

## **SPACE PEN SOUGHT TO HOUSE ANIMALS**

WASHINGTON, April 10 (AP) —The Air Force, working on plans to send man into space, gave a new indication of progress today in the preliminary task of launching animal-occupied satellites.

The service disclosed that it had asked for bids on space capsules, small containers that can house animals.

Air Force headquarters here referred requests for details to the Air Research and Development Command at Andrews Air Force Base in near-by Maryland.

The command's information office said the program for experiments in space flights for animals was secret. "We will have nothing to say about it for quite some time," a spokesman asserted.

The command's Aero Medical Laboratory at Holloman Air Force Base, N. M., has experimented with fruit flies, mice, yeast and onions aboard Aero-bee-Hi rockets fired as high as thirty-seven miles.

These tests have yielded some information on weightlessness and cosmic radiation, but the exposure has been too short to be significant.

The Air Force has half a dozen chimpanzees, three or four bears and about a dozen mongrel dogs penned at the Holloman Laboratory.