

# Invasion of World's Last Uninhabited Continent Has Been Completed



**PRACTICED MARKSMANSHIP** — Floyd Davis displays the No. 8 shooting position at his Sportsdrome Shooting Range in Dallas, Texas, where Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, allegedly practiced his marksmanship prior to the assassination. Two other men who shoot at this range have identified Oswald from pictures as the same man whom they had seen practicing at the range. Davis here is pointing to a target on the No. 8 position. This is not a target that Oswald is believed to have shot at. (UPI)

By MARTIN GERSHBERG

Written For UPI  
**MCMURDO STATION.** Antarctica (UPI) — The invasion of Antarctica is over. Man has occupied the last continent on earth, wresting it from the grasp of a furious mother nature whose awesome powers kept this vast land mass devoid of human life for at least 135 million years.

The final assault on this white continent began on July 1, 1957, start of the International Geophysical Year, when 12 nations pooled their scientific knowledge to establish permanent stations on this 5.5 million square miles of land mostly buried beneath at least a mile of steel hardened ice.

Little more than 50 years ago, a few men gambled their lives against raging snow blizzards, 100-knot winds and temperatures known to plunge 100 degrees below zero just to see the Antarctic.

As recently as 1957, the trip from the United States to Antarctica took 51 days aboard bouncing ice breakers which had to grind their way through rigid frozen seas.

Today Americans come to the ice-bound continent on planes which can make the trip from New York in 44 hours and from New Zealand in as little as seven hours.

This summer, according to Rear Adm. James R. Reedy, commander of U.S. Naval Support Forces, Antarctica, some 3,000 men from a dozen nations live at more than 40 outposts, field bases and permanent stations across the length and breadth of this land.

### Antarctic Summer

Most men come here for the Antarctic summer, a period of daylight lasting from October to March. At least 20 per cent volunteer to winter over during the dark days when transportation between Antarctica and the rest of the world ends for six months because of the forbidding climate.

Even communications break down during the winter period because of magnetic storms and other natural phenomena.

McMurdo Station is the American beach head of Antarctica. The Navy's logistic base is the largest outpost of civilization on the continent.

More than 1,000 servicemen and scientists live here in the summer months; some 250 men remain here all year.

The station, located on the Cape Armitage tip of Ross Island, is built on volcanic ash not unlike the earth found in Hawaii. It lies in the shadow of smoldering Mt. Erebus, Antarctica's only active volcano, and it overlooks the frozen bay ice of McMurdo Sound.

### Royal Society Range

In the distance is the stunning Royal Society Range. The cold blue, ice-covered mountains topped by white frostings of frozen snow leave even the most cynical sailors struck by their majestic beauty.

"It is more beautiful than anything at home," admitted Swiss scientist Bernard Spoerli, Baden, Switzerland, who is on a research project in Antarctica with the University of Minnesota.

Air transportation to all U.S. stations in Antarctica begins from new Williams Field, a runway carved out of the 70-foot thick ice on McMurdo Sound.

The reason for the "new" Williams Field is that the old one is drifting off to sea. Each summer the bay ice breaks and moves slowly seaward. When Williams Field drifted four miles south, it was abandoned and a new runway scraped in the ice.

**Hazardous Air Route**  
McMurdo Station is connected to the nearest point of civilization, Christchurch, New Zealand, 2,130 miles away, by one of the most hazardous air routes in the world.

There are no alternate landing fields for U.S. planes making the daily runs, meteorological reports are scanty, the planes can't carry enough fuel for a round trip non-stop flight and the unpredictable Antarctic weather can keep a plane from landing after it arrives at its destination.

Also, as many blood specialists have said, it will be a great day for medicine when we physicians stop giving transfusions that are not absolutely necessary.

McMurdo and the land bordering the station is littered with barrels of oil, vehicles, food supplies and assorted equipment brought here in summers gone by. The scene resembles a wartime beachhead after the battle has passed. But while equipment in the rest of the world rots or rusts when left unattended, the cold of Antarctica has preserved the material cast aside here.

### Surrealist's Conception

McMurdo Station is a mixture of the past, present and future, resembling some surrealist's conception of a frontier town.

An assortment of 109 insulated huts are clustered about the station's one main but unpaved street. The huts are made of canvas, wood or corrugated metal.

The street begins at the Chapel of the Snows and ends at a huge mess hall where servicemen all ranks eat cafeteria style. Everybody including officers stand in line forchow.

The interdenominational chapel, which also houses the library, is built at the foot of Observation Hill, a solid mound of volcanic rock and ash topped by a huge memorial in memory of Capt. Robert Falcon Scott who conquered the South Pole but died on the Ross Ice Shelf en route back to civilization.

Half way down Observation Hill, overlooking the Chapel, are two green Butler huts which house the nuclear reactor which one day will provide heat, water, electricity and even flush toilets for the station.

The reactor was installed in December, 1961, but has not been working properly, so that all buildings still must be heated by kerosene stoves. A conventional generator provides electricity.

Since the blinding sun never sets during most of the six month summer season, servicemen and scientists work busily around the clock to accomplish a year's activity in half the time.

Navy workshifts are 12 hours, six and a half days a week, but nobody sleeps to mind. Scientists set their own hours.

"The men work better here than elsewhere because they have to if they want to keep

### Biologist Needs More Blue Frogs

ITHACA, N. Y. (UPI) — Prof. Lowell D. Uhler wants more blue frogs.

He already has two of them — but they're both females.

Uhler, a biologist at the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, wants to find out why they are blue instead of the traditional green. In order to do this, he has to breed them.

The professor wants to breed blue frogs with green frogs to see if the offspring would be blue.

In view of the sex of his present two blues, Uhler and a student, Michael Berns of Great Neck, N. Y., plan a project that will take several years but should answer his questions.

Uhler and Berns plan to mate the female blue frogs with a green male frog, hoping eventually to obtain some blue offspring. Then, blue males and blue females will be mated as well as blue males and green females.

By this method, Uhler hopes to determine the genetic basis of the blue color.

Uhler says it takes these species about two years to grow from the egg to the breeding stage, so it will necessarily be a long-term project.

Blue frogs apparently are not uncommon. Since his attention was first called to them, Uhler had advertised in several professional magazines in an effort to obtain live specimens.

Though a number of people have reported seeing them, he has received only several.

Ever see a blue frog?

warm" explained Equipment Operator I-C Willard Cousins, 31, of Goldsboro, N.C., now residing at 22 Saratoga Road, North Kingston, R.I.

Most of the important work of settling into the Antarctic is done during the summer months. In the winter, Navy men stand by for maintenance work. The scientists continue their experiments all year.

Commissary Steward I-C Robert Smith, Carmel, N.Y., said he spent one year at the isolated station — working, sleeping and playing darts, pinocle and cribbage. And growing a fine beard.

McMurdo Station's master at arms, Chief Equipment Operator John Hutchinson, 38, of Oyster Bay, N.Y., devoted his winter to studying Russian, Algebra and a correspondence course in naval regulations.

### "Tourists Come"

"We only worked eight hours a day in the winter because there was less to do. The chow was better then. Things change in the summer when the tourists come," Hutchinson said.

But things are changing everywhere in Antarctica now that the battle for the continent is over. In other years sailors at McMurdo were granted special concessions just as servicemen on combat duty are permitted certain privileges not

found in rear echelon commands.

But with the assault over and the lengthy occupation begun things are changing at McMurdo.

"This is the first year enlisted men saluted me here," said one naval officer who visited here several times before. And beards, once the sign of the veteran Antarctic explorer, are on their way out at McMurdo.

While Antarctica was considered a battlefield, money was no object and much equipment was wasted as Americans fought to get a toehold in the ice.

But Congress last year cut the Navy's annual Operation Deep Freeze budget by 25 per cent, although the new annual allotment of \$19.5 million will be provided for five years.

But Navy Captain Marshall G. Nicholson, Reedy's chief of staff warned that scientific research and costs in Antarctica were going up 2 1/2 per cent each year, and said his new budget would be insufficient.

Capt. James Elliot, McMurdo Station commander, said he had only 13 mechanics to maintain 384 pieces of equipment.

"Under our present budget, we're not making any progress forward; we're merely holding our own on the ice," Elliot said.

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<b>ARIES</b> MAR. 21 - APR. 20 20-26-30-34 44-49-75	1. Transform 2. Inactive 3. Be 4. Modest 5. Careful	31. Conditions 32. Some 33. Things 34. As 35. Pleasant 36. Coming 37. Good 38. May 39. Changes 40. Rather 41. Social 42. You 43. Seen 44. Wind 45. Not 46. Moves 47. Seen	<b>LIBRA</b> OCT. 23 - NOV. 22 4. 5. 7-14 17-24-31
<b>TAURUS</b> APR. 21 - MAY 21 9-10-18-27 44-71-82-89	6. Don't 7. Ideas 8. Stop 9. Go 10. Go 11. No 12. Into 13. Day 14. Cling 15. Day 16. Reality 17. To 18. Don't 19. Doubt 20. Fine 21. You'll 22. Favorable 23. For 24. Outraged 25. For 26. Vibrations 27. Repeat 28. Have 29. May 30. Ave.	61. Everything 62. Dispute 63. Well 64. Activities 65. Be 66. Home 67. And 68. Purer 69. For 70. Year 71. You 72. May 73. Impressed 74. Around 75. Romance 76. Pocketbook 77. At 78. Assume 79. Seek 80. Advice 81. A 82. Are 83. Serious 84. Visiting 85. Under 86. Control 87. Friends 88. Proportions 89. To 90. Standstill 91. 12/12 92. Neutral	<b>SCORPIO</b> OCT. 24 - NOV. 22 42-47-56-58 61-63-85-88
<b>GEMINI</b> MAY 22 - JUNE 21 1-6-45-48 51-70-76	1. No 2. Into 3. Day 4. Cling 5. Day 6. Reality 7. To 8. Don't 9. Doubt 10. Fine 11. You'll 12. Favorable 13. For 14. Outraged 15. For 16. Vibrations 17. Repeat 18. Have 19. May 20. Ave.	93. Service 94. 67-84-87 95. 13-25-33-41 96. 64-67-84-87 97. 11-19-21-28 98. 12-17-32 99. 22-23-39-46 100. 53-66-73	<b>SAGITTARIUS</b> NOV. 23 - DEC. 22 50-55-59-62 72-78-83-88
<b>CANCER</b> JUNE 22 - JULY 21 2-8-12-16 40-42-79-80	1. No 2. Into 3. Day 4. Cling 5. Day 6. Reality 7. To 8. Don't 9. Doubt 10. Fine 11. You'll 12. Favorable 13. For 14. Outraged 15. For 16. Vibrations 17. Repeat 18. Have 19. May 20. Ave.		<b>CAPRICORN</b> DEC. 23 - JAN. 22 13-25-33-41 64-67-84-87
<b>LEO</b> JULY 22 - AUG. 21 33-38-43-49 65-77-81-90	1. No 2. Into 3. Day 4. Cling 5. Day 6. Reality 7. To 8. Don't 9. Doubt 10. Fine 11. You'll 12. Favorable 13. For 14. Outraged 15. For 16. Vibrations 17. Repeat 18. Have 19. May 20. Ave.		<b>AQUARIUS</b> JAN. 23 - FEB. 19 11-19-21-28 12-17-32
<b>VIRGO</b> AUG. 22 - SEPT. 21 3-15-29-34 57-68-74	1. No 2. Into 3. Day 4. Cling 5. Day 6. Reality 7. To 8. Don't 9. Doubt 10. Fine 11. You'll 12. Favorable 13. For 14. Outraged 15. For 16. Vibrations 17. Repeat 18. Have 19. May 20. Ave.		<b>PISCES</b> FEB. 20 - MAR. 21 22-23-39-46 53-66-73

## The Medical Roundup

By

Walter Alvarez

Emeritus Consultant in Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
Emeritus Professor of Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1963)



**Serum Hepatitis**  
As I have said several times in this column, there are two main types of hepatitis or inflammation of the liver. One is the usually mild, harmless disease which we physicians have known about for centuries. We used to call it infectious jaundice. It is due often to drinking contaminated water. It doesn't seem to be due to contacts of an infected person with members of his family, or with neighbors or friends.

The hepatitis which is very dangerous is the one that comes usually two or three months after a person has had a transfusion. I was just reading an important editorial in the JAMA, in which the statement is made that a blood transfusion "causes death in approximately one of every 150 transfusions, in persons over 40 years of age, as a result of serum hepatitis." That is so big a risk that no one is ever going to give me a transfusion unless I very definitely need one to keep from dying. Blood experts keep telling us that today thousands of transfusions are given which weren't really necessary; it just has become the custom to give people transfusions when, perhaps, or are somewhat anemic. As the editorial writer said, many hundreds of transfusions are given in this country every day.

One of the most distressing features about a transfusion of blood is that, in spite of every care that is taken, some of the

donors will be found to be carriers of the virus. It is a curious fact that the virus which lives in the donor doesn't seem to bother him at all, but if it gets into someone else, and he is over 40, it may easily kill him. In some age-groups, the incidence of a serious hepatitis after a transfusion runs from eight to 20 per cent — which means that one in five persons can get into serious trouble.

An editorial writer went on to say that if a person who just must have a transfusion of blood is given some gamma globulin with it, he can be saved from getting serum hepatitis. Gamma globulin is a part of the blood which has a decided tendency to save people from getting a viral disease, such as measles or hepatitis. The gamma globulin can be given in two doses of 10 milliliters each, a month apart, the first one immediately after the transfusion.

At present, much of the gamma globulin that is available is being given to children to immunize them against measles. Fortunately, today, with the development of a good vaccine against measles, there will be much less need for gamma globulin, and then it can be used to protect people from getting serum hepatitis.

Also, as many blood specialists have said, it will be a great day for medicine when we physicians stop giving transfusions that are not absolutely necessary.

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