

Because the CATM will not leave the aircraft, launch is simulated by the signal processing unit (SPU) within the CATM. The SPU will blank the cockpit display for 1 second after launch is commanded.

VIDEO TAPE RECORDER ASSEMBLY

The video tape recorder assembly (VTRA, figure 5) is used as a recording subsystem for making records of data generated by the GCS during aircrew training missions. The VTRA records the composite video signal generated by the GCS for later playback and evaluation. After recording a simulated launch, the video tape recorder is placed in a standby mode until a new missile activate signal is received, whereupon the recording cycle begins again.

The VTRA consists of a housing, a video tape recorder, a rubber-based mounting plate, interface electronics, and interface wiring.

The video tape recorder is a commercially available unit rugged enough to meet military reliability standards. A standard 1/2-inch, VHS-format cassette tape is used. Two hours recording time is available.

The VTRA provides the necessary electrical and mechanical interface between the video tape recorder and CATM. A record command from the SPU, generated in response to the missile activate signal provided to the GCS, starts the recording process. The video tape cassette continuously records the composite video from the GCS until the end of the simulated launch; whereupon, the SPU turns off the record command signal and waits for the next missile activate command, or the VTR senses an end-of-tape condition, causing it to automatically shut off.

Video tape cassette loading and unloading procedures are discussed later in this lesson.