



ANTARCTIC NITE



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 11, 13 MAY 1990

MCMurDO STATION AND SCOTT BASE, ANTARCTIC

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi! I just got done with a book named *Alone* by Adm. Richard Byrd. After reading it, I've got a new perspective on this place. It's amazing just how much hardship was endured by some of the people to have visited this continent.

Actually it made me appreciate McMurdo. Imagine hauling supplies for miles in this weather-then sleeping in the cold. More than that, it was the explorers' capacity to endure!

O.K., so I haven't fallen in love with McMurdo, but I'm glad I'm not Byrd or one of Scott's men hauling supplies on a sled to the pole. The men paid a price, and that made it easier for us. How do you like our new look? Stop by and let us know. - See Ya

STAFF

ADVISOR

DOC HARFORD

EDITOR

WARREN ROSS

NEWS

JON JOHNSTON

COPY AND DIST.

SUE HAHN

SPORTS

DINO KONTINOS

SAFETY

BOB WARDEN

SCOTT BASE

BRUCE MCGREGOR

TYPIST

ACTION JACKSON

ADS

ISMAIL SAPIEN

V

ROCKY RABY

WORLD NEWS

KANANASKIS VILLAGE, Alberta - Some NATO defense ministers, going beyond President Bush's plan to cancel new ground-based nuclear weapons for Europe, are calling for the unilateral withdrawal of nuclear artillery already there. And the United States, perhaps sensing a rising tide of sentiment among some allies, left open the possibility that it would agree.

WASHINGTON - House-Senate negotiations on a supplemental spending bill containing emergency aid for Panama and Nicaragua broke down quickly, further delaying assistance that President Bush wanted weeks ago. Rep. Jamie Whitten, D-Miss., chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said his side needed more time to understand the 180 amendments the Senate added to the House version of the measure.

ATHENS, Greece - The Parliament in Albania, the last European country ruled by a Stalinist-style communist regime, has voted to lift religious and foreign travel restrictions on citizens, an Albanian Embassy source said. The package apparently was a response to U.S. demands that Albania comply with the Helsinki convention on human rights if it wished to resume diplomatic ties with Washington reports reaching Athens said Wednesday.

SEOUL, South Korea - Authorities detained nearly 1,900 rioters Thursday while investigating the burning of public offices and attacks on police with firebombs and rocks in the worst anti-government riots in two years. A national police spokesman said 1,864 people were arrested Wednesday when about 100,000 students and other dissidents staged violent demonstrations in 24 locations. **PARIS** - South African President Frederik de Klerk's stop in France, which includes a meeting Thursday with President Francois Mitterrand, begins a nine-nation tour designed to persuade Europe that his nation's racial reform efforts warrant lifting of economic sanctions. De Klerk is on what is widely regarded at home as the most important mission abroad by a South African leader in more than four decades of apartheid rule.

NEW YORK - The dual juries in the Bensonhurst racial slaying case Wednesday deliberated the fates of the accused killer of a black teenager and the youth charged with whipping a white mob into a murderous frenzy. Demonstrators yelling 'Yusuf! Yusuf! Yusuf!' gathered outside the state Supreme Court building in Brooklyn to demand a guilty verdict in the slaying of Yusuf Hawkins, 16, an explosive case that has exposed deep racial divisions in New York City.

BEIJING - The first joint climb of Mount Everest by U.S., Soviet and Chinese mountaineers Thursday broke the record for the number of climbers from the same expedition to scale the world's highest peak. Although one turned back, six climbers made it to the 29,028-foot summit of Everest Thursday, bringing to 20 the number of climbers from the expedition to conquer the mountain, including the first Soviet female climber to do so.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - Rocket engineers Thursday fine-tuned plans to remove a faulty cooling system valve from the shuttle Columbia a tricky repair job that will delay the ship's blastoff on a Spacelab astronomy mission for two to three weeks. Launch director Robert Sieck said the schedule called for engineers to begin the repair job Thursday.

THE PENGUIN

We all sat around the fire. Kelly had told us that he knew that Travis had killed Pete the Penguin. When I asked her why she didn't come forward with this earlier she turned her head and said, "I know he did. I didn't see him do it, but I know it." I looked at Gina and Laura, but nobody spoke. Kelly went on. I was there in '88, and so was Travis. I guess you could say that it was a hard winter for some folks, but not for Travis. He loved it there - his work, his friends, you know - he liked it here. Well, back in July of 88, Travis was going over to Scott Base one night. He led a foot plan and took off. I remember a group of us went by him as he walked along and offered him a ride, but he said he wanted to walk so went on. After a year or two Travis finally showed up. He looked really mad. I mean mad. I asked him what was wrong and he said, "I could kill that damn penguin!" He was drunk and almost hit me with his snowmobile while I was walking.

This winter, when I saw Travis at the 88 reunion, I brought up the story and he said, "yea I remember that night in 88." I remember early in January of 90 seeing Travis and Pete talking at the "O" club. I found this strange. But what was stranger than that was I saw Travis hand Pete an envelope which Pete opened. It was loaded with cash. Pete pocketed the dough, got up and left. I walked over and said, "hello Travis, what's with you and Pete?" Laughing, "what did he need loan?" Just between you

and I Kelly he said, "he's black mailing me. I'm gonna kill him. Two years ago I made one mistake and I'm still paying for it!" I had to digest this. I thought to myself that maybe Travis was our man and then Gina spoke up. "Well I don't know," she said, "I think it was Ray Tien!" Next..... "Go ahead, make my day, Ray!"

FEATURE INTERVIEW

by Warren Ross

This week we're going to take a look into the life of a Naval storekeeper who has been on active duty for almost ten years. She works in GSK now, but her first season was spent in terminal operations (logistics support). Guessed who it is yet? Well, Michelle Lacombe volunteered for Antarctic winter-over duty as a means to help herself save money, complete Antarctic obligation and increase the chances of her being advanced to chief petty officer.

Michelle's assignments have been varied and have taken her round the globe.

Her first duty station was the sunny, warm island of Bermuda, where she learned the ropes of her job as a department supply petty officer. After two years of favorable weather, the colder reaches of Keflavik, Iceland called. She continued to advance her knowledge there as an M.W.R. supply petty officer. Surprisingly, Sue Hahn and her were stationed in Keflavik at the same time, but they did not know each other. New Zealand called next and Michelle's financial acumen was tested as she was given the increased responsibility of optar

keeper and financial management of supply accounting. Two years were then spent living in the great New England town of Groton, Connecticut. There she handled transportation of service members' household goods and was budget analyst. Her next duty station will be the sunny side of Port Hueneme, California, where a job as supply petty officer for the aegis system awaits. Being enlisted myself for six years, I wondered why Michelle decided to stay in the Navy. "I really didn't plan on it," she said, "I reenlisted because I got married, was stationed in New Zealand at the time, and would have preferred to have a job already lined up. Also, with the Navy's educational benefits, I've been able to attend school. She decided to enter the service because, "I was a little tired of going to school and wanted to leave Nebraska." Her decision to become an SK (storekeeper for us civilians) was based on the fact that it's one of the closest business orientated rates the Navy has, and its ability to easily transfer skills learned to the civilian community.

So what does Michelle have to say about being stationed in the cold, desolate, white continent? "The best part is that I'm one of a very few to ever be here," she says, "but the hardest part is the lack of communications with the outside world. You know, you just get that urge to call a friend or family at times. Scheduling a call takes the spontaneity out of it also, I must admit that I miss the grass and trees."

She does have a few goals she would like to accomplish before leaving. I'd like to complete a few correspondence courses, lose a few pounds, get into shape after the hand heals, and catch up on some reading." Her advice for a successful season (which I thought was good for me) is, "not to take this place too seriously, do our best on the job, and keep one's sense of humor - you'll need it - and don't look ahead too far. Just one day at a time." Enjoying the time we spent talking, I thought Michelle to be a casual, warm affectionate person who seems to be well disciplined in her approach to daily living - yet sensible. I could say she's friendly, fun to be with or funny, but I'd out for yourself sometime. Say hello and be ready to have a good time.

WHAT IS A FRIEND?

I'll tell you.

It is a person with whom you dare to be yourself.

Your soul can go naked with him.

He seems to ask you put on nothing, only to be

what you really are.

When you are with him, you do not have to be on your guard.

You can say what you think, so long as it is genuinely you.

He understands those contradictions in your nature

that cause others to misjudge you.

With him you can breathe freely--

you can allow your little vanities and evies and absurdities and in opening

them up to him they are dissolved on the white ocean of his loyalty.

He understands.-

You can weep with him, laugh with him, pray with him- through and underneath it all

he sees, knows and loves you.

A friend- I repeat- is one with whom you dare to be yourself.

-Anonymous

MWR FUNDS

QUESTION: Now that we have been provided refrigerators for no cost, why are we still charged for the rental of televisions?

ANSWER: The refrigerators that were recently made available for loan to personnel during the winter-over period were purchased with appropriated funds.

Appropriated Funds, in general, are provided from tax dollars through the yearly budgetary process of the US Congress and can be either for a specific item or a general program. The television sets that are for rent through the Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) office, were purchased with non appropriated funds. Non-appropriated funds are not provided through the budgetary process, but are generated through "user fees." As of 1 October 89 all US Government MWR activities world wide (mostly all of them at military facilities or places like McMurdo) must be able to generate enough funds to be self supporting. Up until 2 years ago (1 Oct 87) the process to transfer appropriated funds and materials for use in non-appropriated activities

was relatively easy and was done all the time. Following a two year phase out of support, now the process is illegal except under a very few minor and very specific exceptions. Additionally even these exceptions must be approved on a case by case basis. The televisions that are for rent at the MWR office (as is "everything else" at MWR) must be purchased from locally produced MWR revenues. In McMurdo MWR revenue is generated by the Erebus club, (the other clubs in the summer,) Beer sales, Liquor and Wine Sales, as well as Ships Store sales (although the total percentage of profits from sales is limited). Although the Photo Lab, Gear Issue office and Bowling Alley also charge patrons user fees, these user fees do not cover the full cost (materials and labor) of operation. Additionally many of the McMurdo MWR facilities such as the gym, library, and weight room are free, but create a negative cash flow when new equipment, or in the case of the library books and magazines, are purchased to improve the facility. Traditionally the McMurdo MWR program has been running at a loss, although through reducing the hours some facilities are open, delaying the purchase of some equipment, and increasing the amount and quality of equipment available for rent, hopefully the entire program can remain self-supporting. MWR programs that are not self-supporting must, by law, either become self-supporting or close functions until they are self-supporting.

MEDICAL ISSUES

Due to a recent nation wide scare, Gordius Robustus Pseudoparasitism has been brought to the attention the medical department as a cause of concern among many members of community. In an attempt to calm fears, the following information on infectivity, life-cycles, medical detection and treatment will be discussed.

Gordius Robustus is a worm parasite of crickets and other arthropods. Generally it is not a parasite of humans, although cricket eating humans are considered HIGH RISK for infestation. Other high risk activities include drinking from barnyard troughs particularly in Illinois and Missouri in late Autumn) and moderate to heavy ingestion of debris from pond bottoms. Ingestion of debris from rapidly running creeks does not constitute significant risk, according to prominent nemotodologists.

Once infected by the worm, specific detection and identification by medical personnel is PARAMOUNT. The worm varies in length from 1.25 mm to 32 feet. The intact worm must be recovered from feces and maintained alive until brought to the attention of medical personnel. The worm is neither toxic nor poisonous and therefore can be handled without fear; like other parasitic worms of the Gordius species, Gordiids are edentulous. The specimen should be delicately recovered and placed in a small pill box or oversized trash bag as appropriate. Air holes for proper ventilation are

necessary. If transporting over long distances, lettuce, avocado, pepperoni, pizza and Jack Daniel should be placed in the container for proper nutrition and tranquilization. HMC Sapien should be notified ASAP of incoming Gordius species.

Symptomatology is vague. Most individuals experience no specific complaints until the worm is in excess of 25 feet long. Once mature the worm mates and it is at this time that most patients experience unsettling intestinal symptoms. All symptoms resolve when the parasite becomes exhausted or is passed in the stool. Treatment is not necessary.

Prevention is the key to avoiding infestation. Cricket consumption MUST be discouraged as well as ingestion of high risk water and pond-bottom-debris. Unfortunately vaccinations are not available at this time; but with proper avoidance of high-risk-activities, vaccinations should never be necessary.

As with many medical matters, education and common sense calm most epidemics. The nation-wide observance of "Gordius Robustus Pseudoparasitism Awareness Week" will provide this means; dates TBA.

REC COMMITTEE UPDATE -THE FUND ISSUE-

The felicity, fun and success of the "Prison Ball", the first party, inspired the recreation committee to set its sights on a big free food and "booze" pre-wingly party. Knowing that such a

party would require a reasonable sum of money, the committee immediately embarked on a fund raising campaign to make it a reality. A reasonable sum money was raised from delivery donations from the free pizza night. In our eagerness to raise money, the committee mistakenly did not present their fund raising ideas and intent to NSFA, Port Hueneme (the parent command). This mistake resulted in a misconception of our fund expenditure and temporary emotional unrest among some of our community members.

Recently, after presenting our intent to NSFA, we found out that they support our pizza nights, monthly parties and ideas of having food at our parties. However, they cannot approve the purchasing of alcohol intended to be given away free with money acquired by our previous fund raising methods. Certain existing policies prohibit them from doing that. Now that we cannot supply free liquor, what will happen to the money in our coffer? This money can be used to support future events sponsored by the recreation committee, i.e., food supplies for pizza night, parties, art shows, etc. So long as the galley is not operating with a financial deficit, food supplies for our events will be provided. However, we need to have money available in the event the galley is in the "red" financially and we have to pay for food supplies. At the end of the season, whatever money we have in our coffer will be turned over to MWR with an expenditure suggestion list

from the community explaining how we would like that money to be spent, gear for the gym, bowling alley, church, etc. Do not be angry with the idea of giving that money to IWR. Many of our current community members will return to Mac town in the future. They will enjoy the benefits of our donations.

What will happen to pizza nights? The rec. committee is still enthused and willing to continue pizza nights providing the community wants it to continue. Pizza nights bring the community together. It provides excitement, unity, an escape from boredom, morale enhancement and most of all outstanding pizza delivered to your door. It would be sad to discontinue such an event. What will happen to our plans for the big "all out" pre-winter party? All is not lost. The rec. committee is still willing to make it a reality if the community so desires.

Food and sodas will be provided. If members of the community want to get together and "chip-in" to buy beer, that money may be turned over to the rec. committee to buy beer. Beer acquired in this manner will be free during the party. This idea can be adopted for our monthly parties. If you like or dislike this idea, please feel free to express your opinion to your rec. committee representative.

In closing, the rec. committee would like to apologize for any inconveniences created by our mistake. It was not intentional and occurred mainly as a consequence of our desire to contribute to the happiness and welfare of

our community. We mean well and intend to continue to serve the community as best as we can. The community as a whole has been very supportive of our efforts and events. We hope this support continues.

FIREHOUSE NOTE

AS QUOTED FROM
CNSFAINST 11320.5D, UNDER
GENERAL REGULATIONS,
SECTION 20 PARAGRAPH P,
ALL PERSONNEL ARE
REMINDING THAT: "OPEN
FIRES SHALL NOT BE
STARTED AT ANY
LOCATION ON THE
STATION WITHOUT
ADVANCE APPROVAL
FROM THE FIRE CHIEF.
BURNING OF TRASH AND
DEBRIS IS PERMITTED
ONLY AT THE DUMP."
ADDITIONALLY,
PERSONNEL PLANNING OR
HAVING A BAR-B-QUE
SHOULD NOTIFY THE FIRE
CHIEF (PHONE - 2257) AT
LEAST TWO HOURS PRIOR
TO STARTING THE
BAR-B-QUE GRILL FIRE.
WHEN THE GRILL FIRE IS
LIT THE GRILL SHOULD
NOT BE LEFT
UNATTENDED FOR ANY
AMOUNT OF TIME.
ENSURE FIRE WITHIN THE
GRILL IS THOROUGHLY
EXTINGUISHED PRIOR TO
LEAVING THE AREA.

WHAT'S NEW ON THE SUN?

How much energy does the sun create?

The amount is staggering:
four hundred trillion watts

of power are generated each second - enough to illuminate 2,600 Earths filled with 200-watt light bulbs. On the Sun's surface, where temperatures hover near 6000 degrees F, gigantic heat-carrying bubbles the size of Pennsylvania rise and sink in the solar atmosphere. Powerful jets of superhot mass shoot upward thousands of miles. And blowing outward from the Sun is a never-ending stream of electrically charged particles called the solar wind.

What are sunspots?

Sunspots, some much larger than our entire planet, mottle the surface of the Sun. Sunspots are known to be powerful magnetic storms in the solar atmosphere. Their numbers rise and fall every 11 years on the average, and their magnetic fields reverse themselves every 22 years (the next sunspot maximum is due in early 1990). Sunspots occur at times of great solar activity, producing explosive flares of charged particles. How do sunspots affect us here on Earth? One effect of intense sunspot activity is the appearance of aurora, in which energetic particles from the sun spiral down our planet's magnetic field to create shimmering curtains of color in northern and southern skies. These particles also disrupt intercontinental radio transmissions, create a radiation danger for any astronauts who venture outside their spacecraft, and create extra drag for Earth-orbiting satellites.

Birth of Scott...

SBPA

On 21st December 1956 the H.M.N.Z.S. Endeavour left Christchurch, New Zealand for Antarctica. Sir Ed Hillary and his 17 T.A.E. (Trans Antarctic Expedition) men, and the 5 New Zealand I.G.Y (International Geophysical Year) members, were heading south to establish Scott Base. This would coincide with the setting up of other Antarctic bases, such as McMurdo, for the I.G.Y. and enable Sir Ed's team to prepare for their part in the Trans Antarctic crossing the following summer.

By the first week of January 1957, after days of fighting off heavy pack ice, the ship was anchored in McMurdo sound at the edge of the sea ice off Butter Point. The plan was to set up the base somewhere on the Point which would then enable the T.A.E. party to get up on to the polar plateau via the Ferrar Glacier. It didn't take very long before their reconnaissance teams discovered the Ferrar Glacier impassable (due to a heavily wind swept and thaw stream cut surface) and Butter Point an unsatisfactory site for the base. However with the aid of their small aircraft, they found Pram Point on Ross Island to be the best alternative site while the Skelton Glacier behind Minna Bluff seemed a better route to the Plateau.

It was quite a task hauling the 500 tons of stores from the ship, across sea ice to Pram Point, but by the 25 January this had been achieved. Work had begun on the base as soon as the first loads had arrived so, already, things were well under way. Covered walkways between buildings were constructed and, by the 22 February, all the outside work had been completed, including installation of the nine radio masts. On this day the Endeavour sailed for home leaving them in a pretty comfortable position to face the winter. Scott base had begun breathing...

Na, I haven't gone mental. I was just practising my reading on this neat book all about the Trans Antarctic Expedition, and the beginnings of Scott Base. Quite cosmic really. And if you're feeling a bit lethargic, with winter grabbing us by the short and curlies, then it's pretty inspirational reading stuff like that.

Other methods of inspiring and motivating yourself include walking around outside in your underwear for half an hour, walking around outside in "nothin'" for half an hour, or setting fire to an oil tray in your garage! See ya next week.

Bruce.

THE BACKBOARD

ADS AND PERSONALS

RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING
MONDAY, May 14th @ 4:00, IN
THE LOUNGE ACROSS FROM
THE T.V. STATION.

BINGO! BINGO! BINGO!

The recreation committee is sponsoring a non-fund raising Bingo on Sunday, May 27th in the 'o' side of the galley at 1300. Prizes consist of cash and goods.

The money collected at the Bingo will be returned to the players in the form of cash and goods. To enter the Bingo game, participants have to pay \$8.00.

In return the player will receive 3 Bingo cards which he or she can use to play every game. A

total of ten games will be played. Additional cards can be purchased after the First game for one dollar per card. Since we have a total of only 200 cards, this will enable people to

enter the game before others buy additional cards and limit the number of players. Players can enter the game at anytime. However, regardless of the time a player enters the game, the entrance price is still \$8.00.

This Bingo is intended to bring fun, cash, and goods to the community. If you are low on cash, take a chance and come play Bingo; you may leave with a bundle of cash!

FREE! FREE! FREE!

Free to a loving and caring home; an excellent, privately owned, stand-up, mini refrigerator. See Dianne in bldg. 208, room 314 or call her at 2367.

WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!
Articles for this newssper- use your creativity. Plenty of room for more articles.



ANTARCTIC



NITE



TIMES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 12, 20 MAY 1990

MCMURDO STATION AND SCOTT BASE, ANTARCTICA

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi! Thanks to the Rec. committee who put on a great show at last week's MAD party. All of us creatures of the night came out and had a great time. By the way, the decorations were great as well.

Every once in a while someone will submit articles quoted directly from an instruction. I've had several people tell me that it makes for boring reading-I agree. In the future, please try to paraphrase or put it into your own words. Above all, try being creative. Who wants to read an instruction for Sunday brunch.

I got a letter to the editor concerning the Rec. committee late Thursday evening at the quarterdeck. Because we put the paper together on Friday night, I did not have time to research all the questions asked. Look for it in next week's issue. Till later...

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WORLD NEWS

WASHINGTON — Former American hostage Robert Polhill has cancer of the larynx and will undergo surgery Thursday to have his voice box removed, Walter Reed Army Medical Center announced Wednesday. Polhill, 55, who was freed April 22 after 39 months in captivity in Lebanon, has 'cancer of the throat, of the larynx,' Army Dr. Russ Zajchuk said at a news conference. 'So our plan — there is no evidence of a spread of the cancer — is to treat him with a surgical procedure involving removing the voice box and followed by radiation,' the doctor said.

BOSTON — The wife of former hostage Frank Reed, who has been hospitalized since being freed by Moslem captors three weeks ago, insists the delay in his release has nothing to do with continued questioning by government officials, a published report said Wednesday.

WASHINGTON — Inflation continued to ease in April as consumer prices rose 0.2 percent after gaining 0.5 percent in the previous two months and a steep 1.1 percent in January, the Labor Department reported Wednesday. Economists said the report more reflects a correction of unusually high first-quarter prices than an outright signal of significant progress in the battle against inflation.

WASHINGTON — Housing starts plunged 5.8 percent nationwide in April while building permits tumbled 8.7 percent to the lowest levels since the recession of 1982, the Commerce Department said Wednesday. Cautious private economists had expected a somewhat better report.

MOSCOW — Secretary of State James Baker said Wednesday he would raise U.S. concerns about the situation in the Baltic republics in pre-summit meetings with Soviet officials. 'It is not encouraging,' Baker said of the crisis over independence for the three tiny republics. 'We would like to see a dialogue develop with respect to the Baltics ... that dialogue has not developed.'

WASHINGTON — President Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev plan to demonstrate 'a new sense of realism' about superpower relations when the two meet in Washington later this spring, said a White House spokesman. 'I think this summit will demonstrate a new sense of realism about our relationship, one in which both sides can be critical of each other,' White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Tuesday.

RIGA, Latvia, U.S.S.R. — The Latvian Parliament met under tightened security Wednesday but there were no signs that disturbances by anti-independence protesters in the Baltic capital would continue for a third day.

MANILA, Philippines — U.S. negotiators expressed concern Wednesday about security at American facilities in the Philippines and a spokesman said 'clearly more has to be done' to stop the killings of U.S. servicemen.

NEW YORK — Puppeteer Jim Henson, 53, creator of the world-famous Muppets including Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy, died Wednesday. He was 53. A spokesman at New York Hospital said Henson died unexpectedly of a 'massive bacterial infection.'

THE PENGUIN

When Kelly had finished, I really thought we had our man! I was sure Pete was involved with blackmailing some of our McMurdo residents, but now with each of my partners making statements of who, and now Pete might have been killed, I was more confused than ever!

I looked over at Gina. She rose up out of her chair and slowly walked around the room. "I want you all to know that I really believe that Ray Tien is our man in the brutal murder of Pete the Penguin! On or about Feb 24, 1990 I went over to the aquarium. As I was about to enter I heard yelling from inside the building. I was going to leave then, but I heard Ray Tien say "I'll kill you Pete, this is the last dime you'll get out of me or your next meal will be your last!" I was shocked to say the least, I mean Ray is a pretty nice guy! I hid around the building and out came Pete. He was carrying a large fresh fish from one of the tanks and he had a envelope with him. I don't know what was in it, but I thought it was cash!

I decided I would leave then, but before I could move I heard the door slam and Ray came rushing out and took off.

I entered the building and sure enough one of the big fish was gone. I thought what kind of hold does Pete have on Ray Tien? I know I should have told this to you guys earlier but I had no proof. Sorry!

Now we were really confused. Ray, Travis, or

walked in and said, "I think it's one of my people," and before he could say it, we all said at once. "Mike Arthur!"

FEATURE INTERVIEW

This week's interview features a man who is one of only 600 people alive or dead to ever have wintered over at the south pole. He's an operations/maintenance electrician who is a pro in every sense of the word. He was also enlisted in the Navy as a construction electrician for four years. This man is Dwight Oylear.

Dwight, like many here, calls Seattle, Washington home. He first volunteered for duty at the pole in 1975, but was not accepted because he was not a petty officer. That didn't stop him though. As a civilian he sent a resume to Paramus; he was going to get his chance. "I remember being a kid in grade school," Dwight said, "and Antarctica at the bottom of the globe seemed like an unusual place ... I knew I would go." When he first got to South Pole station, "it was like standing on an ice cube. The first thing I felt though was a sense of isolation." I then asked Dwight what the biggest difference between pole and McMurdo was. "It is a lot drier, the elevation is much higher, it's a lot harder to breathe - seems like your always winded - colder, less to do with only twenty people, and you've got to entertain yourself."

About his experience at the U.S. South Pole station Dwight says, "I learned a lot about myself, my capabilities and limitations.

whatsoever. One can analyze past decisions. Most of all it was the challenge of being the only electrician." Dwight also mentioned the trust and comradery that develops in such a setting, but also said that everyone's pretty much an open book by the time the season was over. He also mentioned forty thousand gallons of fuel leaking out of one of the fuel bladders and the psychologists, who did a debrief, being amazed that the twenty souls wintering over did not over react. The fuel was life at Pole station. "Trust was a big ingredient," Dwight said.

He's currently reading Shalketon's biography, loves photography, plays on the seabee volleyball team, and is currently making a video of his stay in the Antarctic. From here, Dwight plans to visit family, work overseas in Europe, and travel in New Zealand. Is there a possibility of Dwight returning to the isolated continent? Yes, and it seems like Palmer would round out his stay. "But not for 3 or 4 years."

I could speak for myself and say that Dwight is one of the best people I've met in McMurdo. I've worked with him and think he's a real pro at what he does. He's good natured, fun and has loads of confidence - presumably a by-product of his stay at the pole. I'm sure that if Antarctica was still waiting to be discovered Dwight would be one of the men responsible for its discovery. Actually he has that personal determination that says I could conquer anything.

So if you happen to get the chance this is one guy you might want to get to

know before leaving. He knows a lot about Antarctica too. I wouldn't be suprised at all if I read a book by him on the subject a few years down the line.

USAP PERSONNEL THWART ROBBERY

This article, taken from a March 14, 1985 Florida newspaper tells the true story of two U.S.A.P. personnel who believed that crime could not pay. Davis is in McMurdo right now.

ROBBERY SUSPECT STOPPED BY 2 MEN

A man who allegedly ran off with two bank bags from the Dizzy Peacock Deli has been jailed on two charges.

JOSEPH PALMER
Herald Staff Writer

The getaway of a man who allegedly robbed a southern Manatee County deli Thursday night was thwarted when two passersby intervened and tackled him in a nearby parking lot, according to sheriff's deputies. Deputies said that Thomas Williams, 33, of Sarasota, walked into the Dizzy Peacock Deli, 8390 U.S. 301, about 10 p.m. and robbed the establishment after attacking an employee. It began when Williams entered the deli about 10 minutes earlier and bought a beer, deputies said. He then returned, deputies said, went to the beer cooler and returned to the counter, authorities said.

The employee, Lisa Liloy, 27, was standing behind the counter in the doorway of the office when Williams shoved her back into the office, where she landed on

top of Rauf Jacobs, the store's owner, deputies said. Jacobs got up and wrestled with Williams back to the center of the store. But Williams managed to get loose and ran back into the office, where he pushed Ms Liloy down a second time, deputies said.

Williams allegedly ran into the office and grabbed two bank bags before running from the store. He was closely followed by Jacobs, who was shouting for someone to stop the robber, deputies said.

It was at that time that 19-year-old Patrick McDowell and 21-year-old Dallas Paul Davis, both of 5344 45th St. E., saw what was going on as they waited for a nearby traffic light to change. Deputies said that McDowell told them he saw Williams running from the store with something in his arms.

McDowell pointed out to his roommate what was going on and the two men gave chase in their truck. They stopped the truck in a nearby parking lot and chased Williams on foot, deputies said.

According to deputies, Davis tackled Williams in the parking lot at First National of Florida, 8430 U.S. 301. McDowell then helped his friend restrain Williams until help arrived, deputies said.

When deputies searched Williams, they reported finding a small amount of marijuana in a cigarette pack. Williams was charged with strong-arm robbery and misdemeanor possession of marijuana and booked into the Manatee County jail.

Davis is here, McDowell was here (Antarctica).

CRUISE VIDEO

ATTENTION ALL ASA AND NSF PERSONNEL, ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A "CRUISE VIDEO" (A VIDEO OF ACTIVITIES, SCENERY, ETC OF THE 89-90 SEASON). IF SO, YOUR HELP AND IDEAS ARE NEEDED. THE NEXT CRUISE VIDEO MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY 22 MAY AT 7PM IN THE LOUNGE ACROSS FROM THE TV STATION. AT THIS TIME THERE ARE NO ASA OR NSF REPRESENTATIVES. IF ASA AND NSF REPRESENTATIVES CAN BE FOUND, TWO DIFFERENT VIDEOS CAN BE MADE UTILIZING THE SAME BULK OF THE VIDEO AND THEN EACH COVERING THEIR OWN PERSONNEL, IE MILITARY OR CIVILIAN COMMUNITY. THE MASTER COPY/COPIES WOULD BE HAND CARRIED BACK TO CALIFORNIA WHERE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH A COMPANY TO DUPLICATE AND MAIL BY UPS TO EACH INDIVIDUAL (PRICE OF VIDEO CASSETTE INCLUDED) FOR \$12.00, TWO TO FOUR WEEKS FROM RECEIPT. NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO LET YOUR IDEAS BE HEARD. IF NO REPRESENTATIVES FROM ASA OR NSF PRESENT THEMSELVES AT THIS MEETING, THE VIDEO COMMITTEE WILL ASSUME THAT THERE IS NO INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT AND PROCEED AS THEY WISH. DON'T FORGET TUE. 22 MAY @ 7PM LOUNGE ACROSS FROM THE TV STATION.

And then there was light!

Yeow! Well, who saw the aurora on Monday night? Pretty amazing, eh? For those who didn't, basically the most spectacular part of the display was a band of white light, about as intense as the Milky Way, stretching East-West across the sky above us. Within this band were streaks and other forms, and the whole display changed over a period of several seconds. The whole scene got me hooked, so I asked Dr. Science from Dundee what was actually goin' on up there? It is all quite interesting really. This is what he said...

The auroral glow is an effect produced in the Earth's upper atmosphere, mainly in the northern and southern polar regions. Although the mechanism for its appearance is not totally understood, it is basically caused by an interaction between the Sun, the Earth's magnetic field, and chemicals in the Earth's upper atmosphere.

To understand this interaction it is first necessary to check out what the Earth's magnetic field, or magnetosphere, actually looks like. Fig. 1 depicts the Earth as a large bar magnet showing how the lines of magnetic force would stretch between the north and south magnetic poles. However, from the Sun blows a wind of high energy charged particles (electrons and protons), or plasma, which interferes with the Earth's

magnetic field to shape the magnetosphere of Fig. 2. The magnetic field lines are compressed to about 10 Earth radii on the Sunward facing side and extend out like a large comet tail to about 80 Earth radii on the opposite side.

The boundary of the magnetosphere forms a barrier, called the magnetopause, preventing the charged particles of the Solar Wind from entering the field. Instead, the particle wind flows around the Earth with a large bow shock wave, rather like that produced by a boat cutting through water. At the magnetosphere's tail, however, the field lines are open allowing some of the charged particles to enter.

The Sun is no quiet beast! Regularly it experiences violent storms, its surface erupting in massive solar flares and "sunspots", which influence the content of the solar wind. More charged particles enter the Earth's magnetosphere during these storm periods.

Once inside the magnetosphere's tail, charged particles are forced back along the magnetic field lines to the Earth's polar regions by similar forces that make an electric motor rotate. Here they meet with molecules of the chemicals that make up our upper atmosphere.

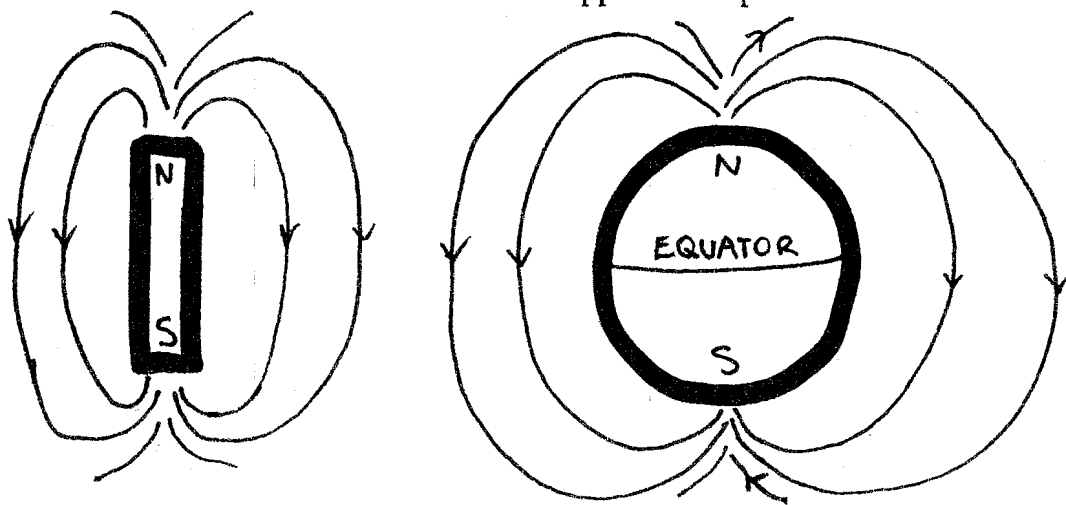


Fig.1 The Earth as a Large Bar Magnet

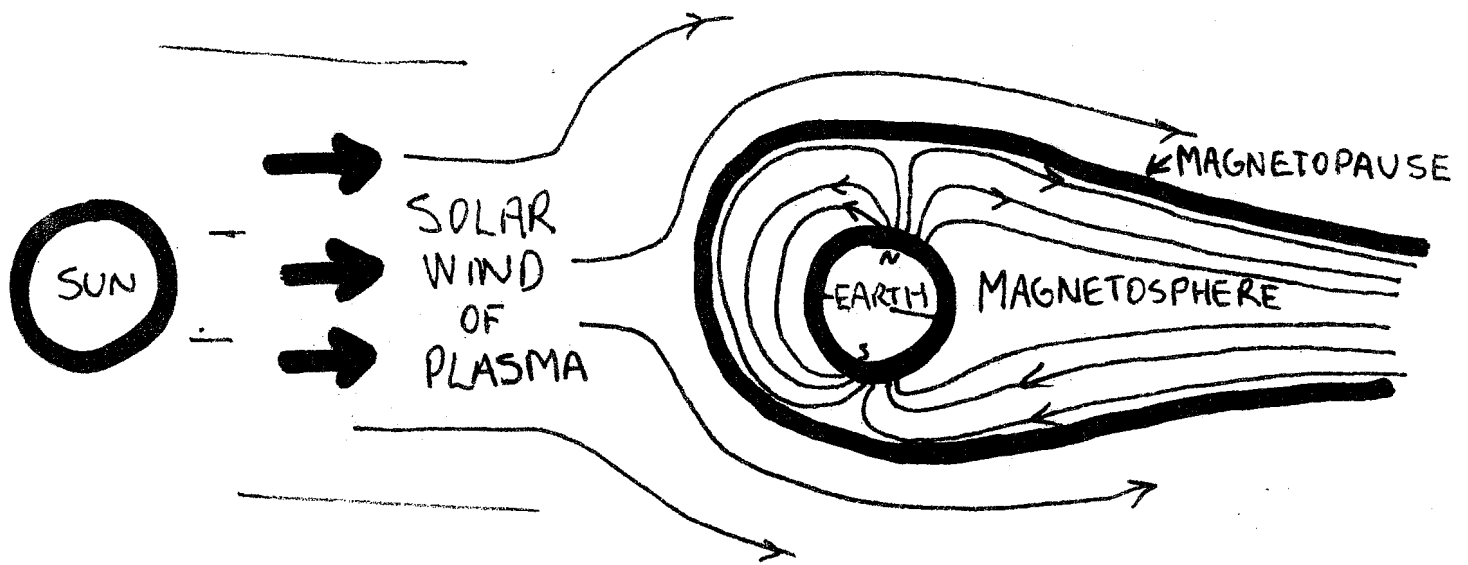


Fig.2 The Earth's Magnetosphere

Most people know that the majority of the Earth's atmosphere is made up of Nitrogen and Oxygen, but there are many different molecular forms and structures that these elements can take. There are also combinations of these elements and those of lower concentration, such as Hydrogen. When high energy electrons and protons meet such gases, the atomic make-up of some of these structures change. These molecular changes involves a change of energy, during which, energy in the form of photons of light are often given off. Depending on the type of change and the atoms involved, photons of different light frequency are emitted. Some fall in the ultraviolet (U.V.) band, others in the infrared range, and some in the range of frequencies visible to the human eye.

What we actually see from the ground during a visible aurora depends on several factors. The dynamics of the charged particle motion through the magnetosphere, the overall amount of photon emissions taking place, and the angle from which we view a given aurora. The molecular changes that cause the visible aurora generally occur at altitudes of around 100Km (~60mils), within the Auroral Zone which extends about 23 degrees in Latitude about the poles. If, say, a certain southern aurora was viewed from a slightly higher Latitude, it may appear as a thin band of light above the southern horizon. The

density of light seen may be much higher than if the same aurora was viewed from directly underneath, where we would be looking through the thin sheet of light rather than through the broader dimension.

When the total intensity of an aurora is very high, the different colours of the visible photons emitted may be seen. During less intense auroras, the colours may not be apparent as the light level may be below the threshold of the eye's colour sensors. Low intensity auroras appear greyish white. Monday nights aurora fell into this category.

So that is, very generally, the basic reason for our glorious Antarctic fireworks display. Let's hope the Sun gets into a right tizzie this winter and boils up a few good ones for us. Oh, but I forgot to tell you! Along with producing light, these solar disturbances to our atmosphere also cause a bit of a hiccup to our High Frequency (H.F.) radio communication. Signals such as from our phone home, rely on the stability of our atmosphere at about the same altitude as the aurora, to bounce off and be received intelligibly at the other end. So next rough phone call, blame it on the Sun, and make sure you check out the night sky at the same time!

See ya next week,
Bruce.

THE BACKBOARD

ADS AND PERSONALS

RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY, May 18th @ 4:00, IN
THE LOUNGE ACROSS FROM
THE T.V. STATION.**

The purpose of the committee is to serve the community. We welcome suggestions and new members. If you do not wish to attend, please give your suggestions to your representative.

BINGO! BINGO! BINGO!

The recreation committee is sponsoring a non-fund raising Bingo on Sunday, May 27th in the 'o' side of the galley at 1300. Prizes consist of cash and goods.

The money collected at the Bingo will be returned to the players in the form of cash and goods. To enter the Bingo game, participants have to pay \$8.00. In return the player will receive 3 Bingo cards which he or she can use to play every game. A total of ten games will be played. Additional cards can be purchased after the First game

for one dollar per card. Since we have a total of only 200 cards, this will enable people to enter the game before others buy additional cards and limit the number of players. Players can enter the game at anytime. However, regardless of the time a player enters the game, the entrance price is still \$8.00.

This Bingo is intended to bring fun, cash, and goods to the community. If you are low on cash, take a chance and come play Bingo; you may leave with a bundle of cash!

FIREHOUSE NOTE

INSPECTIONS - AS QUOTED FROM CNSFAINST 11320.5D, SECTION 5, PARAGRAPH D; MONTHLY FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS SHALL BE MADE BY FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL OF ALL STATION STRUCTURES (EXCEPTION: STRUCTURES CLOSED FOR THE WINTER SEASON), ON A CONTINUING BASIS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE REGULATIONS AND TO ENSURE FIRE HAZARDS ARE DETECTED AND CORRECTED. THE FIRE CHIEF SHALL PREPARE A MEMORANDUM TO CNSFA VIA DEPARTMENT HEAD AND RESIDENT MANAGERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STRUCTURE WHEN FIRE HAZARDS ARE NOTED OR VIOLATIONS OF INSTRUCTION 11320.5D ARE DETECTED. THE FIRE CHIEF SHALL RECOMMEND NECESSARY CORRECTIVE ACTION TO ELIMINATE HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS. DEPARTMENT HEADS AND RESIDENT MANAGERS ARE REQUIRED TO REPLY TO NSFA DEPUTY COMMANDER (W/O OIC - DURING WINTER SEASON), BY THE 10TH. OF EACH MONTH REPORTING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION TAKEN.