

The Week in California

Altitude Record, Eisenhower, Defense Department in News

By United Press International

The X15 rocket plane climbed to a world altitude record of 100,000 feet, carrying test pilot Joseph A. Walker, 40, to a dark, unexplored frontier 30 miles above the earth.

Walker took off from Edwards Air Force base, Calif., in the X15 carried under the wing of a B52.

The B52 climbed to an altitude of 45,000 feet at a point near the California-Nevada line. Then the rocket plane climbed into the sky from the B52.

Ground control kept saying on the radio, "You're looking good, Joe."

At one point ground control suggested a change in his course, and he replied, "I can't do anything about course for a while."

Period of Few Seconds

This may have been a period of a few seconds when he experienced moments of weightlessness at zero gravity.

A few seconds later when he was around the 150,000 foot mark, he said, "It's nice

dark blue up here. I do have time to look around."

On the way down, after hitting 100,000 feet, Walker said, "Good heavens, we are shaking to pieces here."

He landed at Rogers Dry Lake at Edwards.

Streaking along a path similar to one made by a ballistic missile, Walker was subjected to weightlessness for 90 seconds at the top of his climb. Engineers said it was the longest period of weightlessness ever recorded, but Walker apparently suffered no ill effects.

Breaks Altitude Mark

Walker, test pilot-engineer for 18 years with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, broke the altitude mark of 100,000 feet set by Maj. Robert White last Aug. 12.

Meanwhile, in Washington, the Defense Department listed 52 military installations in 25 states which it will shut down over the next three years. The department said that among the most significant facilities to be closed was the Benicia Arsenal. The Solano County Arsenal was scheduled to be phased out over a three-year period.

Elsewhere, there were these developments:

Finch: "I love you, Carol."

Dr. R. Bernard Finch as he approached his mistress, Carol Tregoff, only seconds after they were convicted of murdering the surgeon's wife.

He grabbed her, forced her into an embrace — and then suddenly, tears streaming down her face, she withdrew coldly and walked out of the courtroom without saying a word. Their worlds — their 15-month fight for freedom through three trials — had collapsed. The once wealthy surgeon, now broke at 43, faced the gas chamber or life in prison on a first-degree murder conviction.

Carole, 24, was convicted of second-degree murder by the 10-man, 2-woman jury. Both also were found guilty of conspiracy to murder Finch's wife, Barbara Jean, 33, on July 18, 1959. And although Carole received an automatic five years to life sentence on the second-degree charge, she technically also could be condemned to the gas chamber for conspiracy.

Conspiracy to murder carries the same penalty as first-degree murder. And prosecutor Clifford Crail immediately announced he would seek the death penalty for both lovers.

Eisenhower: Representatives of the 120,000-member Japan International Student Council personally apologized to former President Eisenhower in Palm Springs for the June riots in Tokyo that forced him to call off his scheduled visit.

Eisenhower, beaming with obvious pleasure over the meeting, placed his arm around the group's principal spokesman, Koichi Morita, and said the formal apology was "not necessary." An aide of Eisenhower's said he had been eagerly awaiting the visit as he felt the meeting would help erase a "blot" on his eight years as president.

Opera: A feud between the San Francisco Opera company and the American Guild of Musical Artists threatened to cancel the company's 1961 season. Robert Watt Miller, president of the opera company, said there will be no opening this fall unless the guild, which represents chorus singers, minor singers, ballet, stage directors and the wardrobe staff, cuts its demands.

Boxing: The California State Athletic Commission is "strongly in favor of proposed legislation calling for a national boxing czar, according to Chairman Dan O. Kilroy. He lauded the bill introduced by Sen. Estes Kefauver before the Senate calling for a national boxing commissioner.

Theme of Annual Cancer Crusade in April Maintained

"Guard Your Family," is again the theme of the annual American Cancer Society crusade which opened in Jackson county April 1, according to local chairman Reese Alexander.

For the third consecutive year, the three-word theme will be used in conjunction with the life-saving phrase: "Fight Cancer With a Check-up and a Check."

Alexander said the combined slogans sum up the cancer problem and what to do about it.

Regular Checkups

"Two of three families here and in the country at large will be eventually struck by cancer. Regular health checkups are their best protection against the disease, and checks are the means to support the scientists who are searching for a cancer cure or preventive," the chairman added.

Noting that some 85,000 Americans died of cancer each year because they went to their doctors too late, Alexander said the ACS gives top priority in its April campaign to its educational effort to prevent the loss of life.

He maintained that the free literature distributed by volunteers throughout the city is designed to stimulate regular health checkups for early detection of cancer.

"The fact that more than one million Americans now living have been cured of cancer," Alexander continued, is proof of the effectiveness of the educational program of the society, the only national voluntary organization fighting cancer through research, education, and service to cancer patients.

Recognition Pins

Given Junior RC

Teacher-Sponsors

Recognition pins were given Junior Red Cross teacher-sponsors in Jackson county schools last week in the Red Cross building on Hawthorne

ave. by Mrs. John Day, chairman of the Red Cross recognition committee. She was assisted by Mrs. MacLeod Maurice.

They expressed appreciation to the teachers for their help in promoting the Junior Red Cross program.

Mrs. Reese Alexander, chairman of the Junior Red Cross, reported on the various projects and activities in Jackson county schools.

A question and answer period was followed by a discussion on possibility of resuming monthly meetings for representatives of the elementary schools.

Projects on display were layettes, hogan kits, decorations and favors, murals, paintings, filled-gift boxes for children overseas.

Prepares Lunch

The Red Cross volunteer canker prepared the lunch which was served by members of the Junior Red Cross committee. Decorations featured the Easter motif.

Teacher-sponsors present were Mrs. Marjorie Votaw, McLoughlin Junior High school; Mrs. Esther Fliegel, Hoover school; Mrs. Joan Williams, Griffin Creek; Mrs. Barbara Doolen, Wilson; Mrs. Edna Olson, Roosevelt; Mrs. Ruth Urse, Oak Grove; Mrs. Norma McCoy, Jefferson; Mrs. Nita Birdseye, Howard; Mrs. Shirley Kannasto, Phoenix; Mrs. Dorothy Hume, Trail, and Mrs. Gloria Thorpe, Briscoe, Ashland.

Assisting with the lunch were Mrs. Paul Lea, Mrs. Robert Johnson, Mrs. Myers Jones, Mrs. Frank Preston and Mrs. Norris Porter.

Los Angeles Man To Speak Tuesday At St. Mark's Hall

The Rev. Stephen H. Fritchman, of the First Unitarian church, Los Angeles, Calif., will speak on "Survival Is Not Enough: What Are America's Proposals for Peace and Disarmament?" at 8 p.m. Tuesday in St. Mark's Episcopal Parish hall, Oakdale ave. and Fifth st.

Since the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima, Mr. Fritchman has travelled to

Japan and Europe to confer with religious groups, scientists, and political leaders concerned with banning the bomb and control of force through a strengthened United Nations. Sponsors of the talk are the Medford chapter, Oregon United Nations association, and the church and the peace inter-church group.

Mr. Fritchman was religious news editor of the New

York Herald Tribune from 1925-27; associate professor of English, school of religious education, Boston university, 1929-30; and a student of the Harvard graduate school, 1930-32.

Since 1948 he has been minister of the First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles. During his 12 years of service there church membership has expanded to more than 1,200

persons representing increasing inter-racial and inter-cultural backgrounds.

The Unitarian minister led the battle with Los Angeles county against imposition of a tax-exemption church loyalty oath, a struggle that ended June 20, 1958, with the U. S. Supreme Court decision affirming freedom of religion.

Salem — (UPI) — A Senate approved bill to extend unemployment compensation benefits by about \$280,000 passed the House Friday.

ON LEAVE

Lawrence LeRoy Todd, husband of Shirley Ann Todd, 3853 South Pacific highway, Medford, recently reenlisted in the Navy with the rating of electronics mate third-class. Todd, a four-year Navy veteran is spending 30 days leave in Medford, and will report to Treasure Island, San Francisco, Calif., for further assignment.

FOURTH LARGEST

Columbia is the fourth largest country in South America.

STAR GAZER
By CLAY R. POLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars. To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

AGES	APR. 22	APR. 23	APR. 24	APR. 25	APR. 26	APR. 27	APR. 28	APR. 29	APR. 30
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Good Adverse Neutral

The Medical Roundup

by

Walter Alvarez

Emeritus Consultant in Medicine
Emeritus Professor of Medicine
Mayo Clinic
(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1961)

Can an Old Person Be Safely Operated On?

Hundreds of old people, many of them over 80, write to ask me if they dare have a much-needed operation.

Perhaps they need to have cataracts removed, a big rupture repaired, painful gallstones removed, a big fatty tumor taken off

their backs, or a goiter cut out. Always I say that if the old person is thin and spry and wide-awake, and can walk quickly along the street — if he is not short of breath, or asthmatic, or if he isn't a chain smoker — he is very likely to survive the operation.

I will never forget the spry little wide-awake and attractive woman of 82 who came 2,000 miles to ask me if I would take her part and talk her doctor son-in-law into letting her have some very painful gallstones removed. She said she had put up with them since she was 40 and she thought that was long enough. I agreed with her; one of my surgical friends agreed, and so a few days later, she was operated on. Next morning, when I was getting along, I found her sitting up in bed, as bright as could be, with her hair nicely arranged. She recovered much more rapidly than many young people do.

Operations Reviewed

Two European surgeons reviewed a series of 585 operations performed on persons

over 70. Seventy-two were over 80 years of age. For the persons who were under 80, the immediate mortality rate was 9 per cent, while for those who were over 80, the corresponding rate was 22 per cent. As one would expect, the immediate mortality after an emergency operation, like that for an acute intestinal obstruction, was higher than normal. It was 21 per cent, while operations which could be put off until the patient was in good shape, had an immediate mortality rate of only 5 per cent.

The commonest of the three causes of post-operative death was embolism (the passage into the lung of a clot which had formed, probably in a vein in the thigh). The other two common causes were heart failure, and pneumonia.

Skill of Anesthetist

Fortunately, today, anesthesia has become so good and so easy on the patient that at much of the success of surgeons when they operate on old people is due to the skill of the anesthetist. The surgeon must be a skillful and fast operator who will do his work in an hour or less.

The immediate mortality of operations for cancer is considerably higher than that for operations on less serious diseases. When a patient over 70, or certainly over 80, has a cancer, the surgeon hates to take out the stomach or half a lung. The reason is that although the patient's life may be lengthened, he is likely to be miserable and unable to enjoy the extra year or two that may be given him. He may not be able to get rehabilitated, and hence he may not be grateful for what was done for him.

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Two Injured in Medford Accident

Two persons were injured, neither of them seriously, in a two-car auto accident Thursday at the intersection of 11th and Fir sts., according to Medford police.

Injured were Moyne E. Simpson, 67, of 1550 Oregon ave., Ashland, and his wife, Clara E. Simpson, 64. Simpson was treated and released at Sacred Heart hospital, and his wife was reported in good condition at the hospital.

Simpson was the operator of a car that collided with a vehicle operated by James David Barry, 17, of 1916 Military rd., about 2:30 p.m. No one was injured in the Barry vehicle.

Medford police said Simpson was cited for failure to stop at a stop sign.

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Buy and hold U.S. Savings Bonds—join the ladies in their work for a stronger Nation in Peace.

A Message from our First Lady

During this Twentieth Anniversary Year of the U.S. Savings Bond Program we salute the volunteer spirit of the Women of America in bringing the Savings Bond message of thrift into our family lives. By buying bonds and encouraging others to do so, we help build a more secure future for ourselves and for our country. Most important, this self-discipline of regular savings helps build the spiritual strength so essential to our continued growth as individual citizens and as a Nation.

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Honorary Chairman, National Women's Advisory Committee for Savings Bonds



Richard Aronson Photo

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