

U2 Pilot Gary Powers Now an Obscurity in Washington

By DONALD MAY
of the United Press International

WASHINGTON — Four months after he walked to freedom across a Berlin Bridge, former U2 pilot Frances Powers remains an obscure figure around Washington—glimpsed occasionally, talked of more frequently, but always avoiding the public spotlight.

The 32-year-old pilot whose unsuccessful 1960 espionage flight over Russia toppled a summit meeting, has been living quietly in a modern apartment overlooking the Potomac River in suburban Alexandria, Va., generally unnoticed by most of his neighbors.

He is working for the Central Intelligence Agency at duties which are undisclosed but which apparently do not include flying.

He is reported writing a book on his flight, which ended deep inside Russia, his trial and 21 months in a Soviet prison, and his eventual exchange for convicted Soviet spy Rudolph Abel.

With a few exceptions Powers has gone quietly about his business here without publicity since his appearance before a Congressional committee shortly after his return.

One exception was when he ran into a Washington reporter at a fish fry given at the home of a friend. Powers said on that occasion that he was able to walk around downtown Wash-

ington without being recognized but that once when he visited Pope's Creek near the little town of La Plata, Md., he was discovered and people lined up to get his autograph.

Another exception was in late April when his wife Barbara was taken to Georgetown University Hospital here with an acute stomach ailment which the hospital diagnosed as a "medication reaction." Police said she had taken an overdose of sleeping pills.

The director of the CIA, John A. McCone, has been attempting to have the agency show up somewhat less in the newspapers than did his predecessor, Allen Dulles.

All the CIA will say about Powers is that "he works for us."

This attitude undoubtedly stems also from the fact that although the general story is known, there still are quite a number of undisclosed aspects of the U2 flight.

The CIA, on recommendation of a special panel appointed by President Kennedy, gave Powers full exoneration for his conduct during his flight and at his Soviet trial.

The CIA found he had "lived up to the terms of his employment and instructions."

He was given \$50,000 back pay, and the Internal Revenue Service ruled he could spread the taxes on this over two years.

But no one has ever completely cleared up publicly the mystery of how his plane was brought down.

Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev told the Russian people it was done with "a remarkable rocket."

Powers in his Senate testimony said he did not know the answer. His first sign of dis-

aster, he said, was when he "heard and felt" an explosion and saw an orange light.

Then his plane was falling in a spin, and after a struggle against the forces of gravity, he bailed out without being able to start the mechanism which would have destroyed the plane after he left it, he testified.

Former Eugenean Gets M.D. Degree

Bernard Goffe, 24, formerly of Eugene, received the doctor of medicine degree from the University of Washington at June commencement exercises.

Doctor Goffe was an honor graduate, and a member of Al-

pha Omega Alpha, medical honorary. He will intern at Harborview Hospital in Seattle.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Goffe, formerly of Eugene, now residents of Albuquerque, N.M.



Still May Plant Late Garden

If you missed planting your garden with the early birds, don't despair, says County Agent Duane Hatch.

There's still time to set out plants of tomatoes, peppers, cabbages, cucumbers, and to sow seeds of snap beans, sweet corn, summer squash and beets.

In fact, the combination of warm soil and longer days may help you catch up with fore-handed neighbors.

Black plastic mulch, he says, can be a miracle-worker for many gardeners. Spread the plastic mulch over the garden surface as a controller of weeds.

Agricultural agents at Lane Extension Service are available to assist Lane County gardeners with their problems.



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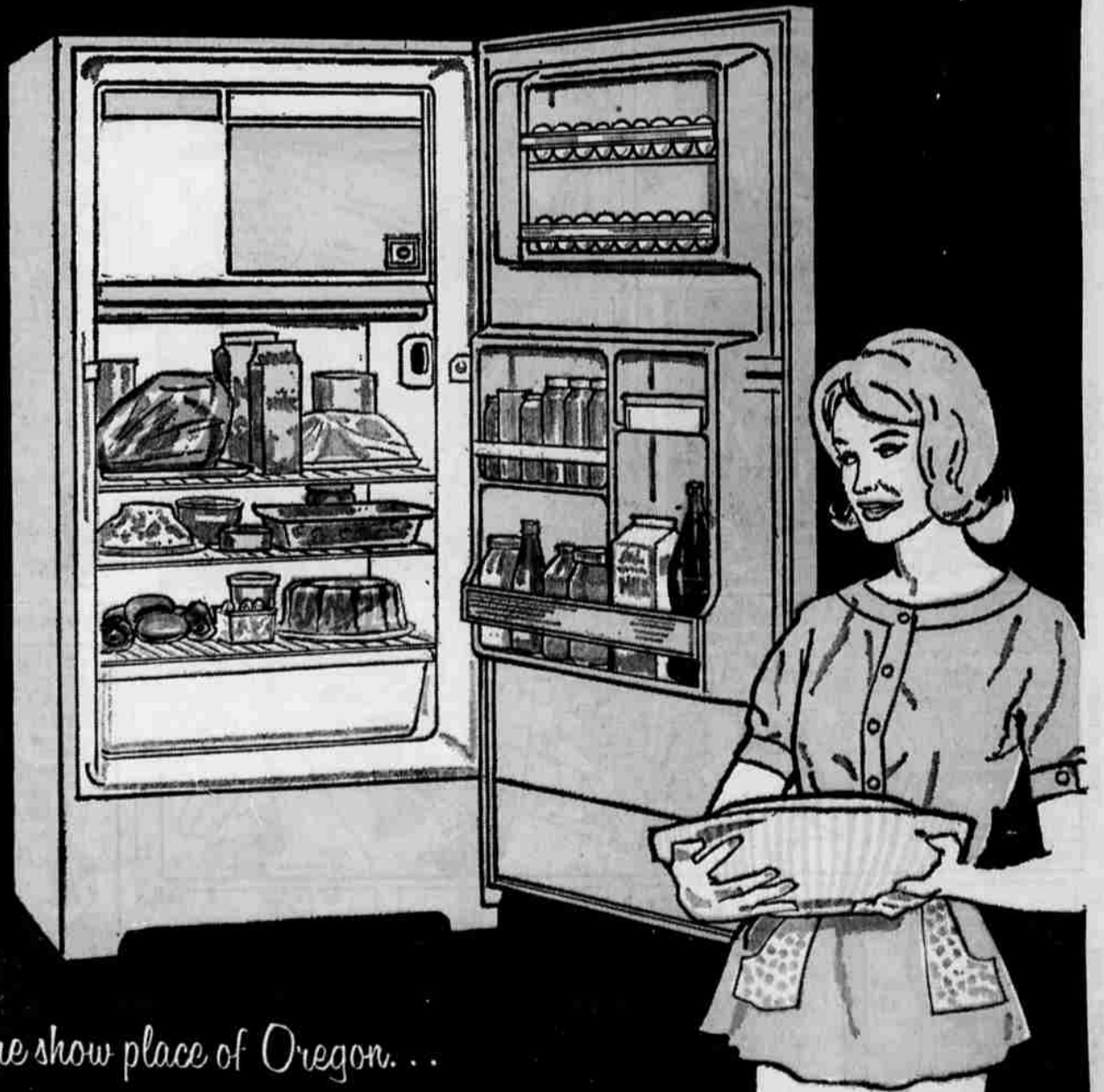
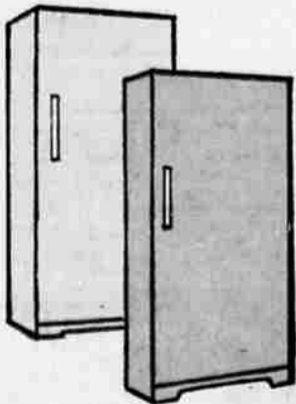
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