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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1963

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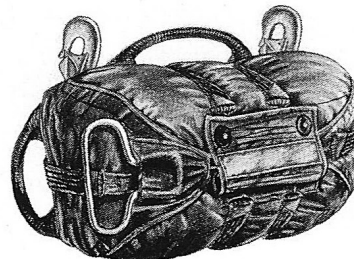
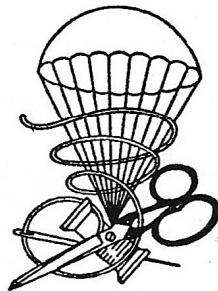
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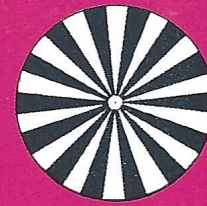
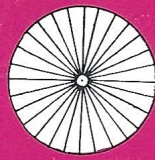
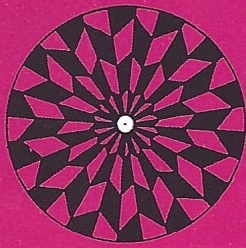
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*** AROUND THE DROP ZONE ***

ARKANSAS STATE
SKYDIVERS MEET
November 22, 23, & 24, 1963

The 5th Cotton Belt Parachute Conference Meet (Championship Meet) is going to be held at Jonesboro, Arkansas, Home of the Arkansas State College Skydivers, on 22-23-24 November. Information is being mailed to skydivers in the Southern Conference.

For more information contact:

Ken Sisler, Meet Director
Akr. State College Skydivers
Box 1961
State College, Arkansas



DeLAND, FLORIDA

November 29 & 30 & Dec. 1st, 1963
PCA Membership Required

FIVE EVENTS:

1. Accuracy, one jump from 3400', one from 5100'.
2. Form, two jumps from 7200 feet.
3. Double Baton Pass and accuracy from 7000 feet.
4. Three Man Team Accuracy from 7000 feet.
5. Tracking Contest.

For More Information Contact:

Falling Angels, Inc.,
P.O. Box 2071
DeLand, Florida

EL PASO, TEXAS
December 27, 28, & 29, 1963

Third Annual Sun Carnival Skydiving Meet

FOUR EVENTS:

1. Novice Spot from 3,000 feet. Two jumps.
2. Advance Spot from 4100 feet. Two jumps.
3. Three man team with baton pass. One jump from 7,500 feet.
4. Novelty Event. - To be a surprise.

For More Information Contact:

Skydivers of El Paso, Inc.,
155 South Awbrey Road
El Paso, Texas 79905



OHIO STATE MEET
HOSTED BY COLUMBUS SKY DIVERS

Our second annual meet was held during the first week end in October, and we feel that it was the best ever. Not all of the Ohio clubs were present, and we hope that they will be with us next year. The competition here was very close, and we learned that the best comes out in a man at a time like this.

Event I - Team Baton Pass: Columbus Skydivers

Event II - Team Delay Hook Up: Columbus Sky Divers

Event III - Team Immediate Hook Up: Columbus Sky Divers

Event IV - Individual Target: Bill Briggs 1st, John Simpkins 2nd, Jim Moore 3rd.

Event IV, Class 2 - Individual Target: George Dupont 1st, Ted Williams 2nd, Doc Thompson 3rd.

Event V - Individual Style: Paul Ningu 1st, John Simpkins 2nd, Joll Tranun 3rd.

Overall Champion: Paul Ningu.



PCA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

MID-EASTERN PARACHUTE
ASSOCIATION MEET

Held at the Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, New Jersey, on October 13th, 1963, this was the first meet to be held under the new PCA Regional Championship system. A team was fielded by nine MEPA clubs. Jumping was done from a Navy TC-47K (DC-3), with civilians jumping from military aircraft!

Event I - Individual Accuracy: Jim O'Reilly 1st, Mike Hilden 2nd, Ray Davis 3rd.

Event II - Individual Style (incomplete): Ship Witherow 1st, Ed Marler 2nd, Chuck Seymore, Lou Aliotti, Dick Colasanti, tied for third.

Event III - Team Accuracy: Skynights 1st, Navy Lakehurst 2nd, Delaware Valley 3rd.

Overall Winner: Mike Hilden

EDITOR-PUBLISHER: RONALD D. SIMMONS
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 J. BARRY HERRON



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COVER

Bill Berg of Seattle Skydivers in a dramatic competition landing at 1963 Nationals.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Here are a couple of shots that you might be able to use. They were taken over Elsinore, California, with Plus X film. I caught the shots of Ron Boenish with his 8mm movie camera with my Yashica Lynx 35mm. Ron's movies were excellent!

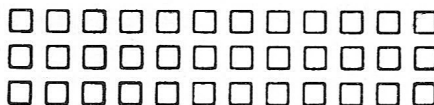
Paul Gassen
Inglewood, California

The last issue of PARACHUTE magazine that I have received is the June issue. Now, if my subscription has run out, then please inform me as such. However, if it hasn't, which I am more intend to go along with, then please enclose July, August, and September issues along with October, and send them to my new address. Okay? I'm not REAL mad yet, so you still have a chance to be my friend.

Bob McDonnell
Buffalo, New York



We are trying hard to be your friend, Bob, so we will send you another July issue. You can blame the post office for that loss, they will not forward magazines, and you must send us your change of address or not get the magazines. As for those other magazines, well, man, there just aren't any. You will get 12 issues for your one year subscription, but it will take a little longer than a year to get them. We are not going to resume printing on a monthly basis for awhile, but we will get the magazines out every couple of months or so. How can you tell if you are missing one? On page three where it has the month, volume, and number, they will remain in sequence.



ALTIMETERS

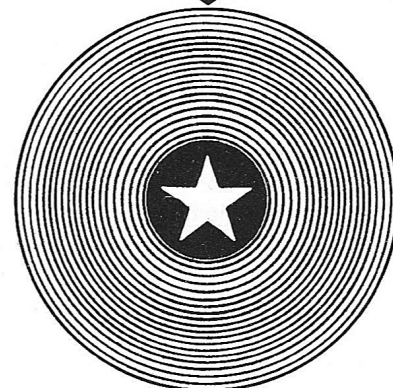
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EDITORIAL by Ron Simmons

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO PCA?

WHY DO WE HAVE PCA?

Some of the main reasons that come to mind are representation, power, and survival. The Parachute Club of America is our official voice. It acts as liaison between the serious minded individual jumper and Government Agencies.

The fact that strength lies in numbers cannot be disputed. Unification equals power, and 7,000 persons are much more effective as a team than several small bands of individuals can hope to be.

Representation and power can enable us to survive in a nation comprised of many persons that are hostile toward spectacular sports requiring certain inherent skills that they themselves lack.

WHAT IS THE REAL PURPOSE OF PCA IN SPORTS PARACHUTING?

The real purpose of PCA is to help and improve our sport. This covers a multitude of subjects in which many of the members are actively engaged. Some of these are technical information, legal representation, safety programming, and enforcement of regulations.

DO WE NEED PCA?

Where would the sport be without it? Think about this! Without PCA, Sports Parachuting would not have progressed to its present status among other sports in this country! Without the technical progress and club supervision afforded by PCA, adverse public opinion would doubtlessly have restricted Sports Parachuting activities to widely separated groups of outlaw jumpers. Some skeptics feel that PCA deserves no credit, that "If PCA had not carried the ball, someone else would have." An inane supposition! Rebels have talked of forming their own parachuting organization, with usurpation of PCA as their ultimate goal. Why? For what reason? Is this the thinking of dedicated men with the betterment of the sport in mind? Or is it the plotting of persons seeking fame and power in order to satisfy their ulterior motives?

CAN WE IMPROVE ON THE PRESENT PCA POLICIES?

Yes, I feel that we can. Let us realize that the Parachute Club of America is just that. A club. Not a law enforcement agency. Not a religion. If you decide that you would like to go out to the D.Z. this Sunday and fall in to 500 feet before you pull your ripcord, the PCA cannot fine you or have you arrested. But, as an authoritative national organization, there is quite a lot that they can do, if they only will! This is where PCA has fallen down recently, and I will illustrate an example!

The Southern California parachuting area is one of many problems. It is the home of the avault-guard, the

non-conformist. Due to the very nature of the local philosophy it has been difficult to enforce safety regulations here. One of the pioneering areas in U. S. Civilian Sports Parachuting, many of our presently well known jumpers are hold overs from the late 1950's when there were few regulations in existence. One such person was brought to an FAA hearing last Aug. 26th on 30 counts of FAA infractions. Nine witnesses testified against him. He has amassed a reputation of disregard for safety throughout the years, advocating "The advancement and safety of sports parachuting" one moment, while maintaining a constant reputation of Hell for Leather, Booze it Up—and then Pull Low practices. Because of his experience, it is doubtful that he will become a parachuting fatality. The point is; this man has quite a few followers, many of whom lack his capabilities and struggle to match his escapades. Can he be blamed if one or two less experienced followers happen to bore a hole in the ground while attempting to keep up with their hero? Should PCA condone his actions?

Another example from the same area is a buddy (and No.1 follower) who's Private Pilot's license was revoked by the FAA this summer, for a period of 1 year. These two Sky Divers share the same general reputation in their area. They drink together, and they jump together. The latter was directly involved in a very unfortunate series of events during a parachute meet at Santa Ynez California, on the night of Sept. 7, 1963. An intoxicated Sky Diver with a total of 70 jumps exited an aircraft from 15,000 feet with a flare. He pulled his ripcord at approximately 50 feet above the airstrip, resulting in a tragic, pointless, and absolutely inexcusable fatality. As luck would have it Bill Estes of the Santa Barbara News Press was present, and attempted to telephone this information to his paper. No. 1 follower is said to have then pulled the reporter from the phone booth, to prevent him from reporting his story. This reporter and two policemen who came to his aid state that they were kicked and beaten by an angry mob. As a result No. 1 follower was jailed on charges of assault and battery, exciting to riot, and intoxication. He was then released on \$2100 bail. The story of the fatality and ensuing riot made newspaper headlines throughout the country. The reporter, backed by a very influential Santa Barbara man, pressed charges and vowed to push this thing for all it was worth. (He was found guilty and fined over \$250.) Santa Barbara County has banned Skydiving at all County Airports. Can you imagine this happening in an area located less than 140 miles from the PCA Headquarters? Has this incident helped Sports Parachuting? Should PCA condone this mans actions?

A respected group of Southern California parachutists then called a meeting. The local parachuting situation was discussed, with the consensus of opinion being that these two men and their actions were not something to take pride in. The California area PCA Director

(continued on page 22)



THREE TIME U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPION S/SGT RICHARD FORTENBERRY OF THE U.S. ARMY GOLDEN KNIGHTS DURING PRACTICE OVER WEST GERMANY.

1963
★★★★ U.S. ★★★★★
NATIONALS

the meet

By LEIGH HUNT

ROBERT H. BUQUOR PHOTOS



Last September 14th, one hundred and seventeen parachutists gathered at Issaquah, Washington for what was to be a week long aerial dogfight. They came from such places as Titusville, Pennsylvania; Mint Canyon, California; Kileen, Texas; Bountiful, Utah, and Kanoeha Aahu, Hawaii. They arrived by plane, car and bus. One jumper roared in all the way from Jacksonville, Florida by motorcycle carrying parachutes and all. And so in misty out of the way Issaquah, Washington the yearly battle began. Soon after the first skirmish, however, the course this contest would take began to clarify itself as Ron Sewell, Bill Berg, Lee Leavitt and Rudy Peterson, all Seattle area Sky Divers, took the lead. Despite several flurries the 1963 nationals boiled down to a grinding jump by jump struggle between the U.S. Army Parachute Team and the local Seattle and Issaquah Sky Divers.

Look at the facts: nine Washington state sky divers made the finals against nine members of the U.S. Army Parachute Team. Below is the complete breakdown of finalists they provided.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| 11. Indiana | 1 member |
| 12. New Jersey | 1 member |
| 13. Texas | 1 member |
| 14. Connecticut | 1 member |
| 15. Fort Bragg | 1 member |

<u>Area</u>	<u>Finalists</u>
1. Army Team	9 members
2. Washington	9 members
3. Marine Corp.	3 members
4. Florida	3 members
5. Massachussets	3 members
6. California	3 members
7. Maryland	2 members
8. Pennsylvania	2 members
9. Illinois	2 members
10. Oregon	1 member

Holding down first place moving into the finals was Ron Sewell, president of the Seattle Sky Divers. After the last jump was tabulated Ron was sitting securely in fifth place overall with a place on the U.S. Team. Ron followed closely behind fellow Seattle Sky Diver Bill Berg who ended up fourth overall. Bill proved dramatically that his winning 10th place in the nationals last year was no accident, but was only the beginning.

Rudy Peterson of Issaquah, Washington, is a school teacher by trade. Quietly intelligent at 36 years of age, Rudy even looks like a school teacher. Right now,

however, Rudy proved himself to be the number two parachutist in the country and a U.S. team member.

In the end Washington jumpers held down second, fourth, fifth, 17th, 20th, 22nd, 29th, 37th, and 40th places overall. Here is evidence which proves that if you're going to beat Army team you are going to have to work. Up in Seattle these boys do little else but work. There, the sport comes to life in the minds of jumpers who aspire to competitive greatness with as much tenacity as football's Roger Staubach or baseball's Sandy Koufax. They see figure eights and targets in their sleep. The results of this attitude are significant.

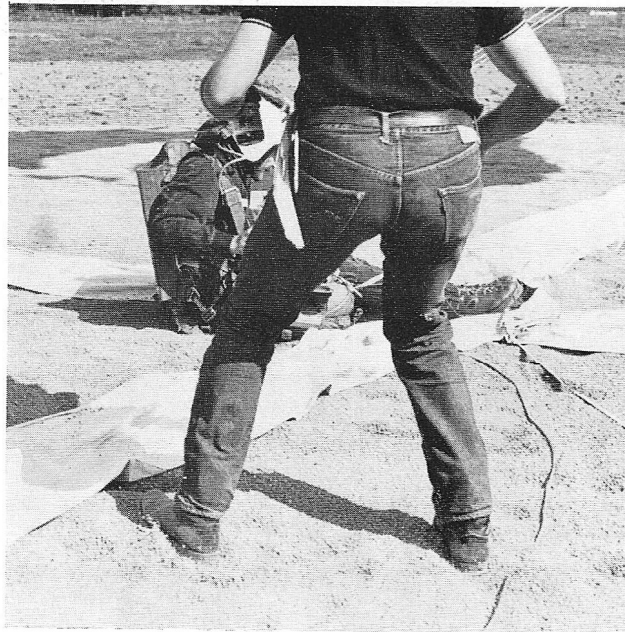
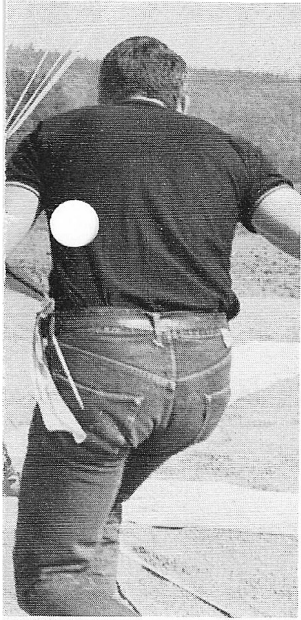
Look at the difference between Washington and say California where jumpers do about as much work, competition wise, as a line of people gathering unemployment insurance. The ability to make a triple baton pass from three thousand feet earned for California contestants 3rd place in the team event and a meager three men in the finals. Besides the ability to make "Pope" and "Cardinal", California was only able to secure 34th place as their highest overall score. Practice makes perfect and to win you must work.

If it had not been for the Washington state jumpers, however, the U.S. Army Parachute team would have had a near sweep of the Nationals. Lt. Roy Martin can well be proud of his team as they ended up with a firm grasp on the competition with Dick Fortenberry taking top honors for the third year in a row. The team ended up with first, third, sixth, seventh, eighth, 16th, 18th, 21st, and 32nd places overall. The reason why this group is hard to contend with is consistency. If they make a mistake it's rarely a big one. When the day comes that Fortenberry, McDonald, Bourquin, Brydon, and Vanderweg are beaten it'll be proof enough that competitive practice has taken over from baton pass frolic. This year showed signs of this happening but in the end consistency took its toll.

Dark horse Bob Holler from Hyattsville, Maryland, went into the finals standing in fifth place slipping finally to 10th place as well as capturing second place in event three (style). Nate Pond of New Salem, Massachusetts took second place in event two (accuracy) and ended up a respectable ninth place overall.

The women looked better this year than ever before with little Anne Batterson sweeping the field. Unknown T. Taylor Crump of Dallas, Texas surprised everyone by ending up in second place sixty-seven points behind Anne. Sixty points separated the third place dark horse Gladys Inman of Redmond, Washington from fourth place Carlyn Olson. The final point score showed that our women have finally matured into first rate skilled competitors. Anne's final overall score was not too far behind the men's, which is significant.

THE CAMERA CAPTURES AN ANOMALY, WITH DICK FORTENBERRY THE PORTRAYER OF EARNEST DEDICATION MAKING A PERFECT APPROACH AND DEAD CENTER JUMP, TO BE JUDGED AND SCORED BY LYLE CAMERON WITH A BOTTLE OF OLYMPIA BEER IN HIS HAND. SINCE WHEN HAS PCA ALLOWED BEER ON THE DZ DURING A NATIONAL COMPETITION?





There were fairly numerous complaints as to judging at the Nationals. Eventually in meets to come style will have to be judged by ground located television cameras, and accuracy; electronically. In this type of competition where inches and tenths of seconds make such a big difference judging must be exact to be completely fair. As it is, judging becomes a hell of a responsibility.

I wonder if anybody really had a firm idea as to how the scoring system worked during the competition? Arguments were hot and continual as rules seemed to be worked out as the meet progressed. It's a bit unrealistic to expect the public to understand how our sport is scored—if the competitors themselves don't.

Besides the first several days, the weather at Issaquah was pure jump weather! Few could complain about wind conditions interfering with accuracy. After several thousand jumps only one injury was reported during competition, which is commendable. Ron Young of Alameda, California suffered the meet's lone malfunction during Event One Accuracy. Coolly, Ron successfully threw his reserve and rode it on in getting four feet from target center, much to the crowd's pleasure!

In summation, the brightest prospect to come out of the Nationals was proof of maturing competition. Hats off to the Seattle and Issaquah Sky Divers and the U.S. Army Parachute Team for showing the way!

A VERY CONSISTENT ACCURACY MAN, PHIL VANDER WEG STRETCHES FOR THE LITTLE ROUND DISC DURING A DOWN WIND LANDING APPROACH.

LOY BRYDON STRETCHES FOR THE TARGET





PCA DIRECTOR RON SEWELL COMPLETES HIS JUMP WITH A SPRAY OF GRAVEL, LEADING TO HIS EVENTUAL FIFTH PLACE FINISH.

Event One Accuracy from 3,600 ft.

1. Leland Leavitt	Snohomish, Wash.	589.92
2. Rudy Peterson	Issaquah, Wash.	575.32
3. Phillip Vanderweg	U.S. Army Parachute Team	570.77

Women

1. Anne Batterson	Bloomfield, Conn.	513.20
2. Carlyn Olson	Van Nuys, Calif.	504.12
3. Jeanni McCoombs	El Paso, Texas	449.92

Event Two Accuracy from 5,300 ft.

1. Richard Fortenberry	U.S. Army Parachute Team	585.24
2. Nathan Pond	New Salem, Mass.	566.48
3. David Becker	U.S.M.C.	565.56

Women

1. Anne Batterson	Bloomfield, Conn.	543.48
2. Tee Crump	Dallas, Texas	450.04
3. Carlyn Olson	Van Nuys, Calif.	424.56

Event Three Style from 7,200 ft.

1. Richard Fortenberry	U.S. Army Parachute Team	994.5
2. Robert Holler	Hyattsville, Md.	968.5
3. Bobby Letbetter	U.S. Army Parachute Team	960.5

Women

1. Tee Crump	Dallas, Texas	943.0
2. Anne Batterson	Bloomfield, Conn.	913.5
3. Kimberly Emmons	Cadillac, Mich.	895.5

Top Ten Men Overall

1. Richard Fortenberry	U.S. Army Parachute Team	2,702.42
2. Rudy Peterson	Issaquah, Wash.	2,630.84
3. Coy McDonald	U.S. Army Parachute Team	2,615.20
4. Bill Berg	Snohomish, Wash.	2,607.74
5. Ron Sewell	Snohomish, Wash.	2,604.80
6. Gerald Bourquin	U.S. Army Parachute Team	2,588.84
7. Phillip Vanderweg	U.S. Army Parachute Team	2,538.70
8. Loy Brydon	U.S. Army Parachute Team	2,526.14
9. Nate Pond	New Salem, Mass.	2,515.86
10. Bob Holler	Hyattsville, Md.	2,499.82

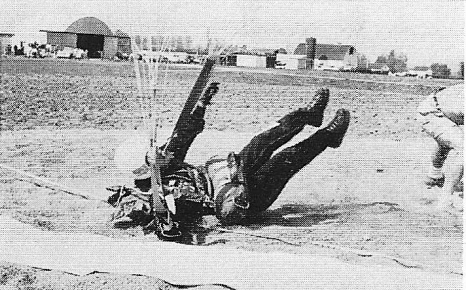
Top Six Women Overall

1. Anne Batterson	Bloomfield, Conn.	2,403.60
2. T. Taylor Crump	Dallas, Texas	2,336.78
3. Gladys Inman	Redmond, Wash.	2,093.00
4. Carlyn Olson	Van Nuys, Calif.	2,033.84
5. Maxine Hartman	New York City	2,019.26
6. Kimberly Emmons	Cadillac, Mich.	1,991.72

THIRD PLACE FINALIST COY MCDONALD STRETCHES FOR THE CENTER OF TARGET AND GRIMACES,



PINT SIZED U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPION ANNE BATTERSON HITS THE GRAVEL AND BOUNCES LIKE A RUBBER BALL!



the trip

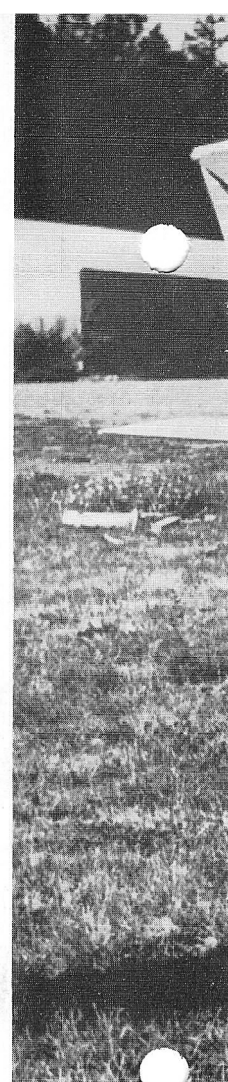
by RON SIMMONS.

PHOTOS BY KERN FORBES

WE DROVE A NEW PLYMOUTH FURY TO THE 1963 NATIONALS, WHERE IT RESTED A GOOD DEAL OF THE TIME WHILE WE WERE JUMPING FROM THE CHEROKEE.



ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON. SIGHT OF THE 1963 NATIONALS, WITH THE CHEROKEE IN THE FOREGROUND, AND THE ABC TV CAMERA BOOM SHOWING OVER THE TAIL OF THE OTHER AIRCRAFT.



FRIDAY HARBOR, WA
JUMP, THEN REPACK
FOR ANOTHER ONE!

The trip to Seattle and back turned out to be quite enjoyable! We used a new Piper Cherokee 180, and a new Plymouth Fury for transportation. Leigh Hunt drove the Plymouth, while I took the Cherokee.

The race north between the Cherokee and the Plymouth turned out to be a re-creation of the old Tortoise and Hare episode! Leigh, his wife, Jan, and Bob Buquor pulled out of Los Angeles on a Wednesday night, the Plymouth loaded with parachutes and baggage. The next morning my wife, daughter, Jim Cummings, our pilot, and I took off from Long Beach.

(continued on page 20)





WASHINGTON. A BEAUTIFUL PLACE TO
RIGHT WHERE YOU LAND, AND GO UP

PIPER CHEROKEE WITH DOOR REMOVED FOR JUMPING.
METHOD OF EXIT IS TO WALK OUT ON THE BLACK STRIP
NEXT TO FUSELAGE AND STEP OFF FACING THE TAIL. KICKS!



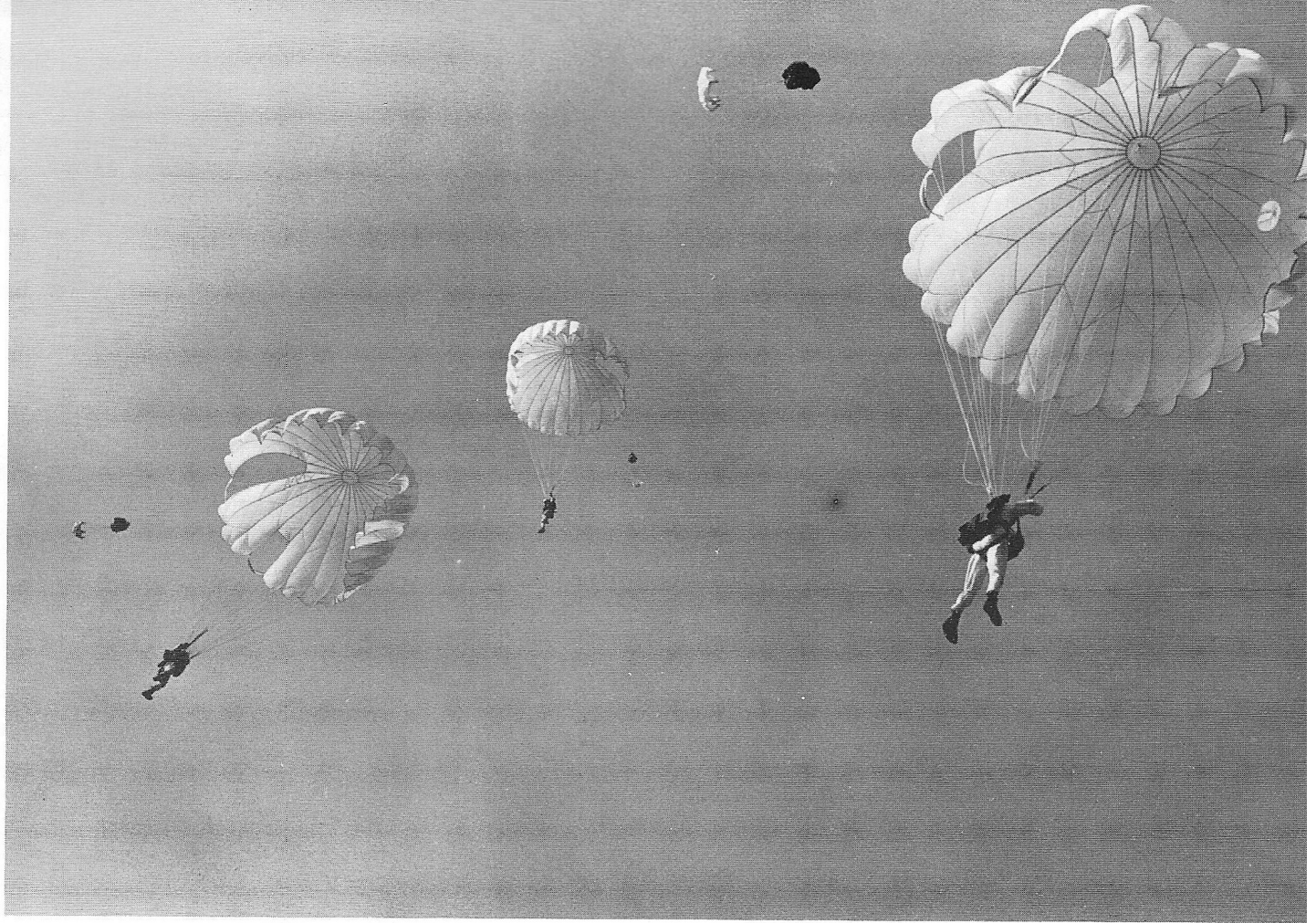
third ADRIATIC CUP

by Jeanni McCombs

U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY SFC JOE M. GONZALES, U.S. ARMY PARACHUTE
TEAM PHOTOGRAPHER

STAFF SERGEANT COY O. MCDONALD, INDIVIDUAL OVERALL MEN'S
CHAMPION, PRACTICING FOR THE ADRIATIC CUP.





BULGARIAN TEAM STACKS AND RUNS FOR TARGET, WITH SMALL PILOT CHUTES TRAILING BEHIND.

WELL MEANING BUT LOQUACIOUS, JEANNI SENT US ENOUGH MATERIAL TO FILL A SEARS CATALOGUE. HERE IS THE CONDENSED VERSION OF HER STORY.

Carlyn Olson and I took off from Los Angeles by plane on August 7, 1963. We were met in Philadelphia by George Gividen, and taken to our training quarters.

We joined forces with Anne Batterson and Jim Arender, our team trainer. Jim had us doing a run, and practicing on a trampoline, then we started our practice jumps at Tri State Parachute Center. We had a little trouble with the 600 meter team jump (1950 feet) but worked out a system; to be modified later by Dick Fortenberry while in Europe. We practiced the water jump, and trained regularly. Deke Sonnichsen arrived on the 17th, and we prepared to leave for Europe the following day.

The flight from the United States to Europe was smooth, except for one thing. Carlyn got locked in the restroom for about 10 minutes, and the door had to be removed. She was kind of glad to get out!

Once in Frankfurt, Germany, we were welcomed by Gerry Bourquin, who gave the three of us girls a night time tour of the town. The next morning saw the entire 22 member delegation aboard a bus for Portoz, Yugoslavia. It was wonderful to renew old acquaintances with fellow U.S. Team members. We spent the first

night in Innsbruck, Austria, driving on to Yugoslavia the next day. We had expected tents, but due to the disaster in Skopje, we relinquished our tents to the disaster area and were able to stay in hotels.

We trained on August 24th, first receiving a complete tour from the native pilot, who had no regulations to bind him. We flew 50 feet off the deck up the sea coast almost to Trieste, bouncing over the rolling hills. On the beaches we saw naked children, men with bathing caps, and women with bikinis.

The meet commenced on the 25th, with a decision to start with event five. This was an exhibition jump with spectators doing the judging! First place was taken by the United States, with Dick Fortenberry and Loy Brydon demonstrating a max track with smoke. The spectators were amazed at the distance covered on a horizontal plane from the exit point of 12,500 feet. Third place went to the U.S. team of Gerry Bourquin and Joe Norman with a beautiful baton pass and spiral with smoke. The Bulgarian team had a surprise of releasing a square gondola from which five men jumped in 30 second intervals! Another team smoked in to 200 feet before opening and landed in the crowd of 5,000 persons!



Event I of the actual competition started on Monday, August 26th. This is the team event from 1950 feet. Both the U.S. Men and Women were able to take first place in this event, with Gerry Bourquin and Dick Fortenberry making dead center jumps on the second round of this event. The Czechoslovakian team is hot on the heels of the U.S. Mens team at this time.

Tuesday is style day. Our ace in the hole, Bobby Letbetter, took third in this event, for best U.S. Men's showing, and Carlyn Olson taking third for best U.S. Women's score.

The 1,000 meter Team Accuracy event was held on Wednesday, the 28th. Our Men's Team took first place with a new world's record, and the girls being edged into second. Joe Norman was able to score three dead centers here, having to throw one away as only the best jump counted! Joe really had this event down pat!

Competition was halted for two days, during which we were able to get a look at Yugoslavia. We were shown a demonstration of precision riding at a horse farm. We then visited Postojnska Jama, the Carlsbad Caverns of Yugoslavia. It was cold there, and we wore our grey capes and hoods, looking like Monks!

On the second day a delegation from the USA, CSSR, Hungarian, Yugoslavian, Austrian, East and West German, Polish, Bulgarian, and Canadian teams boarded the AN-2's for a trip to Zagreb, where Marica Baric's grave is located.

LOY BRYDON SCORES A DEAD CENTER IN PRACTICE!



HUNGARIAN JUMPERS ARE SCORED AT ADRIATIC CUP MEET.





COMPETITORS SHOWN AT PORTOROZ, YUGOSLAVIA, WITH RUSSIAN I-2 JUMP PLANE IN BACKGROUND.

It is September first, and time to get wet. The water jump can, and will, change many overall placings. Coy McDonald had a dead center, while both Dick Fortenberry and Gerry Bourquin were docked 50 points each for allegedly leaving their harness before touching the water. This put the Men's Team in second place overall, and threw Fortenberry and Bourquin out of the lead as individuals. Anne Batterson took first here, also

HIL VANDER WEG SITS ON TARGET WHILE GERRY BOURQUIN DOCKS ON.



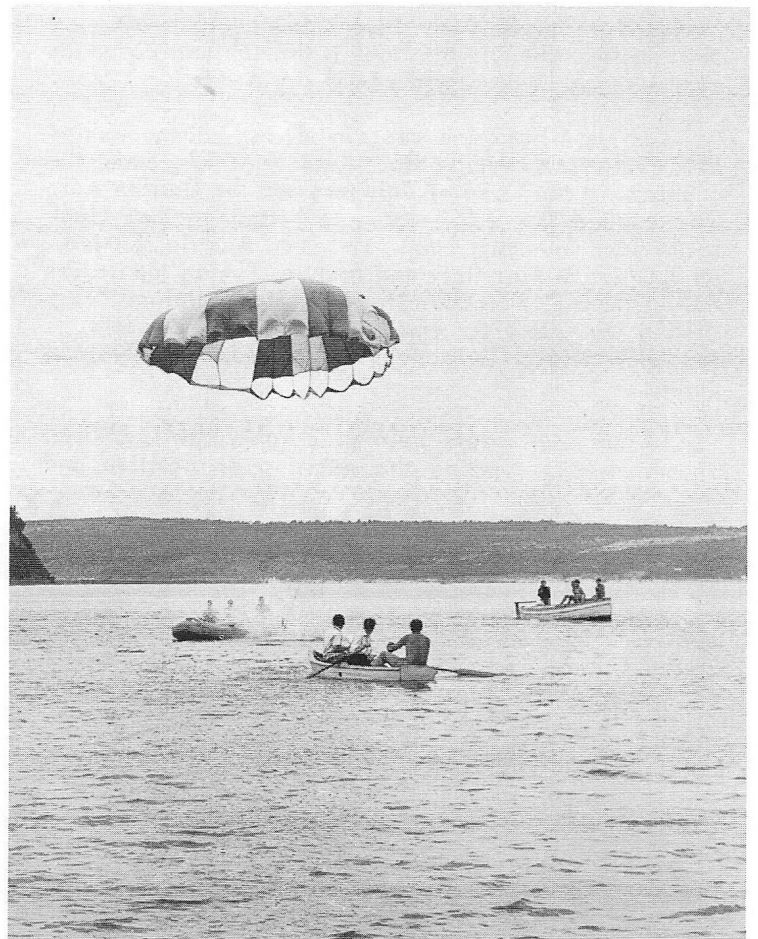
EAST GERMAN TEAM POUNDS THE TARGET.



assuring her of first overall!

We did well at the Adriatic Cup meet, with Coy McDonald and Anne Batterson taking first overall individual places, and Joe Norman holding to second. The U.S. Women's Team won, and the Men's Team should have won. Next year, well, let's wait and see!

U.S. TEAM MEMBER SPLASHES NEAR TARGET DURING WATER JUMP.





ERICH GRATZER OF SWITZERLAND EXITS DURING THE INDIVIDUAL ACCURACY EVENT FROM 1000-METERS AT LEUTKIRCH, GERMANY.

The skies over Europe this summer were filled with parachutes carrying U.S. sky divers through a series of competitions that started in Leutkirch, Germany in June and ended three months later in Kopar, Yugoslavia. The United States Sports Parachute Team, second in the 1962 World Championship at Orange, Massachusetts, came to Europe to put on a series of exhibitions and to participate in competitive performances in Germany, Belgium, France, and Yugoslavia. While here, the team amassed triumph after triumph in competition. Its 11 members put on a string of sensational exhibition jumps that drew "ohs" and "ahs" in many different languages. When they departed in September, the U.S. Sports Parachute Team had left behind a memorable record of wins and a lot of crowd-thrilling hours under European skies.

The team, comprised of the U.S. Army Parachute team, arrived in Europe on June 5th to represent the United States in four major international competitions during the summer months. The eleven-man team, headed by 1st Lieutenant Roy D. Martin, U.S. Army, set up its pre-competition conditioning site at the Sembach Air Force Base in Germany before launching a vigorous competitive schedule that took it through four countries against some of the world's best sky divers.

The first European cup sky diving championships at Leutkirch, Germany from June 7 to 17, under the auspices of the Duke of Waldberg and the German Aero Club, found the U.S. aggregate pitted against crack teams from Germany, Spain, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, Great Britain, Italy and France. Taking top honors there, the U.S. Parachute team led second-place Great Britain by 206.475, emerging with a total score of 4014.727 points. Germany placed third with 3792.458 points.

Of the four meets held in Europe, the Leutkirch championships typified the exciting competition and

warm camaraderie resulting during the U.S. team's three month stay. National pride was evident among all competitors but a warm spirit of friendship prevailed throughout the meets, regardless of who won. The International European Cup events at Leutkirch set the pace for later meets at Bondues, France from July 3 to 7; in The Spa, Belgium for the Rendez-Vous Cup from August 5 to 11; culminating and in the unofficial world championships at Kopar, Yugoslavia during August 24 - 31.

Capping its spectacular performances throughout Europe during the 1963 summer, the American parachutists took three of the four top honors in a week-long International Parachute tournament in Kopar, Yugoslavia on September 2nd. The jumpers from the United States ended the competition with first places in all but the men's team event, which was won by Czechoslovakia.

Virtually unknown just five years ago, the U.S. Army Parachute Team, now well known as the "Golden Knights", this year made up the national team which competed throughout Europe. Key members of the Army aggregate comprised the U.S. Sports Parachute Team that launched its three-month, four-meet European tour with a winning performance in the international European Cup Championships at Leutkirch, Germany in June.

Leutkirch, nestled among the picturesque foothills of the Bavarian Alps in the Allgau district of Germany, will provide the same pastoral setting for the world sports parachute competition to be held there in August of 1964. The U.S. team expects to return next year to compete again against top teams from many other countries, this time for the world crown.

Setting the pace in this year's Leutkirch contest, which saw two days of rain cancel the 2,000 meter (6,500 feet) individual style event, was Sergeant First Class Gerald F. Bourquin, one of the five men on the 1961-62 U.S. Team for the world championships. He scored the lone dead center of the meet during the team accuracy contest. Bourquin, in his best three out of four jumps, also had a landing only 3.9 inches away from the target. Rounding out the winning team lineup was Sergeant First Class Phillip J. Vander Weg, Staff Sergeant Richard T. Fortenberry and Specialist Five Coy O. McDonald.

West Germany was second and Great Britain third in team accuracy. Teaming for the top two positions in individual accuracy were Vander Weg and Fortenberry, respectively. Vander Weg was an average of 1.04 meters or slightly more than 40 inches off the center disk in his best three jumps. Fortenberry, the first man ever to score a dead center in world championship competition, turning the trick in 1962, compiled a 1.24 meter average

U.S. Parachutes

in

European Skies

By
Lt Colonel Philip A. Farris

U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY SP-5 GRANT

or a little more than 3-1/2 feet. Austria's Gerold Reinitzer was third, averaging 1.86 meters off the target for his best three.

Another member of the U.S. Army Team, Sergeant First Class Phillip C. Miller, one of 19 parachute examiners in the U.S. Army, was cast in a special role. At the request of the German Aero Club and the Duke of Waldberg-Zeil, sponsors of the Leutkirch tournament, Miller came to Europe as chief judge of the contest. James Arender, 1962 Overall World Champion, also served as a judge. His appearance on the European jaunt with the nationals was sponsored by the Parachute Club of America.

West Germany, which was close to the bottom of the totem pole in world sports parachuting circles a year ago, made a particularly impressive showing in placing second in team competition at Leutkirch. Colonel John K. Singlaub, the U.S. Team's Chief of Delegation, who is assigned to the G3 Section at Seventh Army Headquarters, attributed the efforts of Brigadier General Walter Gericke, Commanding General of the 1st German Airborne Division, as being largely responsible for the progress made by the Germans. Several members of the German team have also trained with the European Military Sports Parachute Club Team, which is headed by Colonel Singlaub. Another factor in the team's improved accuracy is the fact that it has discarded the triangle parachute in favor of the universally accepted Pioneer 'chute.

Herr Kohnke, inventor and manufacturer of the triangle parachute, who is also President of the German Sports Parachute Commission, attended the Leutkirch tournament. The Duke of Waldberg-Zeil, whose castle overlooks the jump area from a high hill nearby, presented the meet awards on the final day of the first competition at Leutkirch. The Duke, an avid sports parachuting fan and President of the German Aero Club, is owner of the Leutkirch jumping area, where that event was held and next year's world competition will take place. He anticipates improving the area considerably to provide the best available accommodations for spectators and competitors alike for the world championship.

Geographically, Leutkirch should be an ideal spot for the world tourney. The German summer reaches its zenith in August and prevailing winds are only slight. Within close proximity of heavily frequented European vacation areas on the Bodensee, Alps and the Black Forest, Leutkirch is a town of slightly more than 6,000 population. Boasting dairy farming and lumber as its biggest industries it is easily accessible from the major cities of Germany, plus Switzerland, Austria and the Iron Curtain countries.

Throughout their European tour this summer the U.S. team performed in a first-class fashion wherever they went. They have been hailed in European press reports as an outstanding sky diving group whose gripping performances will long be remembered.

NORMAN HOFFMAN OF THE GREAT BRITAIN TEAM EXITS OVER LEUTKIRCH.



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(continued from page 12)

After having associated the use of small aircraft with the many flights made in stripped down "jumping platforms" over the past few years, we were in for a pleasant surprise. The Cherokee was a beautiful new aircraft, and the pleasant feeling of being able to fly where you wanted and when you wanted was an experience to behold! We were plagued with bad weather, having to spend the night in Monterey, California, Santa Rosa, California, and Kelso, Washington. The Plymouth beat us to Seattle by two days. The thing is, Leigh and his crew had to be there in time to register for the meet, and we did not. Leigh's trip consisted of driving day and night, rain and shine. The Fury performed beautifully, and was a comfortable car for the trip, with excellent road holding characteristics! On the other hand, we had no deadline to meet, and poked along, looking at the sights and not taking any chances of crashing in foul weather.

We had a great time while we were attending the meet, making the most of the Cherokee, and flying every day. We took side trips to the San Juan Islands, and also to Snohomish.

We had an STC for the Cherokee, and had a great time jumping from it. (The STC was sent to PCA and printed on page 21 of the October, 1963 Parachutist). No one had jumped this type of plane before, and there was some question as to the feasibility of exiting from it.

We flew it to Snohomish, where we removed the door and the right front seat. The airplane flew nicely with the door off, the wind blast being about the same as in a high winged aircraft with no wind deflector added. I had Jim take us to 12,500 feet. During the ascent I stuck my head out the door a few times, causing the Cherokee to veer off course. This is a characteristic of a low winged airplane, caused by the airfoil moving over the top side of the wing. Jim simply corrected this by kicking left rudder and left aileron.

Once on jump run, we had worked out the kinks. I spotted by leaning out the door, and looking over the leading edge of the wing. When we were over target, I gave a "cut", walked out on the wing, and stepped off the back, facing the tail. This threw me on my back for a moment, but it was no trouble getting stable and completing the jump as planned. I really enjoyed jumping from this airplane! It was different! Spotting was no trouble, and walking around out there on the wing was a real kick!

Parachuting in the San Juan Islands was really something! The quiet atmosphere, coupled with the fantastic scenery, was something that you do not get in the Los Angeles area. The local people turned out to watch, telling us that they had seen Sky Divers before. They had not forgotten Bob Reddicks Norseman and Leigh Hunts camera crew during last springs filming.

(continued on page 21)

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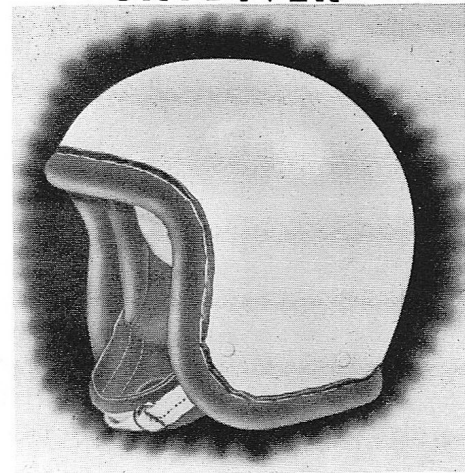
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(continued from page 20)

We made a couple of return trips to the Space Needle, our favorite bar. We closed it down both nights! We sure wanted to have it in Los Angeles, but we couldn't think of a way to get it home! Once the Nationals were over, we hopped in the Cherokee and took off for Idaho. We met some of the Smoke Jumpers while in McCall, and even had the chance to jump from the Cherokee into their DZ. These guys expressed the desire to free-fall, but Forestry Service regulations will not permit them to do so. Let's hope that the authorities become enlightened in the near future.

Leaving Idaho, we flew over the most desolate area in the world, landing in Reno, Nevada. As it was mid-week and the Nevada Sky Divers were not jumping at

the time, we had to be contented with gaming, as the local people called it. We had a neat time at this sport, and I won \$150 on the crap table, paying for most of the gas that we used during our 39 hours flying time!

We hated to return from such a terrific flying trip, flying into what appeared to be a huge trash dump on fire, but was actually Los Angeles and its smog seen from the air. Also, we did not enjoy turning the Cherokee back in, and I suppose Leigh felt the same about the Plymouth, as he was five days late and the man from Chrysler Corporation was starting to get uneasy.

Now, we are starting to plan our trip to the 1964 Nationals!

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(continued from page 6)

then read a copy of a letter written by the PCA executive secretary. The letter stated that the man with an FAA hearing and 22 violations in process would not make a good judge under the situation, and that his services as a judge in the 1963 U.S. National Parachute Championships were no longer requested. We were also told that the No. 1 follower would not be allowed to compete in the Nationals. At last, a serious attempt had been made to clean up the sport in Southern California. PCA had made a stand!

Three days later we were informed that this decision had been reversed, and both men would be allowed to participate in the Nationals as previously planned. "Why", we asked? We were told that the present policy of PCA was to forget old grudges, and let these men start with a clean slate.

My God! What a ridiculous answer to receive from an organization with safety rules to enforce! How hypocritical, considering the multitude of other PCA members whose slates were not wiped clean! As an example, I shall pick two cases at random!

The first jumper was a participant in a meet sponsored by ParaVentures, Inc., and Ford Motor Company at

Ontario, California, on June 3rd. 1962. Due to a low ceiling the entire load jumped from 1400 feet. This jumper, a PCA "C" license holder at the time, was later refused a "D" license as a result of this infraction. Consequently, this man was ineligible to participate in the 1963 Nationals as a participant.

The other jumper has been known to jump while wearing tennis shoes. A free fall photo of him was published while he was so attired, and he was notified that his presence as a competitor in the 1963 Nationals was not desired.

The main point in question is this: Of the four men, all guilty of varying infractions, which two are an absolute discredit to Sports Parachuting? An interesting simile would be that of a city police raid on a house full of penny ante poker players, with the police neglecting to stop an overt act of robbery, rape, and murder taking place on the front lawn of the house next door.

I propose a stronger PCA in the future. Perhaps this will come into being. Perhaps PCA will decide to take a stand on important issues, and help isolated areas to straighten out their problems from time to time, instead of turning its back on the problems and endorsing the troublemakers. I hope so!



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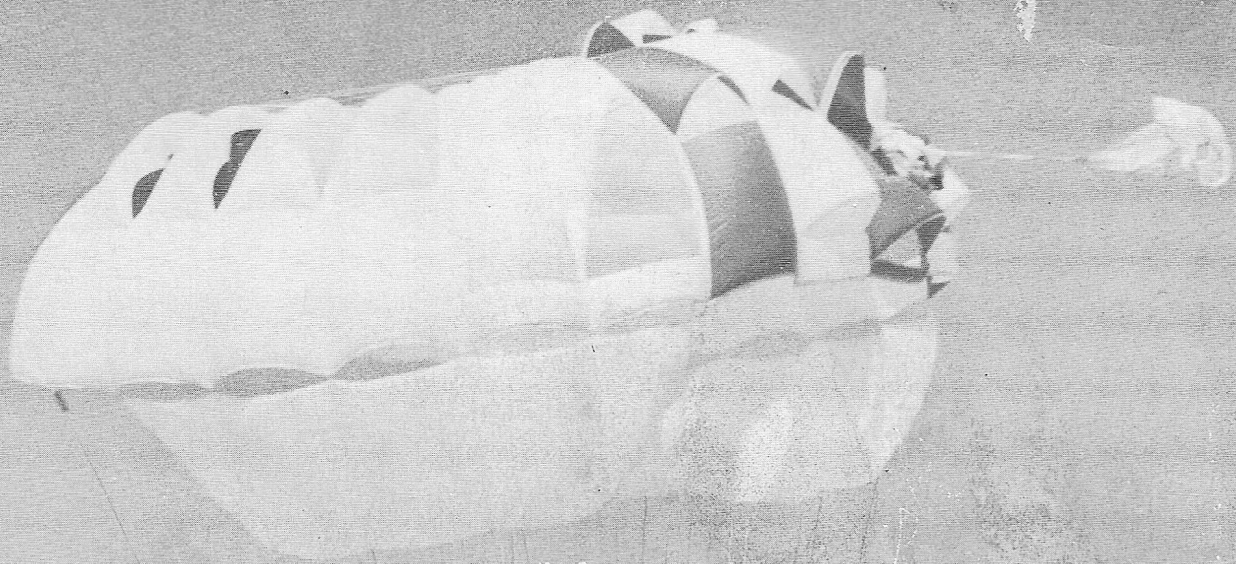
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