


in 1958

The successful orbiting of Explorer I/ is one of the landmarks in the technical and scientific history of the human race. Its instrumentation revealed the existence of radiation belts of the earth and opened up a massive new field of scientific exploration in space. It inspired an entire generation of young men and women in the United States to higher achievement and propelled the western world into the space age.


J. A. Van Allen
30 March 1970

Comments by Dr. J. A. Van Allen
Re: Reentry of Explorer I, 31 March 1970,
7:02 a.m. + 3 hours