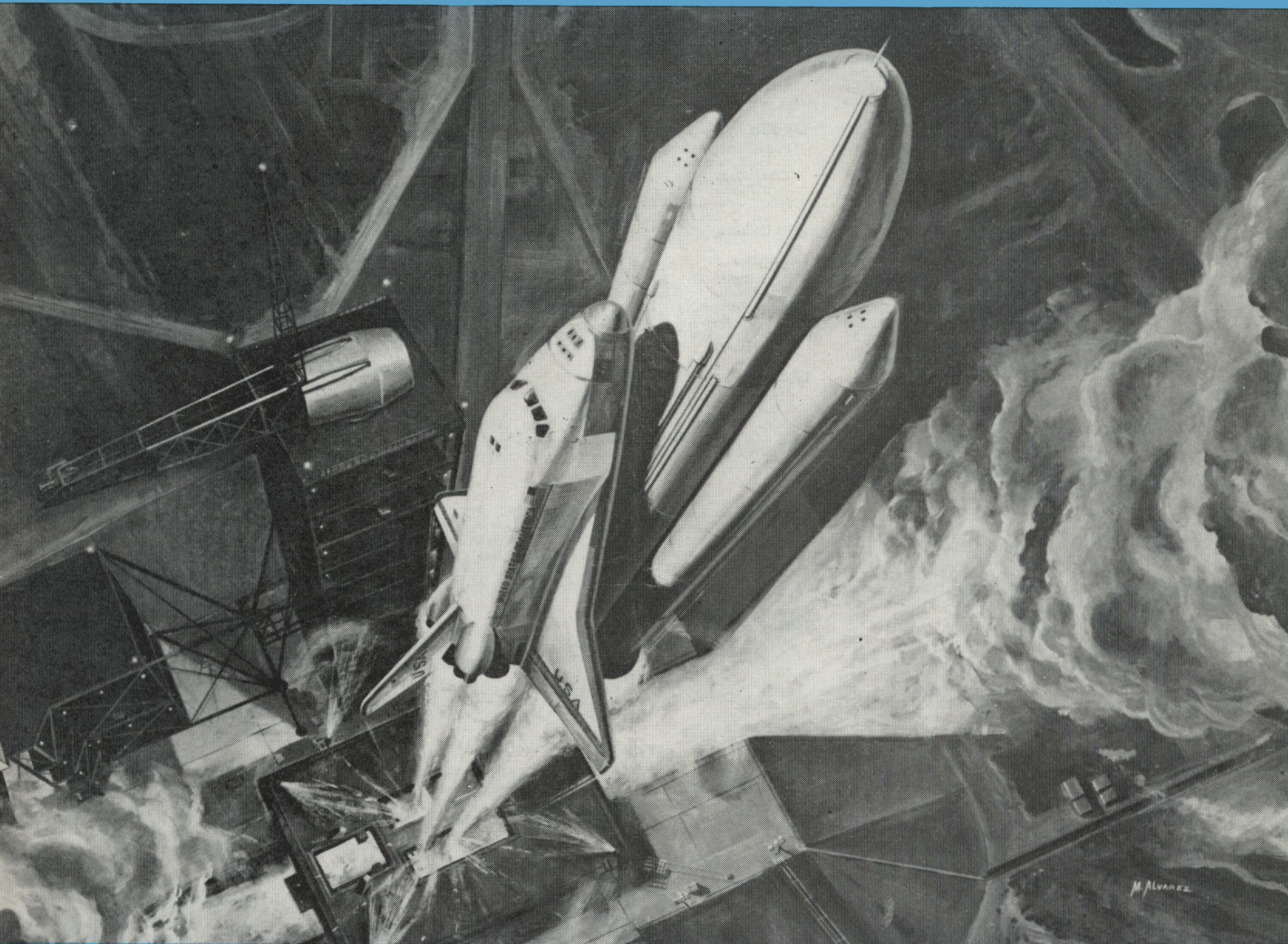




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The first Space Shuttle Orbiter built by Rockwell International was rolled out in September to begin a three-year test programme. The artist's impression of a launch shows it with two solid rocket boosters, jettisoned after burnout but re-usable, and the expendable external fuel tank.

Hans Hoffmann of VFW-Fokker/ERNO describes in this issue the engineering of Spacelab, which is being designed, developed and built by the European Space Agency and is to be the major payload for the first phase of the Space Shuttle System.

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