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Headline: Tests Conducted on New 'Thermoplane' Airship

Source Line: LD0401121492 Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 4 Jan 92

FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE:

1. [Text] Moscow January 4 TASS-A new flying machine, called a thermoplane has been constructed by designers of the Moscow Aviation Institute, MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper reported today. This unusual airship, outwardly resembling a flying saucer, is intended to be used for ecologically sound highly effective technologies in the field of superblock construction, for control and remote exploration of the environment and in large scale life-saving operations.

2. According to experts the fuel and economic efficiency of the thermoplane will exceed that of an aeroplane by five to seven times, two to three times for an automobile, and can be compared with seagoing vessels up to 20 thousand tonnes displacement. Tests on the thermoplane are being conducted in Ulyanovsk aviation industrial complex (Volga region).

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