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FIRST SOLAR ENERGY RECEIVER TEST IN U.S.
BEING DONE THIS WEEK BY GEORGIA TECH

For Immediate Release
September 25, 1978

ATLANTA, GA.....Georgia Tech's solar energy team is testing the first solar energy receiver to be tested in the United States beginning today at 10:00 AM (EST). The Department of Energy's Advanced Components Test Facility, where the extended testing will take place, is located on the Georgia Tech campus and is easily recognized by its 550-mirrored field and 70-foot solar testing tower. It is the third largest facility in the world.

The experimentation includes a satellite-launching atmosphere as the mirrors are turned on which brings forth the concentration of sun's rays into a "fireball" which is said to walk up the tower, across the tower platform and take its place to make a 2000°F hot spot. The device ^{to be tested,} ~~to be tested~~ ^{has been design & cost by Sanders Assoc under DOE contract,} is extremely important to commercialization of solar energy in that if the design performs as expected, then larger versions can be built for industrial and other commercial application, thus reducing this country's dependence on fossil fuels. Sanders Associates is the owner

Dr. Tom Brown, of Tech's Engineering Experiment Station, states, "The device ^(designed and cost by Sanders Assoc at MIT's partnership) is like a gas turbine. It takes air, compresses it, heats it up to 2000°F and allows it to drive a turbine to generate electricity. We will not be generating electricity in this test; ^{however,} rather, we are determining the performance of this device's capability to ~~to~~ convert solar energy into very hot gas that could be used to drive a turbine to generate electricity."

NEWS From GEORGIA TECH'S ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

Atlanta, Georgia 30332
Sept. 1978

Contact: Sharon Sebaly (404) 894-3405

TO; David R. Merrefield, Political Editor, The Marietta Daily Journal

Caption for enclosed picture.

ATLANTA, GA.....The Cobb County Chapter of the Georgia Society of Professional Engineers recently let Georgia Tech's Engineering Experiment Station know formally that the relocation of about 250 Tech engineers to the Lockheed Research Facility is most welcome. L. Andrew Withers, Jr., (second/left) president of the local chapter, is shown presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to EES Director Dr. Donald J. Grace (second/right), a certificate which states appreciation and acknowledgement of all that the engineers of Georgia Tech's EES have contributed to the State of Georgia. Also part of the ceremony were: John R. Ballentine, (P.E.), Withers, Robert M. Goodman, Jr., director of one laboratory now working at the Georgia Tech Research Facility at Cobb County, Grace, and Georgia Tech's associate vice president for academic affairs William Lnenicka.

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(left to right) Ballentine, Withers, Goodman, Grace, Lnenicka

Taken at the Georgia Tech Research Facility at Cobb County