

New Water Craft Skims Surface

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — U.S. Marine corps assault troops some day may be able to "fly" across the water in their amphibious landing craft instead of chugging along in the old-fashioned way.

FMC corporation of San Jose, Calif., has developed a new amphibious vehicle that scoots across the water on hydrofoils.

The vehicle, designated LVHX2, has been tested in San Francisco bay and turned over to the Navy for further evaluation.

The vehicle has both hydrofoils and wheels — and both are retractable.

In the water, with wheels retracted and hydrofoils extended, it rides on its hull like an ordinary boat until it gains speed. Then it rises up on the hydrofoils and "flies," skimming across the water at more than 35 knots.

As it nears the surf, the hydrofoils are retracted. Then the wheels are dropped to propel the craft through the surf and onto the land, where it can travel as fast as 40 miles an hour.

Road To Bypass Lincoln Monument

By JAMES M. SHEVIS LARAMIE, Wyo. (UPI) — You're driving along U.S. 30 east of Laramie when the engine starts to labor.

You're reaching the highest point along the way.

The motor slacks off, you look to the right and there it is.

The Lincoln monument, one of the most impressive sights a motorist sees anywhere, rises high in the sky atop 8,816-foot Sherman hill.

Designed by Robert Russin of the University of Wyoming's art department, the monument was erected in 1959 to symbolize the trans-continental highway which bears its name.

Today you could drive off the shoulder of U.S. 30, leave the car in ample parking area and walk right up to the statue.

But one or two years from now, don't count on it. For progress is catching up with the Lincoln monument.

A proposed interstate highway is going to bypass Old Abe.

And at least one person — the Rawlins, Wyoming, philanthropist who paid \$40,000 for the monument — has reservations about the re-location.

"I don't like it," says Dr. C. W. Jeffrey.

Tension Is Stock, Trade of Company

CHICAGO HEIGHTS, Ill. (UPI) — Tension may be the bane of modern corporate life, but it's the stock in trade of one manufacturing plant here.

Alco Products, incorporated, exporter of diesel-electric locomotives, has a facility here that produces springs ranging in weight from less than an ounce to more than 900 pounds. They come in lots of sizes but they all have one common denominator: They're designed to bear burdens way out of proportion to their size and keep bouncing back.

The smallest springs the company makes are inch-long models for storm windows. The big ones, which stand five feet high, support missiles in their silos to cushion them from the effects of possible nuclear blasts, so that they'll stay vertical and on target.

Puerto Rico Health Conditions Improve

NEW YORK (UPI) — Mortality in Puerto Rico has dropped nearly one-third in little more than 10 years because of notable improvements in health conditions there, report statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company.

The death rate in the Commonwealth fell from 9.9 per 1,000 population in 1950 to 6.7 in 1962. Much of this reduction reflects increasing control over the infectious diseases, Metropolitan reported.

Current Biennium Collections Increase

SALEM (UPI) — Collections for the first three months of the current biennium totaled \$23,001,533, an increase of \$713,604 or 3.2 percent, over collections for the first quarter of fiscal 1962-63, the State Tax Commission said Wednesday.

'HIAWATHA' PANNED BOSTON (UPI) — When "Hiawatha" was first published in 1855, it took such a critical thrashing from the Boston Traveler that Longfellow's enraged publisher, James Fields, publicly severed all connections with the offending paper.

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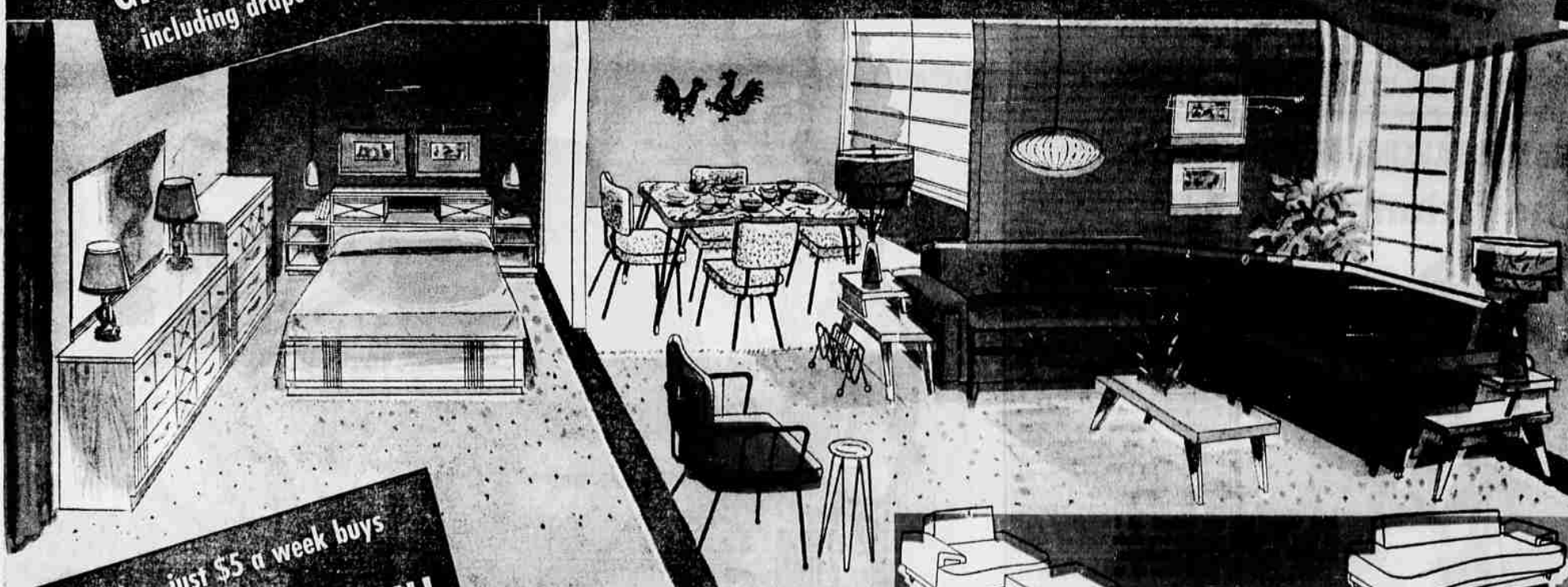
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