

# Cadet Weddings Moved as Chapel Roof Springs Leak

By EDWARD M. McMANUS  
United Press International  
Air Force Academy, Colo. — Maj. Gen. William S. Stone, superintendent of the U.S. Air Force Academy, stood at his office window on a damp day last spring watching the rain sprinkle on the 17 aluminum spires of the new academy chapel.

was approaching, and many of the graduating cadets hoped to get married in the new chapel.  
Then Stone received the news: A few puddles of water had been discovered on the concrete upper floor, and the contractor was faced with the job of repairing a leaky roof.  
Stone is gone now, transferred to the Pentagon, and his successor, Maj. Gen. Robert H. Warren, has taken over the task of repairing the chapel.  
Kennedy visited the academy to deliver the 1963 commencement address, and planned to stop at the chapel for a first-hand look.  
The usual rash of graduating-cadet weddings—there will be about 40—will have to be held at churches in nearby Colorado Springs.  
Completion of the chapel repairs will not be before mid-summer.  
The leaks in the roof are the latest in a series of problems which have plagued the chapel since it was conceived back in 1954, after a site was chosen in the shadow of the

Colorado Rockies for the Air Force's first service school.  
The biggest roadblock was congressional approval, and the unusual design of Chicago architect Walter A. Netsch was fair game for the oratory of dozens of senators and representatives.  
**Senator Criticizes**  
The \$3.5 million building has 17 spires reaching up to the sky, which prompted one critic, Sen. A. Willis Robertson, D-Va., to describe it as "an assembly of wigwags."  
The chapel's main, upper level houses the Protestant

area, and separate, lower level chapels are provided for Catholic and Jewish services.  
The spires were made of pre-fabricated steel tetrahedrons, which are elongated pyramid-like structures. It was the first time such a construction technique had been used on a building this large.  
When the leaks were spotted, contractor Robert E. McKee of Santa Fe, N.M., began the tedious task of patching them.  
Fire hoses were trained on the spires, and workmen stood inside the chapel to de-

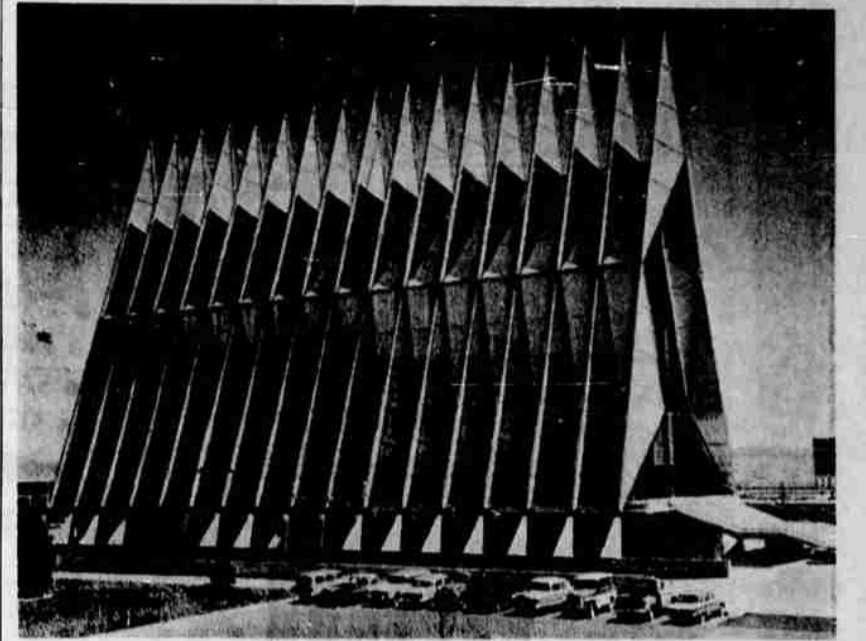
termine just where the leaks were. Only a few spires showed cracks, but all of them were given corrective treatment.  
Steeplacks covered the joints with aluminum stripping, and placed storm windows over the stained-glass windows. The additions are barely noticeable.  
In all, the leak repairs cost \$240,000. The government agreed to pay the bill.  
No pews will be installed in the Protestant chapel until the repairs are finished, but the building is considered per-

fectly safe structurally.  
The lower level has not been affected by the leaks.  
The architect and engineering firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill has taken all the criticism and praise—there has been a lot of both—for the

chapel design. The 150-foot high spires suggest giant wings, symbolic of the Air Force, and the hangar-like quality of the Protestant chapel seems appropriate, too.  
The critics were unmerciful, charging not only that the building did not look like a house of God, but also that its jagged structure seemed to clash with the rolling mountains behind.  
The architects called it "a chapel of the future for an Air Force of the future."

ment or weddings because of leaky roof. The spires loom above the glass and concrete foundations. (UPI)

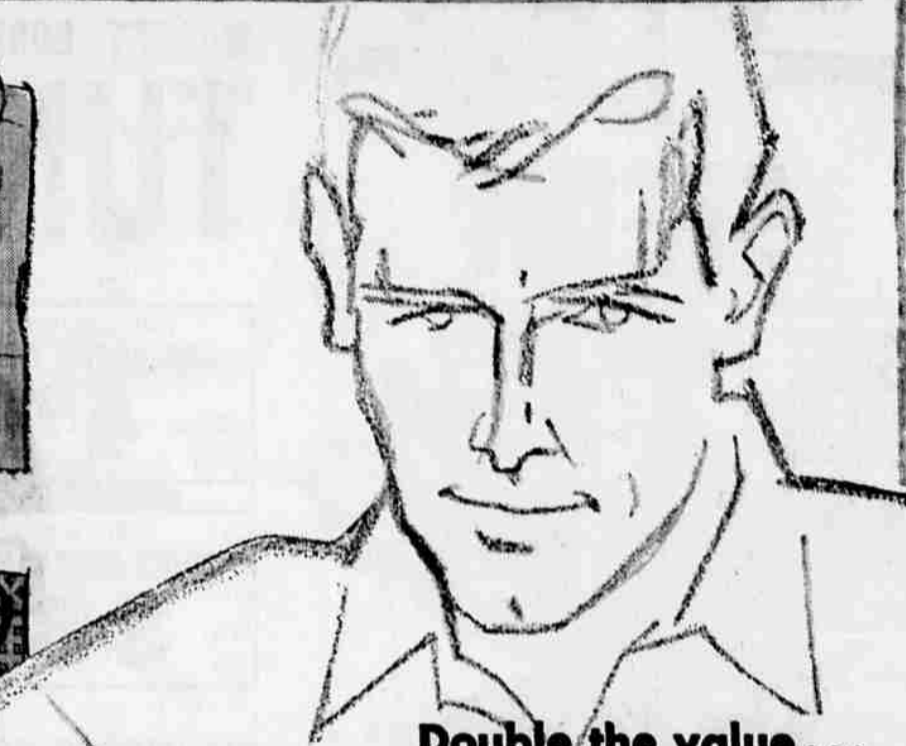
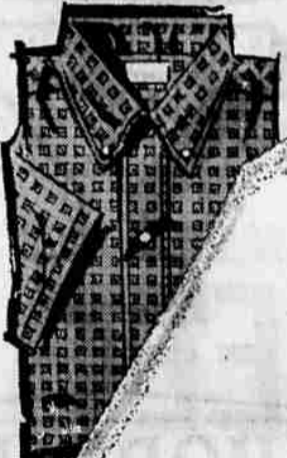
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**ALUMINUM SPIRES**—This new U.S. Air Force Academy Chapel with its 17 aluminum spires could not be used for commencement or weddings because of leaky roof. The spires loom above the glass and concrete foundations. (UPI)

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## Key to Linguistics Found in Oregon

By JAMES J. DOYLE  
United Press International  
Portland, Ore. — The vanishing Indian languages of Oregon may unlock some linguistic mysteries for anthropologists, according to Dr. Joe Pierce of Portland State college.  
When the white man arrived in the Oregon country about 150 years ago, Dr. Pierce said, there were possibly 52 separate languages being spoken here. Many have died, and a few are on the way out.

Pierce, who is going to spend the summer trying to track down and record the dying tongues, says about 15 languages remain, of which little is known. They have never been written down or recorded.

Oregon may have the key to "upset or confirm the linguistic theory," he said. This theory is part of a study to unravel the languages that derived from the six basic language stocks that were spoken on this continent.

Of those six stocks, four of them and possibly five were spoken in Oregon. And three of them were spoken by tribes living side-by-side for centuries in a coastal strip area of Oregon no more than 200 miles long. A fourth dipped into Northern California.

As far as anthropologists have determined, this has never happened anywhere else in the world. In all of Europe there are only two language stocks.

Another mystery is how these tribes lived so closely without one dominating the others, which would have resulted in a single tongue for all.

**Would Not Cross**  
Pierce thinks the tribes of that time, before the arrival of the white man, would not cross mountains. So even if they were aware of another tribe's existence, there was no interchange.

The hard part of tracking down these languages is to find the "informant" or Indian who does speak a certain language and will cooperate.

One of the problems is an understanding of the language. Informants have told Dr. Pierce they spoke a certain language and after lengthy study it was found they spoke an entirely different tongue.

He says informants — when they are found — are usually the remnants of tribal leaders who shunned the white man.

His method, once he has made contact, is to have the informant tell a folk tale or legend in his native tongue which is tape recorded. Then he goes back over to get the English equivalent.

**Hopes To Use Computer**  
He hopes to use a computer to sort the words, eliminate duplications and similar sounds and sounds having different meanings. But computers have to be programmed and this means a lot of manual work. He has not used computers before but has made a study of systems for recording languages electronically.

Dr. Pierce says there is little hope that his task will be completed in its entirety. There just isn't time. He says it would take between 10 and 20 years to record and learn the existing Indian languages in Oregon.

## Castro's Offer for Relations Turned Down

Washington — An offer by Cuban Premier Fidel Castro to "normalize" relations with the United States on his own terms got a cold reception Wednesday at the State Department.

Castro said diplomatic relations could be resumed if the United States would end its demands that Cuba break ties with communism.

"Communism in this hemisphere is not negotiable," said Lincoln White, State Department press officer in commenting on the Castro broadcast.



**DAIRY PRINCESS**—Obviously someone to "cow-tow" to is vivacious Sandra Dee Tibebu, 20, of Auburn, Wash., the 1963 American Dairy Princess. Miss Tibebu, smiling behind a model of a Holstein cow, inaugurated "June Is Dairy Month" at a New York hotel, where this photo was made. (UPI)



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