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APPLICATION OF METEOROLOGICAL ROCKET SYSTEMS

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Abstract: A series of test rocket firings has been conducted during the past 18 months to establish the operational feasibility of numerous rocket systems for meteorological observations. As might be expected, the most desirable systems from the point of view of instrumentation are generally not the most desirable from that of the rocket-firing problem. It has been demonstrated, however, that a reasonable observation schedule can be accomplished by the judicious application of currently available rockets and sensors. The most variable of high-atmosphere meteorological parameters is the flow. **Chaff** was used initially for rocket wind measurements because it could be expected to provide a suitable indication of the wind in the atmosphere above balloon sounding levels. It is easy to package and deploy. Most of the available high-atmosphere wind data have been obtained through use of a **chaff** sensor, and it is still most applicable for point measurements and at very high altitudes.

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