



## Nuclear Warhead Fired In 1st Live Polaris Test

Washington (APPS)—The United States has successfully exploded its first missile-borne nuclear warhead at the Christmas Island test area in the Pacific. The warhead was carried aloft by a Polaris missile fired from the submarine Ethan Allen.

The missile apparently scored a near bullseye after its 1,400-mile flight over the Pacific. One spokesman said the warhead was dropped "right in the pickle barrel," according to the Associated Press.

The Navy said the test was a "starkly real exercise" conducted as if the Ethan Allen were in combat and had received orders to fire all its 16 missiles on enemy targets.

No details of the warhead's power were released by the Atomic Energy Commission. However, it had been previously reported that each Polaris missile will be more powerful than the

first atomic bombs.

The Navy also gave no details of the shot, but officially described it as "a complete success."

It is understood that the warhead was detonated above the water, the AP report said. The submarine itself was said to have been submerged at the time of firing.

The Polaris is propelled upward from its tube in the submarine by a blast of compressed air. Once clear of the water, the rocket's solid-fuel motor ignites and it heads toward the target.

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