



It's rocket science! Near-miss in New Mexico.

Judyth has said that when she was a child her father was offered a job in New Mexico working on the missile guidance system for the Redstone rocket. Due to her mother's objection to living in a compound surrounded by barbed wire fences, he declined the assignment at the last minute and moved to Florida instead. Here are the related documents and details:

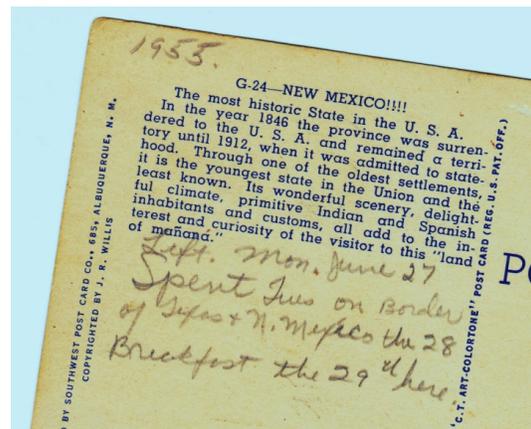


The Redstone Rocket Program

The Redstone rocket was the first U. S. ballistic missile to carry a nuclear warhead. It had a range of 500 miles. Chrysler produced over 100 of these missiles which were deployed in Germany between 1958 and 1964.

Problems with the guidance system led Chrysler to recruit new electrical engineers, like Judyth's father **Donald Vary**, from outside their organization. This highly classified work was to be done at the U.S. Government's Sandia National Laboratory on the grounds of Kirkland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This postcard, recently discovered by Donald Vary's grand-daughter, established the date of his visit to New Mexico as **June 29, 1955**.



Redstone's new guidance system was tested three months later, on Sep. 22, 1955, at White Sands. It missed its target by 74 miles, proving the guidance system still needed considerable improvement.

Donald Vary declined the assignment in New Mexico and moved to St. Petersburg, Florida in 1955.

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Last updated:2/26/2009 12:21 PM