Atomic Sub -- Captain Aurand reports that the Navy is about to make a public announcement on the USS SKATE, which has just returned from a 39 day Atlantic operation. 37 days were spent submerged, of which the last 31 days, 5-1/2 hours were spent totally submerged and completely free of the earth's atmosphere. This is the longest period that man has been exposed operationally to artificial atmosphere. The SKATE's continuous nuclear power steaming distance during this 39 day period was 8870 statute miles of which 8727 were steamed submerged.