

FINAL TESTS ARE GIVEN "Rockoon," combination of rocket and balloon at Woomera, Australia before it takes off. Rocket is on carrier, will be attached to balloon. At 40,000 feet rocket is fired, will soar to 300,000 feet before returning to the earth. (International Soundphoto)

Navigator Aiding Career While on Antarctic Tour

McMurdo Sound, Antarctica—(U.P.)—A young U. S. Air Force navigator is taking advantage of his Antarctic tour of duty to help further his career as an artist.

"I was awed by the beauty and desolation of the Antarctic," said 25-year-old Lt. Gerald G. Tharp, Fort Worth, Tex. The six-foot-four Texan added that the "last continent" presented a great opportunity to him as an artist.

Tharp has had several of his paintings exhibited in galleries in Dallas, Houston and Fort Worth. He hopes he gains enough from his experiences in the South Polar region here to present an exhibition in New York.

One of Tharp's major projects will be to take back to the United States a piece of volcanic rock, found around the Williams Air Operating Facility here on Ross Island in McMurdo Sound. The rock is lava from the last major eruption of 13,000-foot Mount Erebus, snowy rampart to the Antarctic and the only known active volcano on the continent. It towers above the base here and often smoke can be seen issuing from the cone.

Using the rock, Tharp said he will attempt a piece of sculpture depicting some phase of life in the Antarctic—"what little there is"—or some phase of the current operations.

Also Arctic Art
Tharp said "as far as I know, this sort of thing hasn't been done before, and the amount of art dealing with Antarctica has been virtually negligible."

Tharp is here as part of the Air Force task unit supporting the Navy's Operation Deepfreeze II—the 52nd Troop Carrier Squadron, based at Greenville, N. C.

Before being called to the USAF through an Air Force ROTC commission, Tharp was a commercial artist with a preference for fine art work. As navigator of a C-124 Globemaster transport, Tharp has made flights to Italy, Germany, Libya and northern Canada during his two-and-a-half years in the Air Force.

He used his spare time during these overseas duties to further his work, and among his paintings shown in Texan galleries were some depicting Arctic scenes. These were a result of his duty in Greenland and northern Canada. Eventually, Tharp hopes to be able to complete a folio of paintings covering his travels with the Air Force.

"Although I knew this trip to the Antarctic would be extremely interesting from an artistic standpoint, I was really surprised by this beautiful but deadly country," he said.

Tharp, who has made several flights to the South Pole, said the flight to the bottom of the world included "one of the most beautiful sights he had ever seen"—the Beardmore Glacier.

Miles of Nothing
During his five flights to the Pole in the eight days he was here, Lt. Tharp got to know the Beardmore quite well. He was navigator on a C-124 which air-dropped supplies and equipment to the 25 Americans at 90 degrees south—the South Pole.

"As an artist, I appreciated the beauty of the glacier greatly," he said. "It reminds you of the moon until you realize you're actually flying over it."

The glacier also acted as a natural guide for him as navigator for 150 miles of the 800-mile journey from McMurdo Sound. It is almost the only visible guide on the route.

Once the Beardmore has been left behind, the rest of the journey is just "miles and miles and miles of nothing," Tharp commented. The polar plateau is like

BUTTE FALLS Sacramento Family Visits

By MARY JO HARRIS
Butte Falls — Mr. and Mrs. Warren Sisco and family of Sacramento were recent visitors in the Virgil Conley home. Miss Cathy Conley returned to Sacramento with the Siscos for a two week visit. Mrs. Sisco and Mrs. Conley are sisters.

Week end guests in the Bruce Barton home were Mr. and Mrs. R. L. (Bud) McComb and daughter, Connie Rae, of Ashland. The Burtons and the McCombs attended the County Championship game at Crater High.

Mr. and Mrs. Duayne Richardson of Provoit were recent visitors in the Herb Wright home. Mrs. Richardson is a daughter of the Wrights.

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Harris recently motored to Portland for a week end trip. Harris, a delegate for the local union, attended the Broad Conference, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 23-24 of the International Woodcutters of America.

Saturday evening, Feb. 23, the Harris' visited with the Robert Tracy family in Vancouver. Mrs. Tracy is a sister of Harris.

On the return trip, Mr. and Mrs. Harris made a short stop at Eugene to visit with the K. J. Rodgers family. The Rodgers are an aunt and uncle of Mrs. Harris.

The Harris children had spent the week end with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Helbig of Grants, Pass.

Loggers, working for Medco, were laid off this past week for approximately three weeks.

The construction crew is working also.

Weather here has warmed up considerably despite the rain.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Smith recently visited Mrs. Marie Eastburn of Sutherlin. Mrs. Eastburn is a daughter of Mrs. Smith. The Smiths also visited with the Freddie Houck family, Mrs. Smith's granddaughter.

Claude Curtis is home following major surgery at the Sacred Heart hospital. Curtis is reported recovering, and is now convalescing at home.

The Ray Sheppards attended a birthday dinner for Mrs. Sheppard's sister, Mrs. Merle Jacks, of Central Point, at the home of Mrs. Leonard Christean in Grants Pass recently. Mrs. Christean is a sister of Mrs. Sheppard also.

The monthly pot luck supper of the Butte Falls Lions club and auxiliary has been postponed until the second Wednesday of March. A make-up meeting for the Lions will be held the first week in March. Members will be notified as to time and date later.

MAYOR TAGGED
Waterbury, Conn. — (U.P.) — Mayor Edward D. Bergin praised Patrolman Walter Senich for "devotion to duty." Senich had tagged Bergin's car when he found it in a "no parking" zone.

A natural bridge 70 feet high on Petit Jean mountain in Arkansas is the third highest in the United States.

Throat sprays and other sim-

Back Stairs: Complete Rest for Ike?

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House Writer
Washington — (U.P.) — Backstairs at the White House: If President Eisenhower's cough continues, a brief but complete rest, even if only for a couple of days, might be indicated. Thousands of other Washingtonians are suffering from similar complaints at this damp and chilly time of the year and generally their doctors advise bed rest.

This, however, is rather difficult for busy Mr. Eisenhower.

According to the President's doctor and members of his staff, there is nothing serious about Mr. Eisenhower's cough. It just hangs on. The cough is an annoyance to the chief executive who, aside from the slight discomfort, dislikes having to apologize for it when making speeches or during office conferences.

One of the President's associates remarked the other day, "If he only smoked, then the cough would make sense — it sounds just like a cigarette cough."

Mr. Eisenhower has been X-rayed and examined thoroughly in connection with the cough but the doctors can find nothing wrong.

If he were not president of the United States, Mr. Eisenhower probably would be told to stay in bed for a day or two and keep a crook kettle steaming by his side. That's what a lot of other Washingtonians are doing for their mid-winter sniffles and coughs.

But being an active and self-determined man, the President probably would have to be hospitalized before he would submit to keeping his head in a cloud of benzoin-scented steam.

Throat sprays and other sim-

ilar unguents accomplish little in treating a cough of the type currently displayed by the President. The patient may feel better momentarily, but sprays and such really don't get at the trouble, according to the doctors. Consequently, the President is receiving little or no medication.

His cough has been attributed generally to the long hours and exposure to cold weather during the inaugural ceremonies. Actually, there is reason to believe that the cough dates back to his pre-inaugural trip through the dusty drought areas of the Southwest.

When the President was in Thomasville, Ga., recently, he decided to stop hunting at least three days before he departed for Washington because the dusty roads leading through the pinewoods hunting areas made him cough even more.

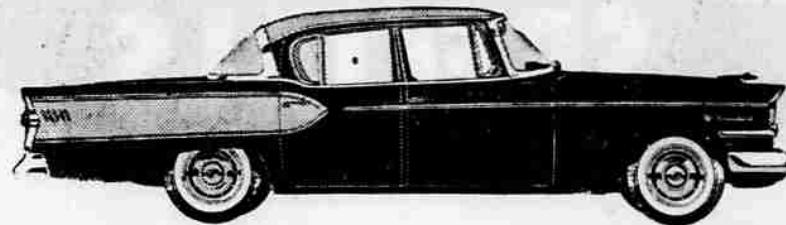
The mules hauling the President's hunting cart sent up clouds of dust right in the chief executive's face.

A sidelight of French Premier Guy Mollet's visit to the White House: Just before the French premier was scheduled to arrive for his first meeting with the President, a desk, being moved from office to office, was noticed standing on one end in the White House lobby.

"I see," observed a lobby lounge, "They're turning the place upside down for the French."

According to the Veterans Administration, patients undergoing treatment for tuberculosis read about 58 books per year, or more books than all other types of patients combined.

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