

Space Men Learn How To Survive

CAPE CANAVERAL (UPI) — Strange days on the doorsteps to space.

John Glenn, America's first orbiting astronaut, has learned how to use a native blowgun. He added this somewhat obscure talent to his versatile repertoire during a recent survival course in Panama.

With nowhere to go in space for another 15 months or so, Glenn and his 15 fellow Mercury Gemini astronauts have spent the past few weeks learning how to get along in earth's jungles and deserts — in case they should accidentally land there.

If happiness is a 12-foot boat constrictor, then survival training can be fun.

An instructor's favorite trick during full periods of the astronauts' sojourns into the wilds is to stuff the snake into a candidate's overnight pack.

The boat constrictor is relatively harmless, even if the victimized astronaut thinks otherwise when first coming face to fang with the fearsome-looking beast in the sleepy hours of the morning.

Closer to civilization, astronauts prove to be just as human as the rest of us.

Spaceman Virgil I. (Gus) Grissom's contribution to this little homily has been the collection of speeding tickets. The diminutive astronaut was nabbed recently for allegedly doing 75 miles per hour in his sports car on a Florida road.

Grissom came similarly at variance with the state's speed laws last November — at a cost of \$20.

For the record, Grissom toiled along at 5,280 miles per hour on his sub-orbital flight through speed-lawless space on July 21, 1961.

Lt. Col. John A. (Shorty) Powers was silenced as the "voice of the astronauts." NASA officials said, in an over-all realignment of personnel at the close of Project Mercury.

The real reason, according to informed sources, was that Powers

Development Of Nuclear Weapons Led To Test Ban Attempts

EDITOR'S NOTE: Russia and the United States, on the brink of war over Cuban missile bases less than a year ago, recently signed a treaty designed to steer mankind away from possible nuclear destruction. Now it is before the U.S. Senate for ratification. In the following dispatch, a veteran UPI reporter who covered the first Bikini bomb tests describes the nuclear race which led to the treaty and what it has meant to space-age weaponry.

By JOSEPH L. MYLER
United Press International
WASHINGTON (UPI) — His-

Workers Sign New Contract

VANCOUVER, Wash. (UPI) — Aluminum Company of America signed a contract agreement with the Aluminum Trades Council of Vancouver Friday.

The local trades council, which represents 1,000 men, had been in negotiations with Alcoa officials for 45 days.

Crux of the negotiations was a worker demand for a ten-consecutive week holiday every five years. The workers also asked that they be paid for 13 weeks during the vacation, with the extra three weeks pay going into a savings account which will be paid upon retirement.

The new contract would also provide 75 weeks base pay for workers retiring with 25 years service.

The agreement would expire July 31, 1964.

ers stepped on numerous NASA toes — from administrator James E. Webb on down — when he went on a lecture-for-pay tour for a publications firm that was negotiating to "buy" the personal stories of the astronauts.

The selection of former Washington newsman Paul Haney to replace Powers appeared to please most "space beat" reporters who preferred a man with news-handling experience in a news-handling job.

story's first nuclear weapon was exploded in the summer of 1945. Its power frightened even those who made it. Some called it the "ultimate weapon."

It was so bulky that only the biggest U. S. bomber could carry it.

It weighed five tons. But it was equal in violence to nearly 20,000 tons (20 kilotons) of TNT.

This bomb and another one, dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima in World War II, killed 106,000 persons outright and inflicted grievous injury on 97,000 more.

The first combat use of a nuclear weapon was the bombing of Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945. The second was the bombing of Nagasaki on Aug. 9, 1945. To date there have been no others.

But in the 18 years after the first experimental blast in the New Mexican desert there have been approximately 450 nuclear test explosions.

The first nuclear bomb represented a 4,000-fold jump in power over TNT weapons. Now there exists in the Soviet arsenal a weapon with an energy potential 5,000 times greater than the early A-bomb's.

Like the bombs of 1945, the Soviet weapon can be carried only by a heavy modern bomber, although missiles or spacecraft capable of delivering it may be in the cards.

The Soviet bomb is equivalent in energy to 100 million tons (100 megatons) of TNT. This one weapon could do to greater New York what those little ones of 1945 did to Hiroshima. Its toll would be reckoned not in thousands but in millions of lives.

The 25-megatonner is the biggest bomb in the U. S. arsenal. This country, scientists say, could have developed a 100 megaton bomb any time it wanted to in the past 10 years. But the 25 megatonner is considered the biggest with any real military worth.

Since 1945 both sides have exploded more than 400 nuclear test weapons equal in power more than 511 million tons (511 megatons) of TNT. This works out at 25,550 times the power of the Hiroshima bomb.

Of the 311 megaton total, the Russians exploded 357.7 megatons and the United States and Britain together, 153.3 megatons.

If nuclear experimentation should continue indefinitely, according to the experts, the variety of weapons might also be expanded indefinitely, resulting at one extreme in the "gigaton" weapon.

This would be a bomb equal to 1,000 megatons of TNT. It probably would weigh 100 to 200 tons. It could hardly be delivered by anything but a submarine or surface of killing with radiation at

MISHAP KILLS DIVER

NEW YORK (UPI) — A skin diver stabbed himself to death with his own spear gun Sunday when he was knocked off balance by a huge wave crashing against a stone jetty near Jones Beach. Authorities said Robert Petty, 31, Westbury, N. Y., was adjusting his face mask and had wedged his spear gun between rocks when the wave came, impaling him on the spear.

MAKES BOGUS CATCH

NEW YORK (UPI) — Michael Rampino, 28, while fishing from a Brooklyn pier Sunday, hauled in a bundle of 49 one-hundred-dollar bills. They were counterfeit.

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short range without destroying property or contaminating the atmosphere. This, the little "clean" H-bomb, is otherwise known as the neutron bomb.

Now the three nuclear powers have proposed a limited test ban treaty. It would not necessarily halt the arms race, but it might slow development of horrible new weapons and curb contamination of the world's atmosphere with dangerous debris.

It would prohibit tests in the atmosphere, under water, and in space. It would permit only those deep or shallow underground surface ship. A few of them exploded

off the West Coast could doom half of the United States.

At the other end of the scale might be the tiny H-bomb capsules which did not pollute the air outside the testing nation.

The United States apparently has a fine head start on all other nations in testing underground.

NIKITA WINS MATCH

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Basketball has always been his game, Secretary of State Dean Rusk said Sunday in offering an explanation of why he lost a badminton match with Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev.

So far 71 of its tests have been underground. The British have tested two nuclear devices in underground shots in Nevada. The French, according to reports, have staged two underground explosions. Russia is known to have exploded one nuclear weapon underground.

Authorities have emphasized that the limited test ban would not, of itself, slow down the stockpiling of nuclear weapons.

Missiles are the big thing these days. But this country has 500 or more B32 and 1,000 or more B47

bombers capable of carrying its big city-killing bombs. Practically every U.S. warplane is geared to deliver nuclear weapons of one kind or another.

A recently published list shows that the United States has 34 different kinds of missiles—aside from its warplanes—designed to deliver nuclear blows. Of the 34 types, 24 are said to be ready to fire with the other 10 still in the development stage.

Less is known about Soviet capabilities. But the Russians have their Badger, Bear, and Bison warplanes, plus a long list of

ballistic missiles. Of a dozen Soviet missiles capable of delivering nuclear warheads at various distances, 10 are said to be ready for combat and two are still under development.

Both countries have striven constantly to improve weapon efficiency—to get "more bang per pound" of warhead. There is some belief that Russia may be somewhat ahead in this respect, at least in the bigger bombs.

Both sides also have been trying to cut down the size of the costly and radioactively "dirty" fission triggers of their H-bombs.

If another trigger can be made, it will be possible to replace high-priced and inefficient tactical weapons, now all fission, with cheap and efficient fusion weapons. In this category would be the so-called neutron bomb.

Work on the all-fusion bomb can be done with underground testing. The Moscow treaty would not stop it.

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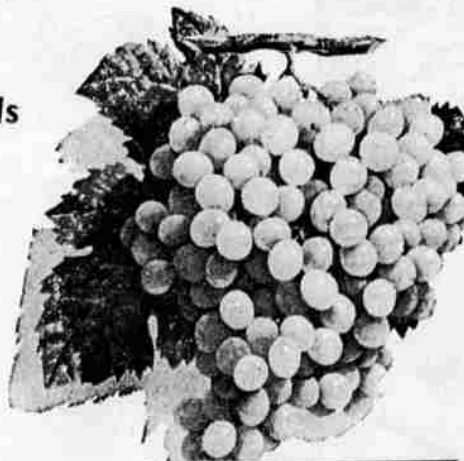
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