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EARTH'S RESOURCES TO BE STUDIED FROM SPACE

Project EROS was announced today by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall. EROS (Earth Resources Observation Satellites) is a program aimed at gathering facts about the natural resources of the earth from earth-orbiting satellites carrying sophisticated remote sensing observation instruments.

"Project EROS", said Udall, "is based upon a series of feasibility experiments carried out by the U. S. Geological Survey with NASA, universities, and other institutions over the past two years. It is because of the vision and support of NASA that we are able to plan project EROS."

Udall said that "this project will provide data useful to civilian agencies of the Government such as the Department of Agriculture who are concerned with many facets of our natural resources. The support of these agencies is vital to the success of the program."

The Interior Secretary said that "the time is now right and urgent to apply space technology towards the solution of many pressing natural resources problems being compounded by population and industrial growth."

Udall said that "the Interior Department program will provide us with an opportunity to collect valuable resource data and use it to improve the quality of our environment."