

Re: Can't We call the early Atlas a SSTO?

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- *From:* Monte Davis <monte.davis@xxxxxxxxxxx>
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John Halpenny <j.halpenny@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

When hypersonic aircraft are available for other uses, they will be used as launchers.

This is so obvious, but apparently so hard to grasp for many space fans. Probably because many popular variations on the "where the Shuttle went wrong" mythology share the premise -- explicit or implicit -- that if NASA had only had a few billion more, a little more nerve and determination and vision, they could have come up with that big hypersonic first stage in the 1970s.

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