

WILD ABOUT SPACEMAN

The latest hero of the Soviet Union is Major Titov. Mr. Khrushchev, himself was at Moscow airport to head the nation's applause. On time, the airliner and fighter escorter flew in, and a place of honour was reserved for the wife of the heroic cosmonaut. Others of his family were there, too. And what a moment it was for the waiting thousands when Major Titov descended and made his way, with the full red carpet treatment, to be greeted as his amazing feat deserved. This man orbited the earth 17 times in 25 hours and landed safely about 450 miles south-east of Moscow.

Titov's wife must have been the proudest woman in Russia. And there, too, was that world-acclaimed hero, of the first orbit of the earth, Titov's colleague, Major Gagarin.

The cheers for Yuri Gagarin scarcely seemed to have died down, and now the whole Soviet Union with Yuri and Mr. K. leading acclaimed another hero of space. For Titov's father and mother it was a proud occasion.

Of course, nothing like all the vast population of Moscow could be at the airport. Their chance to give the cosmonaut a hero's welcome came during the triumphal drive.

In the history of science, and its latest branch, the exploration of space, the achievement of Major Titov will never be forgotten.