited by an open pilot flame at the stack exit and is disposed of through combustion. This method is most effective and stable when operated within a specific range where velocity and other conditions are ideal. Decreases in gas flow rates, for example, can result in the gas velocity falling below the minimum limit, which will allow the flame to propagate back into the confined pipe. This results in a potential explosion hazard. Conversely, at stack velocities above the ideal velocity, and without an elevated ignition system, the gas can escape unburned. These accumulations of unbumed gas, sometimes well above the ignition limit, possibly could be wind-blown into an ignition source, again creating a hazard to personnel and equipment. The wide combustible mixture range of hydrogen dictates the need for a method that will provide near-total burnoff of the effluent within a controlled area.

BUDINE WARTER

stack velocity can be better controlled, and a wider range of flows can be handled, if a multiple stack installation is employed. However, the problem of low stack velocities during low flow conditions and start transients is further compounded by interaction effects between stacks.

C. BURN PONDS

Another method that merited further investigation was the burn pond disposal method currently in use at Cape Kennedy and at the Douglas Test Facility, Sacramento.

This system operation can be described basically as one in which hydrogen gas is dispersed through a pipe distribution system submerged in water from which it evolves into the atmosphere. The buoyant column of hydrogen is turbulently mixed with air, ignited and burned.

These hydrogen burn ponds were specifically designed to safely dispose of waste hydrogen gases venting at low pressures and at low flow rates (l to 15 lb/sec) from storage vessels and vehicle tankage. The burn pond vent systems employ a manifold in an "X" configuration located just beneath the surface of the water. From the manifold, small, evenly-spaced risers protrude from the water. Each riser is covered by a larger diameter, adjustable height bubble cap whose outer skirt extends back into the water, thereby creating a low-pressure water seal.

The basic principle of providing a water seal against atmospheric air entry appeared of real value; however, the differences of flow rates and pressures scheduled for the PHOEBUS-2 nozzle coolant were of sufficient magnitude to pose a different set of problems. The PHOEBUS-2 nozzle coolant flow rate is approximately 50 times that of the design operating level for the existing ponds. For shortduration runs of approximately 17 seconds, high coolant discharge pressures up to

k

BEDGESSERE

HILLER HERE

1220 psig will occur as compared to near-atmospheric exhaust for periods of 15 to 20 minutes, for the Cape Kennedy and Douglas ponds. Since the operating conditions for the Cape Kennedy-Douglas Facility burn ponds were so different from that of the PHOEBUS-2 burn pond, only the concept of the water seal would be useful in the new design.

PAGE BLANK

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

 \sim

J.

 $\hat{\phi}$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\rm{in}}$

 \bar{u}

HULLENDER HULL

III. PROBLEM AREAS

The foreseeable problem areas of the bum pond concept were divided into two broad categories: the hydrogen-water interface phenomena, and ignition and combustion characteristics for hydrogen-in-air with the resultant effects of the flame on the surroundings.

A. HYDROGEN-WATER INTERFACE

The nozzle coolant gas is discharged into water which absorbs the momentum of each gas jet and from which the gas rises buoyantly into the atmosphere. This interface was considered the least amenable to analysis in designing the system. The interaction of such factors as the disintegration of the gas jets as they penetrate the water, the dynamics of gas evolution through the water, and water surface turbulence were considered so highly complex as to preclude an analytically based design. Other unanswered problems considered of prime importance were localized water freezing in and around the discharge nozzles, instantaneous water loss as the incoming gases expand and rise buoyantly creating a gaslifting effect, and gradual water loss by entrainment and vaporization.

B. COMBUSTION

The hydrogen rising buoyantly from the surface of the pond is ignited and burns with atmospheric oxygen. Problem areas anticipated include:

- 1. Ignition of the hydrogen emitting from the surface of the water
- 2. Detonation resulting from hydrogen accumulation and delayed ignition.
- 3. Flame geometry.
- 4. Meteorological factors.
- 5. Thermal radiation as it may affect the surrounding test equipment.

To evaluate these and other unforeseen problem areas, it was decided to fabricate and test a scale model pond (approximately 1/25-scale in terms of flow rate),

REFERENCE IN STREET

PAGE BLANK

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

 \sim

J.

 $\hat{\phi}$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\rm{in}}$

 \bar{u}

<u>HT: HANDRON</u>

IV. THE AEROJET-GENERAL HYDROGEN DISPOSAL METHOD

A. SCALE MODEL HYDROGEN BURN POND

A site at the Cryogenics Laboratory was selected for installation of scale model test burn pond (Figure 1). A maximum flow rate capability of approximately 10 lb/sec dictated the 1/25-scale factor for the model pond. Since the greatest degree of uncertainty lay in the hydrogen-water interface problem area, a one-to-one scale relationship for distribution header size and spacing and discharge port design was established to evaluate gas jet breakup and evolution from the water together with possible freezing effects. The size and configuration of the scale pond was, in effect, a section lifted from the full-scale pond. Its design was based on providing the same gas evolution/water volume ratio as for the main pond.

The scale model pond is located in a large basin approximately 250 ft from the Cryogenics Laboratory, (Figures 2 and 3). With the exception of the $6\text{-}in$. distribution manifold used in lieu of the 14 -in. manifold, the piping is characteristic of the main pond. The pipe supports within the pond are adjustable to allow positioning of the piping at various elevations. The ignition system consists of two, premixed, propane-air pilot flames located on the edge of the pond. The system flow path, including instrumentation transducer locations, is shown schematically in Figure 4. A total of eleven developmental tests were conducted, as summarized in Table I. Color and/or black and white motion picture coverage data taken of each test are listed in Table II,

HANTE MET

BESTURNIER

I

I

I

I

I

Figure 1 Cryogenics Laboratory

CONSERVANCE

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

Figure 3 Scale Burn Pond

Figure 2 Scale Model Burn Pond, Piping and Pond

CONTRACTE

BEDERICHER

 \sim

Figure *k* Scale Model Hydrogen Bum Pond, Flow Diagram and Transducer Location

TABLE I

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE MODEL HYDROGEN BURN POND DEVELOPMENTAL TEST SUMMARY

 \ldots \ddot{a} \vdots ... $\left\langle \cdot ,\cdot \right\rangle _{1}$ \cdot . \cdot . $\frac{1}{1}$: \mathcal{L}_{max} $\ddot{...}$ $\frac{1}{1}$

 ϵ \mathbf{A}

TABLE 1 (Cont.)

temp, gradients

• • • ••• \mathbb{P}^1 \mathbf{r} • • • \mathbf{r} • •• • • • • • • $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ • • • • • • • •

••••••
••••••

 \mathbf{v} • • • •

 $\sim 10^7$

 $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ \mathbf{x}^{\prime}

TABLE I (Cont.)

 \vdots $\begin{array}{ccccc}\n\bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet\n\end{array}$ $\frac{1}{2}$

 ϵ

 \Box

TABLE II

SCALE MODEL HYDROGEN BURN POND TEST PROGRAM 1.2-13-NNX

FILM LIST

 $\begin{picture}(20,20) \put(0,0){\vector(0,1){10}} \put(15,0){\vector(0,1){10}} \put(15,0){\vector(0$ in $\left\langle \begin{array}{c} \cdots \end{array} \right\rangle$

 $\tilde{}$

 \bullet

TABLE II (Cont.)

 $1/\gamma_1$ $\ddot{\ddot{\cdot}}$ $\frac{1}{2}$

 \bullet \bullet

 $\ddot{1}$ \dddotsc TABLE II (Cont.)

Particular Property

 \mathbf{m} $\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array} \end{array}$

 \blacktriangleleft \bullet

H CO

B. FULL-SCALE HYDROGEN BURN POND

The full-scale burn pond is positioned in a depression approximately 1+00 ft from test stand H-l+B (see Figure 5). It is 35-ft wide, 85-ft long and 3-ft 6-in. deep. A weir at one end allows a maximum water depth of 3 ft. The pond is constructed of gunite and has a heat-resistant refractory coping that extends 12 in. below the top edge.

The gas distribution system within the pond is in a "trellis" or ladder configuration, as shown in Figure 6 . Hydrogen is distributed within the pond through a l^{μ} -in. manifold to thirty-two 6-in. lateral branches, spaced at 5-ft intervals. From the bottom of each distribution branch, twenty-two 1-1/2-in. pipe nipples, spaced $8-1/2$ in. apart, discharge the gas toward the bottom of the pond. The gas is discharged from the nozzles, under approximately 2 ft of water, at a nominal flow of approximately 0.35 Ib/sec-per-nozzle.

The pond ignition system is comprised of four pump-fed, Diesel flame thrower units, two at each end of the pond.

SHIPPE ME

HHHHH

h

TTTTTTTTTTTTT

 20

1.8531M

 $\mathbb{P} \colon \mathbb{P} \to \mathbb{P}$

• • • « • •

• • • • • • •• • • • • • $\blacksquare\mathbb{P}^1\hspace{-1.5pt}C\hspace{-1.5pt$ • •

SHILLER HAN

V. BURN POND TESTING

A. SCALE MODEL HYDROGEN BURN POND TESTING

- 1. Liquid Nitrogen Testing
	- a. Test Objectives

The primary purpose of this test was to activate the mechanical, instrumentation and controls systems installed by the contractor. As a secondary objective, the test was conducted to determine the following:

- (1) Gas distribution at subsonic velocities
- (2) Water surface turbulence
- (3) Water freezing effects at the gas discharge nozzles
- *{h)* Simulation of gas jet momentum equivalent to gaseous hydrogen flow planned for subsequent tests.
- b. Summary of Test 001 (Figures 7 and 8)

A raaximiom mass flow rate of *hk* lb/sec of nitrogen was recorded during approximately 50 sec of test time. This produced a gas momentum from the discharge nozzles in excess of the equivalent nozzle momentum calculated for the main PHOEBUS burn pond, which was designed for a hydrogen flow of 250 lb/sec at 135°R.

Water surface turbulence created by the expelled gas was initially at an acceptable level; that is, water losses from splashing and gas lifting were low. Near the end of the test, cold vapors were observed, indicating that liquid nitrogen was being discharged through the nozzles into the pond. At this time the pond became totally obscured by the vapors and the test was terminated. Post-test examination of the pond showed that approximately one foot of water remained, with an ice layer at the surface varying from approximately I/16- to 1/2-in. thick (Figure 9).

21

SERIES SERIES

BECFRICHERS

POND SECTION

DETAIL "A" 1-1/2" SCH 80 NOZZLE (27 REQ'D) **I**

Figure 7 Pond Section-LN₂, Test No. 001

BECLASSIFIED

stra anticipale de la

Figure 8 Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 001

BEFRIELDER

BECTURZIEIEB

Figure 9 Pond Post Test Photo, Test No. 001

24

HALLET HALL

There was no damage to either the concrete pond or piping systems as a result of the liquid nitrogen flow.

c. Conclusions

Freezing of the discharge ports does not appear to be a problem during flow conditions with liquid nitrogen. Unequal flow distribution to the three lateral branches was visually observed during the test. This condition appeared to be a result of pressure unbalance in the pond distribution system resulting from the subsonic discharge velocities of each of the twenty-seven 1-1/2-in. discharge ports.

2. Mixed Nitrogen Testing

a. Test Objectives

The objective of this test series was to determine the effects of discharging cold gas into the water at a mass flow rate and velocity that would simulate the momentum of the gas jets predicted for the main pond. Primarily the buoyancy (lifting of the water), water temperature change, pond surface turbulence and maintenance of the water seal were to be determined. Each nozzle was orificed for critical flow to eliminate the system unbalance seen in the previous test.

- b. Test Summaries
	- (1) Test 002 (Figures 10 and 11)

This test utilizes approximately 13 lb/sec of ambient nitrogen gas and l6 lb/sec of liquid nitrogen mixed together to produce an average gas temperature of 195° Rankine. Cold gas vapors observed at the start of the test indicated improper mixing of the liquid and gas which allowed slugs of liquid to enter into the pond. As witnessed in Test 001, there was a violent reaction of the water to the liquid. Jets of water were observed 10 to 15 ft above the pond. Approximately *ik* in. of water remained at the end of the test but this was sufficient to maintain the seal. There was no indication of icing.

SERIE E STE

BEDERICHLICH

 \bullet \mathcal{L}

DETAIL "A" 7/8" SONIC ORIFICE (27 REQ'D)

Figure 10 Pond Section, Mixed N_2 Test Nos. 002, 003
HELLETH HELL

FLOW LB/SEC $\mathbf F$

TEST DURATION **SECS** 31 $_{\text{H}_2^{\text{O}}}$ LOSS $_{\text{22}}$ IN. FLAME HT. - FT. WIND

Figure 11

Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 002

SHIFTER SHIP

(2) Test 003 (Figures 10 and 12, Table III)

The requirements of this test were the same as in the previous test; however, the procedure for producing a properly mixed gas was improved to eliminate the introduction of liquid into the pond. The nominal gas temperature was 195[°] Rankine. The results of this test were essentially the same as in Test 002.

(3) Test 001+ (Figures 13 and *Ik,* Table IV)

For this test the distribution piping within the pond was raised approximately sixteen inches bringing the total distance from the nozzle exits to the bottom of the pond to 2-ft, l -in. The piping was raised in an attempt to more completely dissipate the momentum of the gas jets within the pond.

The total flow rate of this test was approximately 22 lb/sec at an average temperature of 210° Rankine. The results of this test were about the same as Tests 002 and 003; however, the water seal was lost as a result of the raising of the piping.

c. Conclusions

The critical flow orifices at each of the discharge nozzles appeared to distribute the flow equally. However, the increased expansion ratio and volumetric change of the gas appeared to significantly contribute to high water loss by the increased jetting and lifting action of the water. It was further concluded, following these tests, that the proximity of the gas discharge nozzles to the sloped walls may be providing an undesirable condition whereby the impingement of the gas jet upon the wall is forcing water out of the pond. This condition was brought about by the scale pond design criteria of duplication of the main pond nozzle-to-water-volume and surface-area ratio.

28

BEDE ASSESSED

 \bullet

Figure 12 Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 003

SHEETH HAND

TABLE III

SCALE MODEL HYDROGEN BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP - RUN # 003 DATE 11/24/65

Type Test Mixed Nitrogen 29 1b/sec

 \bullet

 $\mathbf{C}^{\mathbf{r}}$ $\frac{1}{100}$ ပ္လ \mathbb{Z},\mathbb{Z} $\cdots \cdots$ \cdots **PERITS**

 \mathbb{R}

TABLE III (Cont.)

{

 $\mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{A}}$

 \mathbf{L} $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{100}$ \vdots : $\ddot{}}$ $\dddot{\mathbf{r}}$

imi $\frac{1}{1}$

 \bullet \mathbf{c}

Type Test Mixed Nitrogen 29 lb/sec

 $\frac{1}{11111}$ H

 $\dddot{...}$

HENTHER STREET

1.2-13-NNX-004 MIXED NITROGEN

 $\ddot{}$ $\overline{}$

Figure 13 Pond Section, Mixed N_2 Test No. 004

 $\frac{1}{4}$

Figure 14 Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 004

SERVICE SERVICE

TABLE IV

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP - RUN $#$ 004 DATE 11/30/65

Type Test Mixed Nitrogen 22 lb/sec

 \bullet

m $\langle \rangle$ **4:45**
 $\frac{1}{2}$
 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{1}$ \cdots $\begin{array}{c} \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \end{array}$ **PER** $\frac{1}{2}$

 $\frac{1}{2}$

TABLE IV (Cont.)

 \bullet

......: $\frac{1}{2}$. $\frac{1}{2}$

 $1.1.1$

 $\frac{1}{111111}$

Type Test Mixed Nitrogen 22 lb/sec

 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\begin{array}{ccccc}\n\bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet\n\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{c} \n\bullet \\
\bullet \\
\bullet \\
\bullet \\
\bullet \\
\bullet \\
\bullet \\
\bullet\n\end{array}$ $\frac{2}{5}$ $\begin{array}{c} \bullet\bullet\bullet\hspace{-0.75mm} \bullet\hspace{-0.75mm} \bullet\hspace$ \sim \ddotsc \mathcal{L}_{eff} : Lai \mathcal{L}

 $\frac{1}{10000}$

The elevation of the nozzles within the pond for Test 004 did not produce any significant changes in water losses from the previous tests. The water losses were enough to expose the elevated discharge nozzles, thereby effecting a loss of the water seal designed to prevent the entry of atmospheric air into the system.

3. Ambient Gaseous Hydrogen Testing

a. Test Objectives

This test series consisted of flowing ambient gaseous hydrogen into the pond at a mass flow rate of 4.5 lb/sec required to simulate the gas momentimi of the main pond. Each test was started at a flow rate of approximately 1-lb/sec until pond ignition was obtained. In addition to determining the effects on the water as in the previous test series, the ignition characteristics, flame configuration and temperatiare gradients *of* the surrounding area were determined.

- b. Test Summaries
	- (1) Test 005 (Figures 15 through 18 , and Table V)

This test utilized ambient gaseous hydrogen at mass flow rates of 1, 3- and 4.5 -lb/sec for a minimum of 15 sec at each flow condition. The ignition of the effluent gas, achieved at a flow rate of less than 1-lb/sec, was smooth and barely audible. At a flow rate of 4.5 lb/sec, the flame was columnar in nature and estimated to be from 150 to 175 ft in height.

The movement of the water appeared to be less violent than in the previous test series. A review of the motion pictures taken from a position parallel to the lateral branches showed a definite unbalance of the gas

Hubble Hall and the

SHILL CONTROLL

1.2-13-NNX-005 AMBIENT HYDROGEN GAS - 1, 3 & 4.5 #/SEC

HgO LOSS 18 INCHES

^ ^

DETAIL "A" 1-1/2" SCH 80 NOZZLE (27 REQ'D)

Figure 15 Pond Section, Ambient H_0 Test No. 005

 $\ddot{\ddot{i}}$ E. $\ddot{\cdot}$

BELLER SERVICE

 $\bullet_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$

Instrumentations Schematic, Summary Test No. 005, @ 15 Seconds

BECALLONIERS

SENIERS CONSTRUCTION

 \mathbf{v}

Figure 17

Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 005, @ 45 Seconds

SENIERS SERVICE

к.,

Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. OO5, @ 60 Seconds

BECALES SERVER

TABLE V

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE BURM POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP - RUN # 005 DATE 12/03/65

Type Test GH₂ (Amb) @ 1, 3, & 4.5 lb/

 $\mathbf{r}^{\mathbf{r}}$, $\mathbf{r}^{\mathbf{r}}$ \ldots . \ldots \mathbf{H}^{eff} • • • • • • • • .. . 4^ • • « 1—1 » • \cdots •
•
•
• \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \mathbf{P} . \mathbf{P}

••••••
• •••• • • ••

TABLE V (Cont.)

Type Test GH_2 (amb) θ 1, 3, & 4.5 lb/sec

 ϵ

HILLER SHOP

discharge with most of the gas flowing from Headers 2 and 3 (see Figure 15). Approximately l8 in. of water was lost during the test, most of which went over the pond end nearest Header 3 (Figure 19) in sheet flow. Temperature template stickers and calorimeters positioned in the immediate pond area indicated that temperatures and heat energy output were moderate during the test. The temperature of the pond water increased from 58 to 68° F.

(2) Test 006 (Figures 20 through 23, and Table VI)

To eliminate the impingement of the gas jet on the sloped walls. Headers 1 and 3 were rotated 45° inward toward the center of the pond. Test 006 was then conducted using the same criteria as in Test 005. Pond ignition was again smooth and silent. During the test a 5 mi/hr wind was blowing, with gusts up to 20 mi/hr which affected the flame height (100 ft) and geometry. Template sticker and calorimeter data corresponded to the data from the previous tests.

The movement of the water appeared to be less violent than during the previous test, with most of the 12- to 15-ft geysering toward the center of the pond (Figures 24 , 25 and 26). Approximately 12 in. of water was lost during the test. The water temperature was 60° F before and 66° F after the test.

c. Conclusions

The ignition and disposal of hydrogen in this manner presents no apparent problems. The effluent hydrogen gas was easily ignited and continued to burn throughout the entire test. Measured temperatures of less than 110° F at a distance of 50 ft from the pond, indicating that the radiant heat from this quantity of burning gas was moderate. The quantity of water lost during the tests was decreased by rotating the two outer header branches toward the center.

h3

ANDISCHLOSS

BECFURREERS

Figure 19 Pond Test Photo, Test No. 005

HELLECTRICA

 \bar{A}

1.2-13-NNX-006 AMB HYDROGEN GAS @ 1, 3 & 4.5 #/SEC 007 MIXED HYDROGEN (120°R) 9.6#/SEC

Figure 20

Pond Section, Ambient GH_2 Test No. 006, Mixed H_2 Test No. 007

GENERICAL SERVICE

SECURE SERVICE

 $\bar{\epsilon}$

Figure 21 Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 006, @ 10 Seconds

BECARE SERIES

 $\bar{\mathbf{v}}$

Figure 22

Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 006, @ 40 Seconds

HUITER MIN

HERTHUR HER

Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 006, @ 60 Seconds

BEDERICATION

TABLE VI

Sheet 1 of 2

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP - RUN # 006 DATE 12/06/65

Type Test GH_2 (Amb) @ 1, 3, & 45 lb/sec

 $6\overline{t}$

 $\omega_{\rm{c}}$, $\omega_{\rm{c}}$

Type Test GH₂ (Amb) \mathcal{Q} 1, 3, & 4.5 lb/sec

William School Contractor

 $\frac{1}{2}$

Figure 24 Pond Photo-Start, Shutdown Test No. 006

J

• • • • •• • • ••• • • • • •• ••• « * « •• • » • • ••• • ••• «

BECFIERELIEB

I

I

I

Figure 25 Pond Photo-3 Lb/Sec Flow Rate, Test No. 006

BECLASSFIED

 $\gamma_c \sim \gamma_{\rm p}$

 $\pmb{\mathfrak{z}}$

I

I

I

I

1

I

I

I

I

Figure 26 Pone Photo-4.7 Lb/Sec Flow Rate, Test No. 006

i i birgi

<u>HIMMINISTINING</u>

of the pond, indicating that the impingement of the gas upon the sloped walls is a problem. This problem, however, is not present in the main pond to the same degree since the edge distance to the outermost branches is approximately twice that of the scale pond. It appears that splash shields extending about 2-1/2 ft out from the pond edge would stop most of the water from being splashed out and would closer simulate the header-pond edge spacing of the main pond.

4. Mixed Hydrogen Testing

a. Test Objectives

This test series used a mass flow rate of 7.8 lb/sec of liquid hydrogen mixed together with 1.8 lb/sec of ambient gaseous hydrogen to give a total mass flow rate of 9.6 lb/sec of hydrogen at approximately 120 \textdegree R. This is 1/26 of the main pond design flow rate and is at the equivalent predicted temperature.

The objectives of this test series were to determine the water effects (buoyancy, turbulence, seal, temperature change) and hydrogen burning characteristics (ignition, flame geometry, and temperature gradients).

- b. Test Summaries
	- (1) Test 007 (See Figures 20 through 27, Table VII)

The configuration of the distribution branches for this test was the same as in Test 006.

The ignition of the pre-conditioned hydrogen was smooth and quiet, as experienced in the previous tests. The steady-state flow condition lasted approximately 20 sec and produced a flame varying from 85 to 115 ft in height. Area temperature and calorimeter data corresponded with Test 006.

"yh

BEGLESSIFIER

 \bullet

Figure 2? Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. GOT

SHIPP BISH

TABLE VII

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP - RUN #007 DATE 12-08-65

Sheet 1 of 2

Type Test Mixed Hydrogen 9.6 #/sec

 $\frac{1}{2}$ \mathbf{r}

Production

 \mathbb{R}^m

TABLE VII (cont.) Sheet 2 of 2

 λ

Type Test Mixed Hydrogen 9-6 *ft/sec*

 $\frac{1}{1}$

 \mathbb{Z}^1

<u>HELFINAIRIN</u>

Approximately 22 in. of water was lost during the test and an icy slush approximately 1/2 in. thick covered the surface of the pond (see Figure 28).

(2) Test 008 (See Figures 29, 30, 31 and Table VIII)

The splash shields previously mentioned were installed to better simulate the header-pond edge spacing of the main pond (see Figure 29). The two end lateral branches were also rotated to place the discharge nozzles in a vertical attitude. Diffusers (see Figure 30) were installed on 19 of the 27 nozzles to distribute and direct the gas discharge horizontally within the pond (Figure 32). The two igniters were raised to a level 3 ft above the run of the pond. Upon initiation of flow there was a mild explosion resulting from the accumulation of hydrogen below the ignition point. The flame height and area temperature profile corresponded to the previous tests. The steady-state test duration of approximately 25 sec resulted in a loss of about 10 in. of water (Figure 33). It was observed that the agitation of the water appeared to be more severe with the addition of the diffusers.

(3) Test 009 (See Figures 34 , 35 and Table IX)

This test was a repeat of Test 008 except that the diffusers were removed and the two outer lateral branches again were rotated inward 45° , as in Tests 006 and 007. One of the igniters was relocated to its original position. The ignition was smooth and only slightly more audible than Run 007. Flame characteristics and temperature data duplicate that of the previous mixed hydrogen test runs. Water agitation was significantly less violent than Test OO8 and post-test inspection revealed a total loss of only 5 in. of water for the 25-sec duration test run (see Figure 36).

<u>HENLARISHEN</u>

Figure 28 Pond Post Test Photo, Test No. OO7

I

I

DECALGE

•••• • • •• « » • « • • • « • • •• • • • • • • •••••••• •

I

I

I

Figure 29 Pond With Side Extensions

∷

 $\ddot{\ddot{}}$

ED

*** ••• ••**

HH!

Figure 31 Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 008

BECLASSIFIED
TABLE VIII Sheet 1 of 2

 $\frac{1}{2}$

 $\frac{1}{2}$

essus. $\frac{1}{2}$ $.........$ $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{A}}$

 \mathbb{R}^{n} $\ddot{\mathbf{r}}$

 $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{2} \frac{1}{k}$

 $1.1.1$

 $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP - RUN #008 DATE 12-17-65

Type Test Mixed Hydrogen 9.6 #/sec. *§* 120°R

 \mathbf{m}

 $\frac{1}{11111}$

 $\mathcal{C}^{\mathcal{C}}$

 $\frac{1}{2}$

 $\frac{1}{2}$

 \mathbb{L} .

 .

TABLE VIII (cont.) Sheet 2 of 2

 $\mathcal{V}^{\rm max}_{\rm{sym}}$

 $\begin{array}{cc} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array}$

 $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{2} \frac{1}{2} \sigma_i$

 $\begin{array}{c} \bullet \circ \bullet \circ \bullet \circ \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}$

 $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{2}$

ansukal

 $\mathbb{R}^{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}$ \vec{a} and \vec{r} and \vec{r}

 $\sum_{\mathbf{k}}^{\mathbf{k}}\frac{\mathbf{r}^{\mathbf{k}}\mathbf{r}^{\mathbf{k}}}{\mathbf{k}}$

 $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Type Test Mixed Hydrogen 9.6 $\#$ /sec. @ 120[°]R

 \mathbb{R}

PU

 $\begin{minipage}{.4\linewidth} \begin{tabular}{l} \hline \textbf{111} \textbf{13} \end{tabular} \end{minipage}$ $\langle ., .\rangle_{\mathbb{R}}$

 $\mathbf{1}_{\alpha} \mathbf{1}_{\alpha}$

 $\begin{array}{c}\n\ldots \\
\ldots \\
\downarrow \\
\ldots\n\end{array}$

 $\begin{array}{cccccccccc} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array}$

 \mathbf{r}

SENIOR SERVICE

Figure 32 Pond Extension Nozzle

, • • • • »»•

• * • , • • • **• • • •• «**

• • • • • **• • • • • • • • • • • • •« •** **• •• • • * • • •• •**

I

 \blacksquare

I

I

Figure 33 Pond Post Test Photo, Test No. 008

 $\frac{1}{2}$

SENSON SERVICE

DETAIL "A" 1-1/2" SCH 80 NOZZLE (27 REQ'D)

Figure 34 Pond Section, Mixed $_{2}$ Test No. 009

BECFIELENE

- T TEMPERATURE, ^OR
- F FLOW LB/SEC

Figure 35 Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. OO9

BEDE BESINER

TABLE IX

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP - RUN #009 DATE 12-20-65

Sheet 1 of 2

 \ldots \vdots :

...... $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathbb{R}}$

.....:

 $\langle \ldots \rangle$

 $1.1.1$ \mathbf{m}

Type Test Mixed Hydrogen 9.6 #/sec. @ 120[°]R

 \ldots

 \ldots

VO

TABLE IX (cont.) Sheet 2 of 2

Type Test Mixed Hydrogen 9.6 $#/\text{sec} \cdot \theta$ 120⁰R

 \ddot{a}

 \cdots \mathbf{C} $\dddot{\mathbf{z}}$

 $\sum_{i=1}^{n}$

 \mathbf{r}

• • •

 $\begin{array}{cccccccccc} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array}$ \mathbf{r}

 $\frac{1}{2}$ **:::::**

 \vdots

 \cdots

 $\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \cdots \\ \cdots \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \cdots \end{array} \\ \$

• •

GELECCONSER

Figure 36 Pond Post Test Photo, Test No. OO9

• * • •• • • • • • • • • • •• • • • • • »• • • • • • • « •• •

BECFRECHER

 (4) Test 010 (See Figures 37, 38 and Table X)

This test utilized the same test medium, flow rates and procedures as the previous three runs. System modifications included the installation of 1/8-in. dia by 1/2-in. OD square weave screen over the entire pond. The water level was raised 6 in. to a total depth of 3 ft 6 in., with 15 lbs of salt added to obtain flame color. The screen modification was designed to suppress the highly agitated water conditions previously witnessed (these were in the form of geysers to a height of 12 to 15 ft) and to balance the overall water movement within the pond. Ignition was smooth and barely audible. The wind was steady in a southeast direction at a velocity of approximately five knots. These conditions produced a shortened flame height of approximately 50 ft. The flame was very turbulent and was more expansive than recently witnessed. A two-color smoke bomb located at a 20-ft elevation above and immediately adjacent to the pond produced good visual observation of air movement into the fire area. The smoke was drawn inward toward the center of the flame in a downward motion to a height of 10 ft above the pond. It was then carried upward with the combusting gases. The salt added to the water produced color to the flame, permitting good observation of the flame configuration. The screen sufficiently satisfied its designed purpose in suppressing the water action. The water movement in the pond appeared well balanced, with a rise of approximately 3 ft above the screen. Only small amounts of water were observed exiting the pond over the perimeter edge. A total of 6 in. of water loss was experienced for this test during the 20-plus seconds of steady state flow duration. Approximately one dozen pieces of ice, ranging to a maximum size of approximately 6 cubic-in., were observed floating on the water surface immediately following the test. The test was observed from an elevation of 35 ft above the pond and southeast approximately 250 ft directly downwind of the fire. The radiant heat emission to this observation point was not of sufficient magnitude to cause discomfort during the test.

72

<u>HEMAN HANDER</u>

GHIREALORE

<u>SECONDO SERVICIO E EN ENTERNADO E EN ENERO</u>

F FLOW LB/SEC

Note: A-D System Lost

DATA TIME 20 SECS. TEST DURATION 22 SECS. $H₂$ O LOSS 6 IN. FLAME HT. 60 FT. WIMD 5 Knots, Steady

Figure 38

Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test No. 010

<u>HENRICHTER</u>

TABLE X

PHOEBUS-2 SCALE BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP

Sheet 1 of 1 Test No. 010

Type of Test Mixed Hydrogen 9.6 1b/sec $@$ 120 O R

BECOMMONDER

c. Conclusions

The disposal of cold hydrogen gas in this manner appears to be satisfactory. At no time during any of the tests was the flame extinguished or uncontrollable. Wind does affect the flame height and geometric pattern; however, because of the apparent low heat content of fire, this does not present any major problems.

The loss of water was reduced by the installation of the steel splash shields around the periphery of the pond. Future ponds could accomplish this by a concrete apron that slopes back into the pond or by having a larger edge distance (distance from pond edge to outboard discharge parts). The installation of the screen above the pond reduced the flow area above the pond approximately 50\$. The screen appears to smooth out the jetting water over the entire area of the pond; water losses, however, were about the same as without the screen.

It is apparent that the ignition source should be close to the surface of the water to prevent an accumulation of gas prior to ignition.

5. Liquid Hydrogen Testing

a. Test Objectives

Although the PHOEBUS-2 disposal system was primarily designed for cold gas, the possibility exists that liquid hydrogen may enter the pond during cold flow testing of the fuel propellant systems. The objective of this test was to determine the performance of the pond while being subjected to liquid hydrogen flow. The pond configuration was the same as in Test 009.

76

BECALES SERVICE

b. Test Summary (Figure 39 and Table XI)

Test 010 was conducted with liquid at a flow rate of 9.6 lb/sec for a duration of 20 sec. The performance of the pond was completely satisfactory. Ignition, flame configuration, and temperature gradients were about the same as in previous tests. The agitation of the water appeared to be more severe. However, only 7 in. of water were lost during the test. Several small pieces of ice were observed floating on the surface following the test.

c. Conclusions

The results of the liquid test were approximately the same as those of the cold gas test. This indicates that no apparent problems exist in the event liquid is flowed into the pond instead of gas.

B. FULL-SCALE HYDROGEN BURN POND TESTING

No full-scale tests have been run on the main PHOEBUS-2 burn pond; however, several reduced-scale tests have been conducted. Some of these tests were specifically to evaluate the pond performance while others, primarily test stand systems checkout, have used the pond as a disposal facility.

One cold-flow test was run in which 100 lb/sec of liquid nitrogen was ducted to the pond for a duration of approximately 300 sec. Water loss was negligible and there was no pond icing.

Three tests were run in which ambient hydrogen gas was ducted to the pond and burned. Flow rates of $\frac{1}{4}$ lb/sec for the first test. 111 lb/sec for the second test, and 156 lb/sec for the third test were achieved. Ignition was smooth in each of the three tests. Visual estimates for the second *and* third tests place the flame height at about 300 ft. In the last gaseous H_2 test in

77

HUITTE HUUT

UESTHERMANN

Figure 39 Instrumentation Schematic, Summary Test Wo. Oil

BECLASSIFIED

TAFLE XI

SCALE MODEL HYDROGEN BURN POND INSTRUMENTATION RECAP

Sheet 1 of 2 Test No. 011

Type of Test LH_2 Flow

TABLE XI - $(cont.)$

Sheet 2 of 2 Test No. 011

> \cdots \mathbb{R} \mathbb{C}^{reg}

> $\mathbb{Q}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

SELLISSETSEL

which peak flow of 156 lb/sec was achieved, the flow exceeded that required for momentum simulation (124 lb/sec) for 12.3 sec (Figure 40). Visual estimates placed the flame height at about 300 ft. Temperatures in the pond area are shown in Figure 41 .

In the latest combustion test, liquid hydrogen at a rate of 140 lb/sec was ducted to the pond for 40 sec. No icing was noted; pond water level dropped about 2 in. Combustion was smooth and well controlled with, however, a distinct crack (like a pistol shot) on ignition.

BEDERZIEIER

SECONDS

Figure 40 Full-Scale Hydrogen Burn Pond, GH_{\supset} Flow Test (Ambient)

Full-Scale Hydrogen Burn Pond, \mathtt{GH}_{2} Flow Test, Area Temperatures

SELLICARTISE

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The burn pond concept has been demonstrated as an effective means of disposing of hydrogen at temperatures ranging from ambient to near the critical. Flow rates may vary rapidly from near zero to the condition where all discharge nozzles are flowing sonically, provided ignition sources are located near the pond surface and cover a good portion of its area. For the short run times typical of rocket nozzle tests, rate of water loss is no problem with a pond designed so that surface turbulence does not result in excessive splash loss or overflow. The burn pond concept becomes increasingly attractive as the testing of future generations of propulsion devices requires the safe, controlled disposal of larger flow rates of flammable gases.

PAGE BLANK

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

 \sim

J.

 $\hat{\phi}$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\rm{in}}$

 \bar{u}

COMMENTS

VIII. REFERENCES

- 1. Design and Development of a Test Facility for the Disposal of Hydrogen at High Flow Rates W. R. Thompson, C. S. Boncore (AGC) presented at The 1966 Cryogenic Engineering Conference, June 13-15, 1966, Boulder, Colorado.
- 2. Hajek, J. D.; Ludwig, E. E. "How to Design Safe Flare Stacks", Petro/Chemical Engineer, June, I96O.