

# Astronaut Ranks To Supply Future Chiefs

By COL. RAY CROMLEY  
NEA Military Analyst  
WASHINGTON (NEA)—There is a strong feeling among Air Force officers that in a decade or so Maj. Virgil Grissom, Maj. Donald Slayton, Maj. Gordon

Cooper or one of their fellow astronauts will be Air Force Chief of Staff, or at least a principal deputy. All three of these original Air Force astronauts were promoted to major one to two years

ahead of their contemporaries. Unofficially it's a good bet their next promotions also will be faster than normal. Air Force planners see a great deal of the force's future in space. They figure the offi-

cers with space know-how will have the inside track. The astronauts will have both the practical and technical experience. The world has gotten around to junior officers. I talked to an Air Force captain who recently made a stab at getting into the first rung of the space program. His reason? "That's the way to get ahead in the Air Force."

Air Force personnel men have done a lot of talking about astronaut prospects in their bull sessions. The consensus: the astronauts are the group likely to be running the Air Force when today's crop of majors are top-rung generals. The outlook for Navy astronauts is almost as good. Cmdr. Alan Shepard is expected to make captain in 1965, Cmdr. Walter M. Schirra in 1967, Lt. Cmdr. Scott Carpenter is expected to make commander in 1965.

The Navy planners also see a major role for the Navy in space, not as large as the Air Force role, but a big role, nevertheless. That will open the door for some space admirals. But career-minded Navy men are thinking of other possibilities, too. Navy "rulership" seems to run in cycles. Once it was the "battleship men" who ran the Navy. That is, many of the men who rose to the top had come from long service on the big battleships. Then the tide turned and the aviator-carrier men took over. Of late, it looks as though submariners are coming to the top. The young Navy commanders these days think that in another decade or so astronaut types may pull the strings.

I talked to one Navy personnel expert who has been close friends with Cmdr. Schirra since their early days in the Navy. Naturally, they have often discussed promotions. Said the personnel man, "I'd trade promotion chances with Schirra any day."

Until recently there had been a strong bar to astronaut promotions. Traditional Navy "career pattern" theory put great emphasis on ship, squadron, division and fleet "command" in an officer's background.

This tradition was so strong that in April last year Vice Adm. John Hayward, then deputy chief of naval operations for development took a demotion to rear admiral in order to secure a command of a carrier division. He felt that his future career depended on having that command on his record. (He's now back up to vice admiral as commander of the Pacific Anti-Submarine Warfare Force.)

Vice Adm. William Raborn was so much of a genius in the Polaris development program that he was kept in that slot for six years. This very success kept him from high sea command and therefore made it unlikely, according to close Raborn associates, that he would have ever made Chief of Naval Operations, despite his abilities. (Meanwhile, a heart condition has forced Adm. Raborn's retirement.)

This "command" barrier to astronaut promotions was discounted by controversial Adm. George Anderson shortly before he retired as chief of naval operations and became ambassador to Portugal.

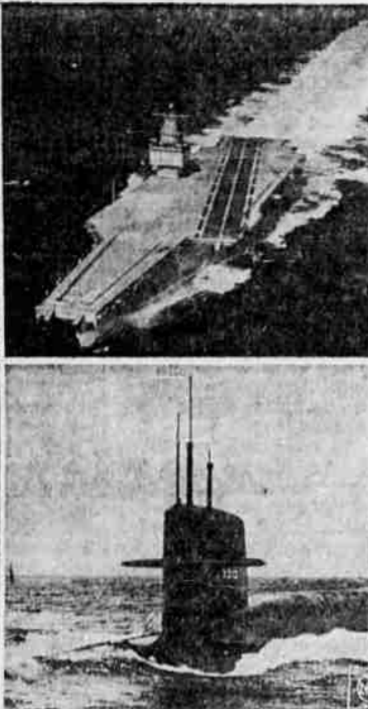
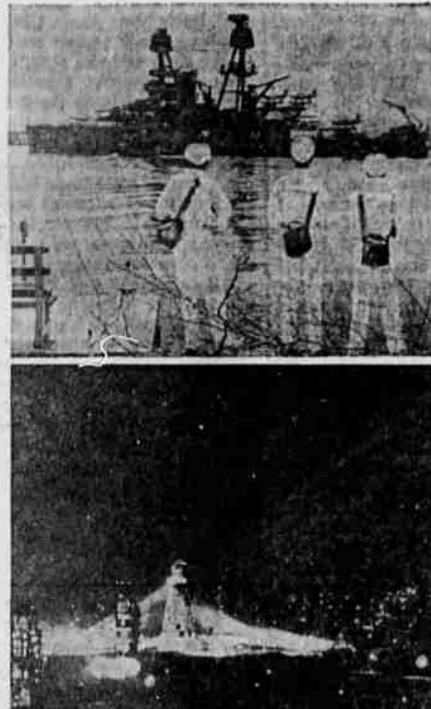
Adm. Anderson directed Navy promotion boards to disregard the normal Navy career pattern requirements in considering astronauts for promotion. He pointed out that the astronauts were serving in the national interest.

Lt. Col. John Glenn's situation is different. He is, of course, the only astronaut member of the Marine Corps. This corps has no space mission in sight.

There's no doubt Lt. Col. Glenn will make colonel next year right on schedule. His long-term prospects within the regular Marine Corps establishment aren't so clear. Glenn has been with the space program four years. It's quite likely he'll be in another six or more. By that time he will have been out of the normal Marine Corps swing for a decade. He will have been doing critical things in the nation's interest. But by and large these things will not necessarily prepare him to be one of the Marine Corps' 60 generals.

This problem is bothering top Marine Corps brass. One general told me "I'd hate to be the man who has to solve this one."

## Ways to the Top—



TRADITION MAY CHANGE — Military observers hold that the way to progress through the ranks had traditionally been with battleship service; then aircraft carrier men had the advantage, followed by submarine experts. In days to come, astronauts may wield control of this branch of service. Depicted with the battleship, carrier and submarine is a night scene at Cape Canaveral prior to a space launch.

## 1st U.S. Spaceman (Almost) Was 1913 Movie Daredevil

Editor's Note: The following story, about movie daredevil Rodman Law, appeared in a May, 1915, issue of The American Magazine.

Famous in the records of motion picture sensations are the achievements of Rodman Law, parachute leaper and general daredevil, who, about two years ago, startled the country by announcing that he would have himself shot up to a great height inside of a monster sky rocket and then come down to earth by means of a parachute.

Early in 1913 experiments were begun in the outskirts of Jersey City, where a cat and a dog, provided with self-acting parachutes, were fired to a height of several hundred feet in small rockets and landed safely; the cat, scared, ran away, while the dog seemed to enjoy it. Encouraged by these trials Law had a rocket built about 12 feet long and three feet in diameter with a pole of timber four inches square to serve as a stick. In the head of the rocket was a paper-mache wash tub for Law to stand in and under this, in-

side the big tube, was packed five feet of sand and mud dug up from the Newark meadows. Finally, at the bottom of the tube was placed a barrel of powder with an extra half barrel added at the last moment by the Italian manufacturer, who wished to make sure that there was enough explosive force to lift this human projectile. There was.

At last, after hours of waiting, the critical moment came—it was a raw day in March—and a great crowd gathered along the Newark plank road near the canal thrilled as the Italian lighted a 29-foot fuse, while Rodman Law at the peak of the rocket and apparently quite calm stood ready to begin his aerial flight. Mrs. Law, who had just kissed her husband goodby, watched in terror near the foot of the scaffolding, and a big policeman prophesied that the rocket would land in Elizabeth, N.J., 10 miles distant—he said it was aimed exactly in that direction.

Meantime J. Alexander Leggett, the camera man for Pathe Freres, was grinding away at his motion picture machine. Presently the explosion came, a shattering blast that flattened out heavy hill boards in all directions and caused such a volume of smoke that it was impossible to tell how high the rocket went. Law himself thought it rose about 15 feet, but he was half dazed when he was dragged forth from the wreckage. It seems the Italian had packed in so much powder that the restraining side timbers had been blown out laterally and the whole rocket had collapsed. The young man himself, by some miracle, suffered only bruises and, as soon as he was rescued, proceeded fiercely to upbraid the fireworks maker for his inefficiency.



FIRST 'SPACEMAN'? — Famous in moving picture sensations was Rodman Law, shown here as he was about to be shot into the air in a monster sky rocket in 1913.



THREE-TWO-ONE-BOOM — Inside this sky rocket was Rodman Law who planned to come down in a parachute. Unfortunately — or fortunately — he never got very far off the ground.

## TITLES OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Army and Air Force Rank	Navy Rank
Chief of Staff	Chief of Naval Operations
General	Admiral
Lieut. General	Vice Admiral
Major General	Rear Admiral (Commodore)
Brigadier General	Captain
Colonel	Commander
Lieut. Colonel	Lieut. Commander
Major	Lieutenant
First Lieutenant	Lieutenant (j/g)
Second Lieutenant	Ensign

## Cradle Warmer Developed

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—The same principle that makes it possible for the X15 rocket plane to fly at speeds of 2,000 miles an hour without its windshield fogging has been used to develop a cradle warmer for newborn infants. The warmer could make receiving blankets obsolete.

The warmer was developed by the Sierra Corp., a small firm in nearby Burbank, which had built the X15's windshield with an internal heating system.

Inventor of the cradle warmer, William H. Lawson Jr., said tests have been encouraging enough to warrant building of more units.

A prototype of the warmer currently is being tested by Dr. Thomas K. Oliver, director of the University of Washington's Nurseries and Premature Cen-

ter. Other models will be turned over to the Los Angeles County General Hospital, the Loma Linda School of Medicine and the Underwriters' Laboratory.

The warmer is simply a clear plastic with an inside conductive coating that is heated by electric current.

The cover maintains a constant temperature in the cradle during the critical hours following the infant's birth. This constancy is especially important in the case of premature infants.

At present a receiving blanket is used to help the infant maintain body heat. If the infant's body heat drops too rapidly he goes into shock.

Lawson said another advantage of the cradle warmer is that a baby may be examined safely or even cleaned and checked without use of blanket.

## Proper Storage Of Mower Important

By MR. FIX  
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

An important part of the transition to cooler weather is the proper storage of tools. In no case is this more important than it is with your power mower.

You'll probably continue cutting your grass until it doesn't grow higher than three inches. Yet, if you just park the mower in the garage or a corner of the basement you'll find that by the next time you use it rust or gum or both will have taken over. You may even find

yourself in the market for a new mower.

Remove Gas Start by removing every drop of gasoline from the tank, fuel line and carburetor. Even over a short period, gasoline will evaporate leaving behind a gummy residue that will clog everything.

Run the mower with an almost empty tank until it stops of its own accord. This should leave the carburetor dry and clear. Make certain the tank and line are drained.

There are several ways to do this, depending on the mower. Sometimes unscrewing the gas tank shut-off fitting will accomplish it. Some tanks are removable, others must be drained by turning over the entire mower.

Once you've run the mower dry remove the spark plug wire for all further work. It's the only safe way to work on a mower.

If your mower has a separate oil tank, remove the plug and drain it. Pour in a spoonful of clean oil and turn the engine over slowly several times. This

will spread the oil over the cylinder walls. Replace the plug. Clean the mower thoroughly. This will prevent rust from forming.

Reel Mowers On reel mowers, cut away the grass that gets wrapped around the reel shaft. Clean off cutting edges. On rotary mowers remove all the caked dirt and grass from the underside of the blade housing.

Follow manufacturer's instructions for lubricating your mower. Wipe metal parts with an oil-soaked rag. You can protect cutting edges with a coating of grease.

The mower should be stored in a dry place. Contact with a concrete or gravel floor won't do the tires any good. Best way to store the mower is by resting it on a couple of scrap 2x4s in such a way that the weight is taken off the tires entirely.

For further protection wrap the mower base and engine with a piece of heavy paper, canvas, old blanket or similar material.

Come spring, if you've stored your mower properly, all you will have to do is add gas and oil.



TALK THOSE CRACKS While Weather is Good.

## Well-Planned Home Features Western Flavor

A delightfully Western atmosphere prevails in the exterior styling of this well planned ranch home. Front placement of kitchen and dining nook leaves the more private rear location for the living room, away from a lot of unnecessary traffic.

Door to terrace expands the living space considerably especially as the terrace is partially protected and screened from view by projecting garden tool shed on one side and the house at the other. Proper landscaping would make it an ideal place for sun-bathing and pleasant

soiling during the warm summer months.

Living room contains maximum wall space and large garden view window making it an easy room to furnish comfortably.

Notice the kitchen traffic and work layout: Garage and base-

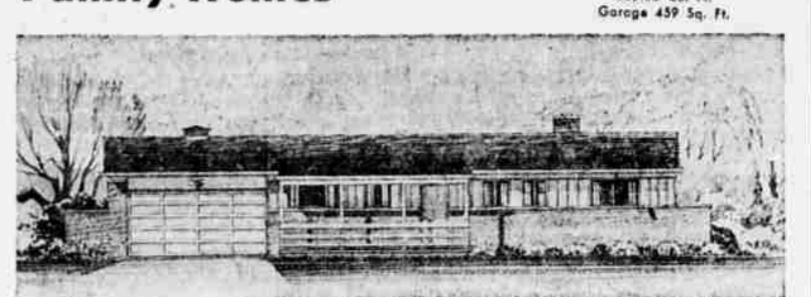
ment are easily accessible as well as the front entry hall, guest wrap closet and broom closet. Any plan that saves the homemaker steps and prevents rooms from becoming passageways is sure to win their whole-hearted approval.

Front master bedroom has separate bath with stall shower. Full bath with deluxe vanity unit is convenient to other areas of the house. Closet space is ample in all bedrooms with plenty of light and ventilation in each room.

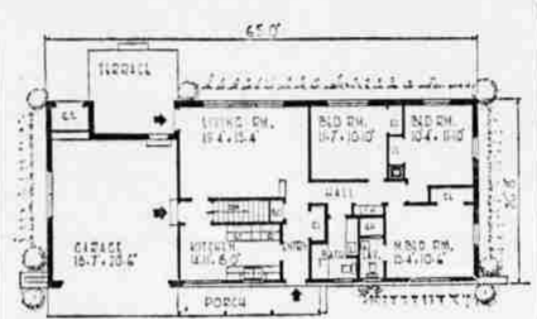
Garage has rear exit opening out onto terrace and the garden tool shed has yard access for easy storage of equipment.

This plan conforms to general FHA, VA and Building Code requirements. You can obtain building plans with specifications and material list—see order coupon.

## Family Homes



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## Game, Berries, Hazel Nuts Provided Food During 1909 'Camping Trip' To Crater Lake

(Continued from Page 1)

tended to the horses and did odd jobs. Mrs. Swan and I herded the children.

Sunday, Aug. 22

This was Karl's birthday and he enjoyed it to the fullest, playing all day long. The children made dams in the little stream near and sailed ships in it and had lots of fun. The wind came up towards night and it was quite chilly.

Monday, Aug. 23

9:30 found us on the road once more. At Fort Klamath we stopped for a few more supplies. We took the Crystal and Cherry Creek (so called because of the wild cherry shrubs growing in its vicinity). The bushes were glowing red with cherries as bitter as gall) roads coming home on the west side of Klamath Lake and Pelican Bay. Miss Conroy had put up a lunch of beef sandwiches, bread and butter, and lemon gelatine and we ate it in the wagon at noon.

All through this valley we could see Crater Lake Mountain and Mt. Pitt and others partly covered with snow. We bore to the right and soon came to the mountains. Saw more pine timber and ferns waist high—beauties—and gooseberries by the bushel.

Will killed a grouse and we saw a good many deer tracks in the road and heard of a place back in the hills where there were deer. We found a fine place to camp at the edge of the pine timber, at the foot of a hill. Mrs. Swan knew the Mr. Brown who lived on the hill and he got bread, milk, butter, eggs and hay of him.

Crystal Creek rises on the Brown place, flows near the house and a stream comes almost up to the yard every so often. By this means they have an easier and quicker outlet to civilization than by land. There are also row boats on the creek. It is clear and warm.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

After breakfast Mr. Swan went fishing. Mr. White went to see a Brown boy who guides the hunters to the "deer grounds." Will, Karl and I took the soiled towels and went to the creek. We tied them to the back end of the boat while we

had a boat ride. We had a fine ride down the creek a few miles and our towels were pretty well soaked. Karl enjoyed it immensely and sat quite still at my feet.

This creek is 25 feet wide and pretty deep. We could see the bottom in most places it was so clear. When we came back to camp Mr. Carleton and Miss Conroy had a boat ride. Will kept the children while Mrs. Swan and I went to get a few hazel nuts. We didn't venture far into the woods. I was afraid of a "bar" or some other kind of a varmint. It looked so wild—and we got about six quarts of nuts in a little while along the roadside. We also found a very few black berries and some very thimble berries, a kind of wild raspberry and very good to eat.

The wild gooseberries are insipid raw, but make a nice jelly they say. When we returned to camp Will and Mr. White were eating a lunch. They had hired the Brown boy to take them on a deer hunting trip and wanted to get right off. The guide furnished three horses and Will took one so they each rode one and had one to carry some grub and bedding. They expected to get back next day by noon. After they got off we spent the afternoon resting and in the evening all but Karl and I took a boat ride. We washed the supper dishes and kept up a fire. At all the camps we found plenty of wood for fuel and had good big fires.

Just across the road is a little white schoolhouse—there are three desks, a teacher's desk and a recitation bench in it. The man who taught there two years ago stopped to talk to Mr. Swan after supper. He said he had from four to six pupils and most of them were from the Brown family.

Wednesday, Aug. 25

The mosquitoes were fierce last night and none of us slept well. Had fine trout for breakfast. After dinner Mr. Swan, Miss Conroy, and Mr. Carleton went for huckleberries. Mr. Swan had found a little patch about two miles away the day before when he was fishing. About dark Will came riding in with a grin from ear to ear. I

knew at once there was something doing.

He said, "Well, come up to the barn and see it." When we arrived at the scene, Mr. Brown (the guide) was unloading the pack horse.

He untied a sack and took out a deer—a yearling and a little beauty. It was so dainty and innocent looking I felt like crying, and yet I was glad they had gotten some game and sorry too it had to be sacrificed.

We started supper while Will and Mr. Brown and Mr. White dressed and cut up the venison. The berry hunters came in with about two gallons of blue berries and we were all as hungry as wolves. We had venison steak for supper and the hunters told their tale between bites.

The guide took them about 10 miles back into the mountains, without a trail, through very wild and rough woods. The horses jumped logs, stump rocks or whatever came in their way. When they reached the glade where they were to hunt they put their junk down and turned the horses loose, having hobbled and belled the pack horse. This glade was about two miles long and 200 yards wide. It was open save for a few clumps of trees and tall grass which conceals blind springs where the deer water. The boys saw and heard several deer that evening but did not shoot any.

Early the next morning they tried it again and Will got this one. They intended coming right back to camp, getting in by noon, but the horses had gotten away and Mr. Brown started out on foot to find them. He caught them about a mile from home and by the time they were rounded up and loaded it was evening.

After we had gone to bed the boys boiled a piece of venison for next day's lunch and they cleaned the blue berries by fanning out the little fine stems. Clear and a little cooler.

Thursday, Aug. 26

At 8:30 we were ready to leave camp. We swung around Peppin Bay at the foot of Pelican Peak for several miles. Passed a number of resorts, along the bay. Among them was Harriman's. His houses are comfortable looking frame and log cottages with large screened-in porches. He has an electric plant and a water system at his resort. Ate a lunch at noon near Odessa.

This was the dustiest of all. About 3:30 we came to Rock Creek, one of the prettiest streams we saw. Crossed the creek, turned to the left and made our last camp. It was an

ideal place for that purpose, well protected by trees and we all enjoyed the free and easy access to good water, as clear as crystal and ice cold.

A man and his wife were camped near us on their way to the lake. They had come from Idaho, 400 miles. Each rode a horse and they led a pack horse. These were about the only campers we saw on this road from Fort Klamath to the Falls.

We were out of bread and butter so Will jumped on a horse and went back to a ranch where we had been told we could get provisions. Some rich man owned a large ranch and had built a bungalow near the water (Klamath Lake). The owner was away and the tenants were very generous with their supplies. Will wanted to buy his stuff but the woman said she was so glad to see somebody she would gladly give him all the stuff he wanted.

When he got back we found butter, flour, potatoes, onions and bread in the bag. We had venison stew, dumplings, fried potatoes, butter and steamed blueberries for supper. After we ate we decided to cook the rest of the berries and were out of sugar. Miss Conroy and Mr. Carleton strolled off in the moonlight to interview the woman with the generous heart about it.

She opened her store of provisions once more and they brought back enough for the berries and some fudge. These berries are small but have a delicious flavor.

It grew very chilly. This was the coldest night we were out. We slept on pine boughs under the trees and it required all the bed covers and coats we had to keep us warm.

Friday, Aug. 27

Everybody shivered around the fire this morning and it was a task to get packed up. For quite a ways the road was rocky and dusty. We didn't see many ranches and the timber got smaller and smaller and scrubby as we neared the Falls. We passed Aspen and Long lakes. Ate a lunch seven miles from the Falls and got to Mr. Swan's about 3:30. We were more tired than we had ever been in our lives but glad we had had such an ideal outing. We didn't have a loss and but one break, and everybody was good natured when we got home. We stayed at Mr. Swan's all night and came down to Merrill the next day.

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