

Navy Fliers Find Ice-Free Oasis In Midst Of Frozen Antarctic; Movies Taken Of Lakes And Bare Mountains

By The Associated Press

U. S. navy fliers have discovered a strange lake-studded "oasis" tucked into the wastes of ice and snow which comprise the vast continent of Antarctica and there is much speculation as to whether the remarkable area is warm enough to support year-around human life in comfort.

A combined American press dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Alton L. Blakeslee last (Tuesday) night said discovery of the ice-free inland region, 40 miles wide, might be one of the most important yet made by the navy expedition now studying the little-known down under continent.

Expeditionary leaders, Blakeslee said, considered the discovery of the greatest significance from the standpoint of geology and geography.

Capt. Robert S. Quackenbush Jr., chief of the expeditionary staff, said this land of lakes region was discovered by fliers of the expedition's western task group reconnoitering in PRM Mariner planes Monday in the Knox coast vicinity.

They described it as a remarkable inland "oasis" of muddy pea green lakes—some of them big enough to land a plane on—and tall, dark mounds of apparently bare earth rising 500 feet above the surface.

Messages to the headquarters ship from Capt. Charles A. Bond, commanding the western wing, described the lakes as being "of a pea green, muddy color, interspersed with dark blue and light green." Bond said there was no smoke to be seen in the region, indicating that the conical mounds resembled volcano peaks.

Exact location of the area was

not given nor were the number of lakes and mounds sighted specified, but Bond said photographers' planes took colored motion pictures and still shots of the area, which he said had a radius of about 20 miles, and a width of about 40 miles. Blakeslee said there was speculation on the headquarters ship that the existence of warm water springs might be the explanation for the inland lake area.

Regarded as additional evidence that the new land of lakes region was comparatively warm were reports from mariners returning to the mother ship that much new ice was forming on the sea.

Merchant's Meet Slated

Nick Long of the Klamath Merchants' association has called a meeting of the group for Thursday morning at 10:30 in the chamber of commerce rooms, according to Charles Stark, chamber manager.

The meeting will deal with the possible raise in delivery and pickup freight rates, which is to be discussed by the interstate commerce commission in Chicago in the near future, Stark said.

Klamath merchants have expressed a desire to study and formulate an opinion on the move before the meeting, Stark added, and it is for that purpose that the meeting was called.

Accident Injures Two Pedestrians

SEATTLE, Feb. 12 (AP)—Glen Edward Quier, 23, of Hillsboro, Ore., was charged with negligent driving yesterday after an accident in which two pedestrians were injured on a downtown street.

Traffic Patrolmen L. W. Webb and C. F. Kirchner said Quier was traveling only a few feet behind another machine but in another traffic lane when the pedestrians stepped into the path of his automobile.

Harry I. Sheldon, 72, received a broken leg and head injury, and Mrs. Henrietta Gassert, 60, incurred breaks in both legs.

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Barton Assigned Missionary District

BEND, Feb. 12 (AP)—The Right Rev. Loris W. Barton has taken over duties of the bishop of the eastern Oregon Episcopal missionary district.

Installation ceremonies at the Trinity Episcopal church were attended by church dignitaries from six western states Monday night. The Norwalk, Ohio, native, who was consecrated as a bishop there last November, moved the missionary headquarters here from Pendleton after a trip through the district.

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