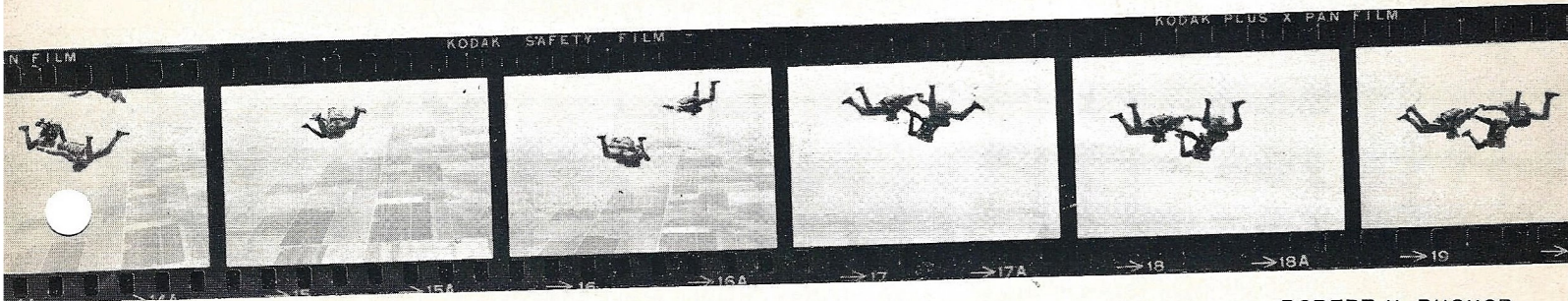
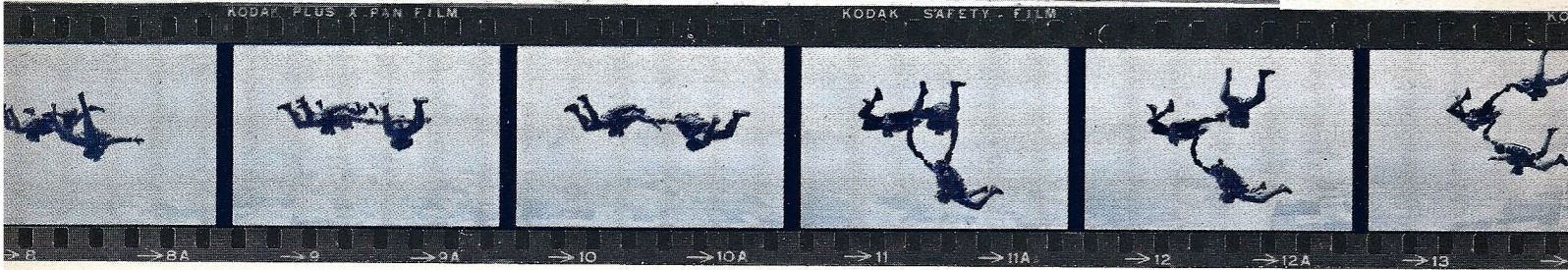
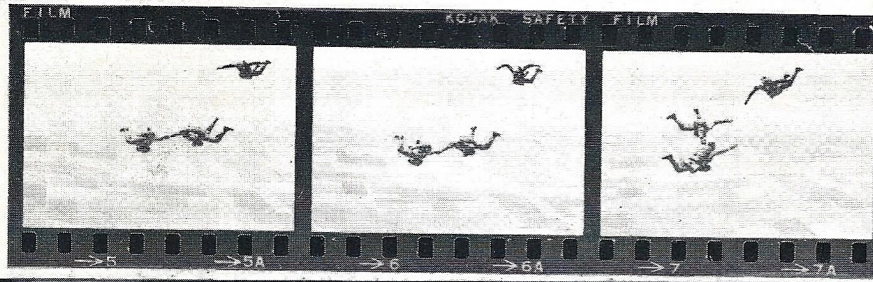


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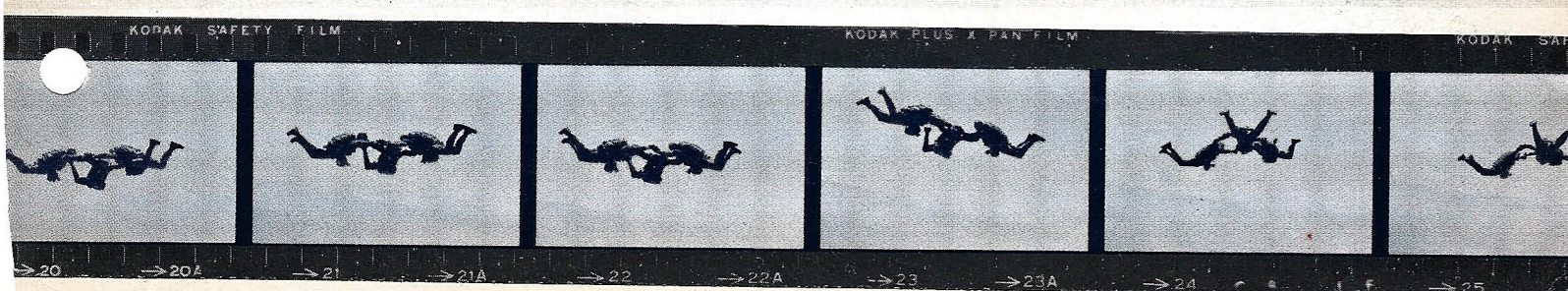
MARCH-APRIL 1964

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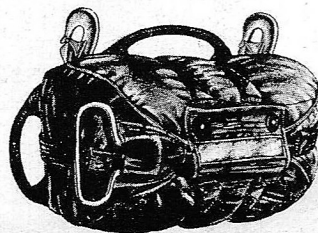
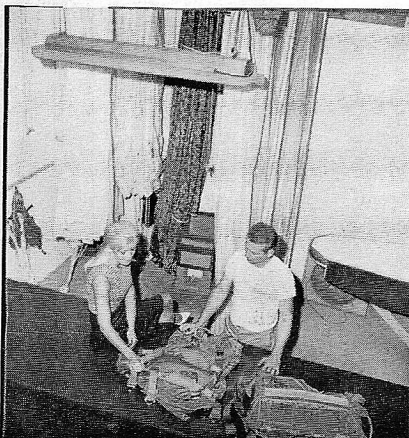
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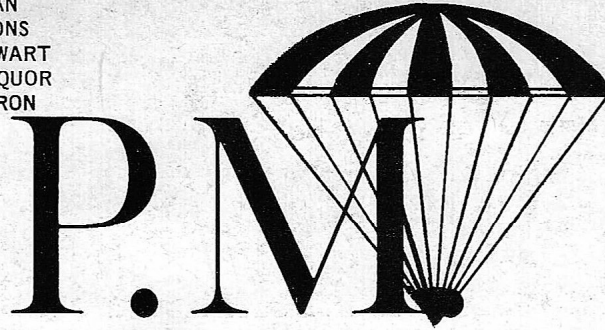
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MARCH-APRIL 1964, VOLUME 2, NO. 1



COMPETITION

Second Annual European Military Sports Parachute Competition 10

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COVER

Lou Paproski, Mitch Poteet, and Ron Simmons over Arvin, California after exiting from a Cessna 195. Photo by Bob Buquor.



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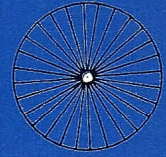
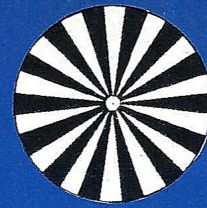
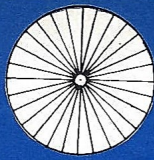
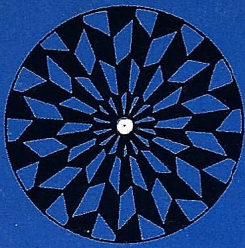
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*** AROUND THE DROP ZONE ***

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PARACHUTE COUNCIL ELIMINATIONS MID-CAL

Fresno, California
May 30th & 31st, 1964

TWO EVENTS:

1. Accuracy, three jumps from 3600 feet.
2. Style, three jumps from 7200 feet.

For More Information Contact:

Jack L. Lockhart
5811 El Dorado No. 4
El Cerrito, California

SOUTHEAST INVITATIONAL ALL-MILITARY SPORT PARACHUTE MEET

Jacksonville, Florida
May 30-31, 1964

For More Information Contact:

Jax Navy Sport Parachute Club
The Vapor Trails
U.S. Naval Air Station
Jacksonville 12, Florida

WESTERN CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS TWO STAGES

1. Style:
Elsinore California, May 30-31, 1964. Three jumps from 7200 feet.
2. Accuracy:
Taft, California, June 13-14, 1964.
Three jumps from 3300 feet.
Current PCA membership and B licenses plus California Medical required. Winners to compete in Conference Eliminations at Taft on July 3, 4, 5, 1964.

For More Information Contact:

Lyle Cameron
Box 331
Buena Park, California

SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE MEET

Terrell Municipal Airport
Terrell, Texas

June 5, 6, 7, 1964

Valid 1964 PCA membership required. C or D licenses required for men, B for women. Pre-registration required by May 25th, 1964.

TWO EVENTS:

1. Accuracy, three jumps from 3600 feet.
2. Style, three jumps from 7200 feet.

For Further Information Contact:

C. K. Shoemake
Dallas Skydivers, Inc.
46213 Black Rock
Dallas, Texas 75211

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Spadarro's Airport

East Moriches, Long Island, N.Y.

June 6-7, 1964

Contestants must have valid PCA C or D license in their possession.

For More Information Contact:

Long Island Skydivers
85 Swan Lake Drive
Patchogue, N.Y. Phone: GR 5-1298

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE MEET

Snohomish, Washington
June 13-14, 1964

Qualifications:

PCA C license with 125 jumps or D license in mens division. B, C, or D license in Womens division.

Registration deadline: June 3, 1964.

For More Information Contact:

Seattle Skydivers
Rt. 1, Box 32
Snohomish, Washington

MID-EASTERN CONFERENCE MEET

Dayton, Ohio

June 20, 21, 1964

PCAC & D licenses required.

For Further Information Contact:

Dayton Sport Parachute Club
250 Baswood Avenue
Dayton, Ohio

OLD OLD TIMERS MEET

Orange, Massachusetts

June 21-22, 1964

For More Information Contact:

Orange Sport Parachuting Center
Box 96
Orange, Massachusetts

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE AREA CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION

Jackson, Mississippi

June 27, 28, 1964

Open to jumpers with 50 jumps, Valid PCA class B license, and current PCA membership.

For More Information Contact:

Jackson Skydivers Parachute Club
P.O. Box 2921, WJS
Jackson, Mississippi

CARIBBEAN CUP

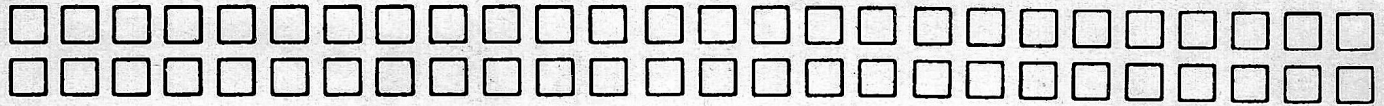
July 3, 4, 5, 1964

Second Annual "Caribbean Cup" Sport Parachute Meet in the Canal Zone, limited to U.S. Citizens residing or stationed within the national boundaries of the Republic of Panama.

For Further Information Contact:

Major Miguel Guardiola
P.O. Box 189
Ft. Gullick, Canal Zone

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



SUBJECT:

INTERCOLLEGIATE PARACHUTING COMPETITION

1. The Intercollegiate Parachuting Competition has been a traditional event at Orange, Massachusetts, on the first weekend of May for the last four years.

2. The 1964 Intercollegiate Parachuting Competition has been announced and advertised since August, 1963. (Schedule of events enclosed.)

3. The last minute schedule of another Intercollegiate Competition *on the same weekend* with approval by the Parachute Club of America is either poor management or extremely poor taste.

4. We are very much in favor of more Intercollegiate competitions at many locations. However, there should be no conflict of dates until there are more than 365 contests as opposed to the two actually scheduled.

Jaques Andre Istel
Honorary Chairman
National Collegiate
Parachuting League

I have been meaning to write for the past year and here goes.

I really enjoy the magazine, and the article on the Nationals. I would like to see a few more articles on taking free fall flicks and how to mount a helmet camera, also more info on meets before they have already been held.

Our Club is the Charlotte Chute Hawks, the old Charlotte Sky Divers. We think that we have some of the best jumpers in the South. We have two Cessna's, a 170 and a 182, and a pilot with about five years experience flying jumpers, Louis Whitley. We have a hundred foot circle of sawdust and a nice DZ. We welcome all jumpers with valid PCA licenses and log books. We are located about three miles north of Charlotte on No. 21 and 115 at Brockenbrough Airport, North Carolina.

Ya'll Come,
Jimmy L. Davis

I would like to express myself if I may, in regards to the prompt action which I did receive on my subscription. It is truly an asset to the both of us. Keep up the good work.

At a later date I would like to send some pictures to you to have placed in PM. Some of them will be taken at Elsinore, California, and the others being taken at Norton AFB, California. I am presently a member of the Falcons Sky Divers stationed at Norton AFB.

E. C. Carroll, Jr.
March AFB, California

Yes, we are trying to catch up on our service to readers. Some day we will actually be organized. Until then, we will do the best that we can. We would like to see your pictures, and encourage other readers to submit photos and articles to PARACHUTE for possible publication.

This is just a note to tell you how much I've enjoyed your magazine. The issues were not always on time but, I got 12 issues as promised and they were first cabin. I can understand many of your problems for mine are the same only on a much smaller scale. I am the editor of the NCPC News, which I hope you have been receiving without difficulty. As you may have guessed I was not an English major or a typist, although my wife and I do get a great deal of pleasure in serving the NCPC. Well, enough of that. Please take my five dollars and send me twelve more issues of your magazine starting with your thirteenth issue.

Jack L. Lockhart
El Cerrito, California

We have enjoyed the Northern California Parachute Council news, and hope to be reading it for years to come. Best of luck to you. We feel that persons such as you and your wife are doing a great deal for our sport, and will do whatever we can to help you.

In starting this letter I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed your magazine. I am sure that everyone that is affiliated with parachuting and sky diving will agree that your magazine has added the extra zest the sport has needed.

Perhaps, you can supply me with some information. Is there a skydiving club located somewhere in Orange County? If so, I would like to know the name of it as I am interested in joining a club. If there isn't and there is enough people interested I would like to start one.

If you have a charge for inserting a notice, feel free to either bill me or I will gladly send you a certified check.

Again, I want to congratulate you and your staff for the fine magazine you publish.

Jeff Barr
Fountain Valley, California

The only club that we know of in your area is the Aerojet Angels, c/o Elsinore Paracenter, Elsinore, California. If any of the readers are interested in getting together with Jeff, please contact him at the above address. There is no charge for the notice, we are always trying to promote Sports Parachuting.

The Emerald Skydivers and the Webfoot Sport Parachutists both of Eugene, Oregon, wish it known that one Mike Reid has not jumped or received training in our clubs. We believe he may represent himself as having done so, as he possesses both a main and reserve.

Mr. Reid represented himself to us as having jumped in South Viet Nam with the Special Forces. He did not present evidence to support this claim, and we have some reason to doubt its validity. Before leaving this area, he told several non-jumpers our jumpmaster had both trained him and put him out "on the sly," this is totally untrue. He has not jumped in or near Eugene, as our clubs have the only

(continued on page 20)

PROFESSIONAL PARACHUTING

By LEIGH HUNT

ROBERT H. BUQUOR PHOTOS



Did you see this one on the cover of Argosy? It was taken by Bob Buquor along with about 30 other shots during a total of three jumps over the richly irrigated farms of Brawley, California.

Several months ago at a meeting of Southern California sport parachutists, brought together to discuss a local sky diving problem, a comment was made that there were certain people involved in the sport that were making money from it and therefore could only be concerned about their own interests.

The statement apparently was aimed at two people present at the meeting, Mr. Dave Burt, of Parachuting Associates, and myself. Realizing the complete inconsistency in the remark I pointed out that the public's awareness and acceptance of sky diving as a sport has obviously been helped by publicity private enterprise has brought to the public through films and magazines. Jacque Istel and Dave Burt have had as much to do with the public's acceptance of sky diving as any other influence existing. I can't believe that this sport would be as well known as it is, if it were not for the Ripcord T.V. series, the movie — A Sport is Born, and such magazine coverage that has appeared in Life, Sports Illustrated and Argosy.

Commercial parachuting can only be a hazard to sports parachuting if the publicity it initiates were distasteful. I can't think of one piece of bad publicity brought to the sport by such people as Jacque Istel and Dave Burt.

Sky divers working for private enterprise have brought thousands of feet of motion picture and television film, plus hundreds of pictures to theatres, television sets, and magazines. I am talking about such men as Lew Sanborn, Bob Sinclair and Bob Buquor.

I would encourage anybody who has the initiative, talent, drive and desire to work on any commercial project that shows promise, just as long as it exhibits parachuting in a favorable light. Whatever publicity you attain as a result of your endeavor can only accentuate the sport in the conscious mind of the public. It certainly works to a better advantage than headlines which tell of sky divers dying by falling through clouds or getting drunk.

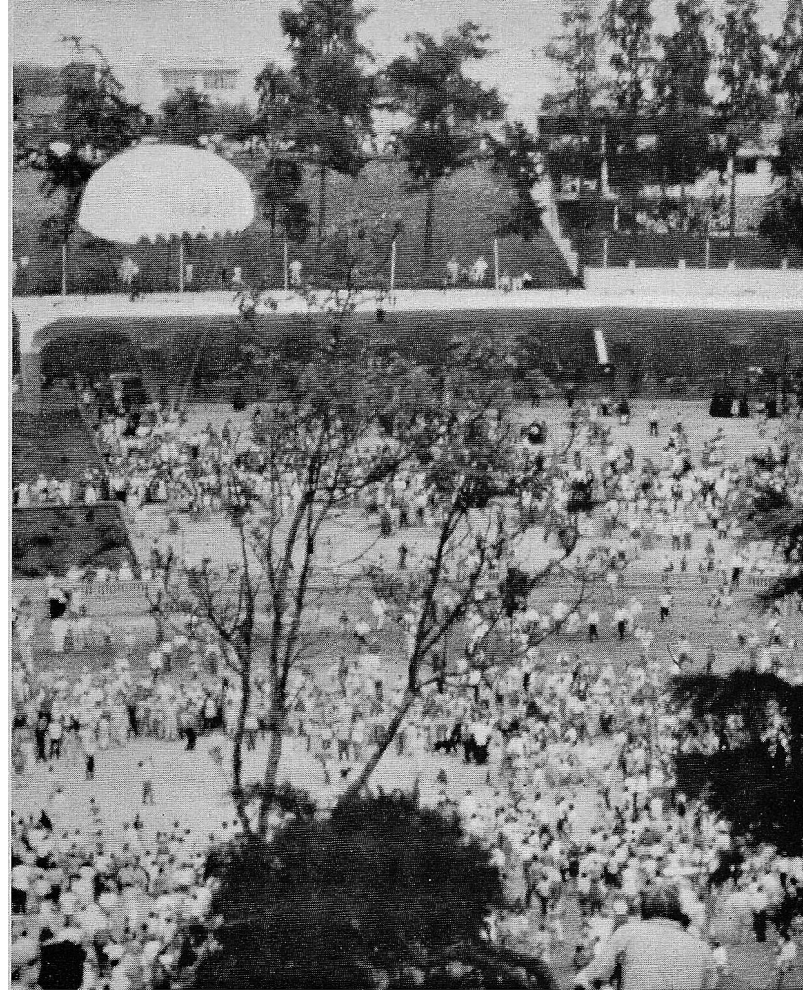
Those of you who have never dabbled in commercial parachuting would find that it is a world in which responsibility is bankable. Any business, such as a motion picture company for example, has no desire whatsoever in

(continued on page 21)



Ripcord Stuntman Leigh Hunt carries demolitions and a pistol, but Howard Curtis comes to the rescue with a mid-air judo chop.





Dave Burt shown jumping into the Football Bowl in Jalapa, Vera Cruz, Mexico, in 1958.



How would you like to carry a copy of Argosy, a travel bag, and try to open with your right thumb? Leigh Hunt did it, but he suggests you get quite a few jumps behind you before trying it yourself!



Leigh Hunt is caught by the camera while 6,000 feet above ground during shooting for Fiesta, a Mexican cigarette advertisement.



Author Leigh Hunt adjusts the lens of a 35mm Bell & Howell motion picture camera worn by cameraman Bob Buquor. Leigh developed this camera unit for sky diving along with the help of Gordon Enterprises and Bell Helmets. The scene is being taken by motion picture cameraman Leslie Kovacs for a coming short subject motion picture. This shot also appeared on the cover of American Cinematographer which is Hollywood's motion picture trade magazine.

Paul E. Hansen

The good guys catch the bad guy in an early Ripcord scene, while photographed by hand held camera.



2ND ANNUAL EUROPEAN

MANNHEIM, Germany — Quick as a wink. The term, buffeted around wind-blown Coleman Army Airfield here April 8-12, had no reference to eye-lash technique, but to COMZ (U.S. Army Communications Zone) comet, Specialist Four Peter J. Wenk.

There were few as quick as Wenk or as accurate. Riding the troubled breezes above Coleman, he plummeted to the overall individual title in the 2nd Annual European Military Sports Parachute Council competition.

Wenk's victory was established over a field of 52 other competitors in the week-long event, witnessed by more than 100,000 spectators.

Picking up a first place in the 5400-foot individual accuracy, including one dead center, and a third in the 7200-foot style contests, Wenk posted

a comfortable 2082-1804.1 margin over deadlocked second placers Sergeant Earl D. MacMillan, 10th Special Forces Group of Bad Toelz, Germany, and Air Force Sergeant John T. McFerrin, Zaragoza, Spain Air Force Base.

The trio will provide the basis for selections to be made from among the top overall finishers to form a 10-man European Military Sports Parachute Council team which will represent the United States Armed Forces, Europe, in international sports parachuting competition later this year.

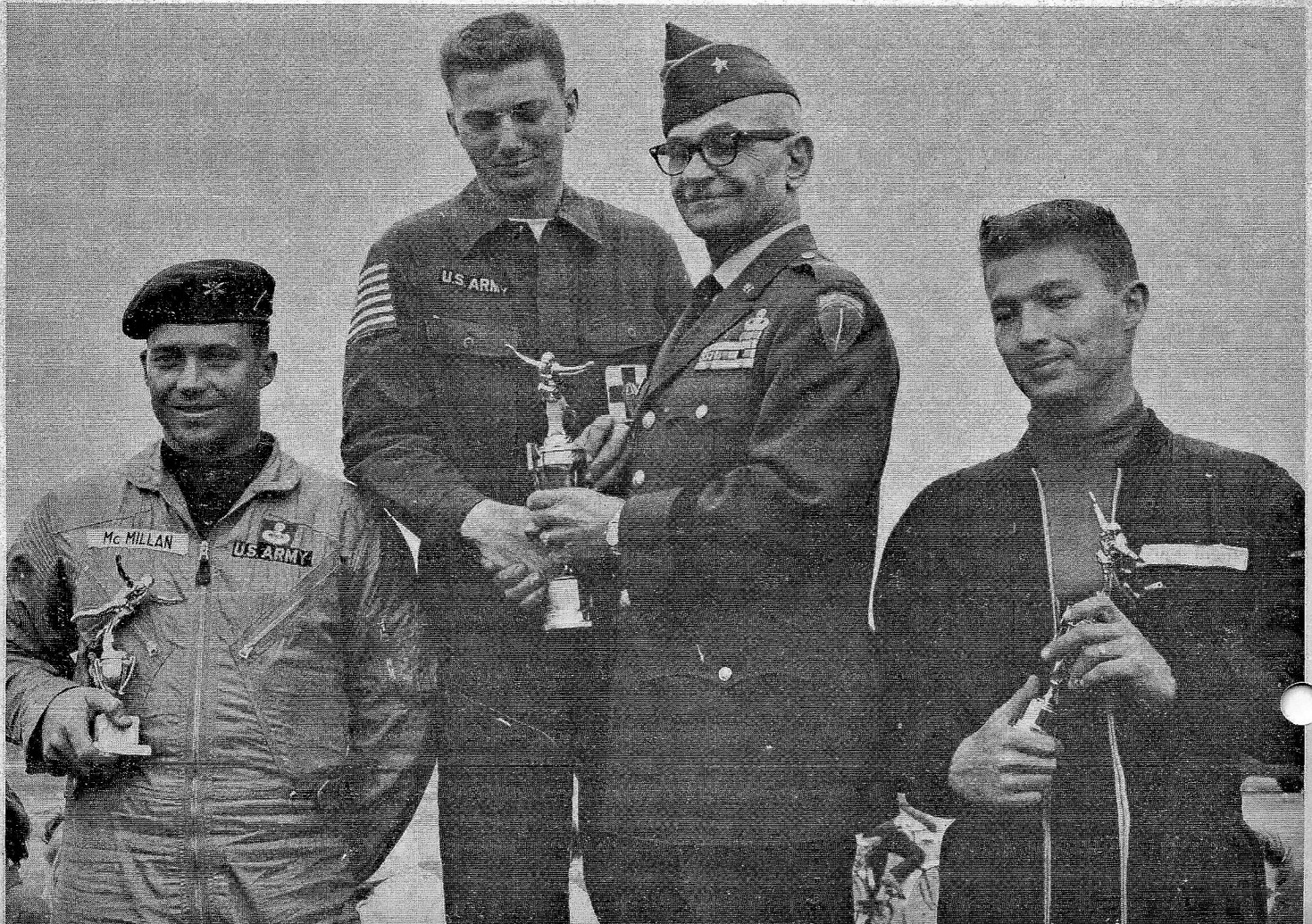
USAREUR Provost Marshal, Brigadier General Carl C. Turner, who opened the meet, was on hand for the finale to present trophies to the top three men in each of the three events.

Though the meet had a distinct international flavoring with the addition of competitors from the German

Army, British Air Special Services Regiment of Hereford, England, and the Canadian Army in Germany, it was U.S. military sky divers, paced by representatives of Seventh Army's 8th Infantry Division, who dominated the overall standings.

Besides the top three, they included (in order of finish): Air Force Captain Donald Strobaugh, Weisbaden Air Force Base, 1625.6 points; 1st Lt. Richard C. Hoyt, 8th Infantry Division, 1570.2 points; Pfc. James E. Horne, 8th Infantry Division, 1491.8 points; Specialist Five Allan G. Jones, 8th Infantry Division, 1447.9 points; Staff Sergeant Mel Lavier, Hq., COMZ, 1417.3 points; Sergeant Hubert R. Turpin, 4th Armored Division, 1392.0 points; Sergeant Michael J. Howard, 8th Infantry Division, 1330.6 points; Specialist William M. Ballen-

Brigadier General Carl C. Turner presents the first place trophy to SP4 Peter J. Wenk of the 193 MP Company. SSGT Earl N. McMillan (left) and Air Force SSGT John T. MacFerrin were tied for second.



MILITARY S.P.C. MEET

Pfc. James E. Horne makes first dead center in this competition. The judge, Major Louis Patarka, scores him during the 3300 foot accuracy event.

U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY SP4 DILLINGER



Army SP5 Benjamin R. Hale manages a stand up with his trusty 1.1 during the 7th Army Competition.

ger, 8th Infantry Division, 1262.6 points; and Private Woodrow M. Hassinger, 847th Engineers, Nurnberg, Germany, 1253.9 points.

Wenk, assigned to the 193rd Military Police Company at Dahn, Germany, started his leap toward the title by grabbing third in the style event in a jumpoff to snap a 1200-point deadlock with McFerrin. The high-flying MP, who boasts more than 421 free fall jumps, failed to place among the top runners in the 3300-foot, 0-10 second delay accuracy jump, but came back in the 5400-foot accuracy drop, scoring a dead center and placing first on the strength of his 393.5-point finish. The latter event, limited to two jumps because of turbulent winds, saw Specialist Four Paul Dobson, 4th Armored Division, finish second with 336.0 points, and Turpin third with 241.0 points.

Hassinger captured top laurels in style, scoring 1240 points. Runner-up with 1215 points was Lavier.

Hoyt's 627.4 points won the 3300-foot accuracy title, with Strobaugh, who has more than 441 free falls, coming in second on 579.8 markers, and British Lance Corporal Clive H. Gray, third on 549.7 points. Fourth place Horne, who scored the first of two dead center jumps recorded during the competition, had 544.9 points.

Outside of a few sprained ankles, only one near tragedy marred the meet. Army Colonel Paul Skowronek, 52-year-old Chief, United States Military Liaison Mission in Potsdam, East Germany, had to call on his reserve 'chute during the style contest after his main 'chute folded when one of the seams ripped. It was the first malfunction experienced in two years and more than 120 free falls by the affable

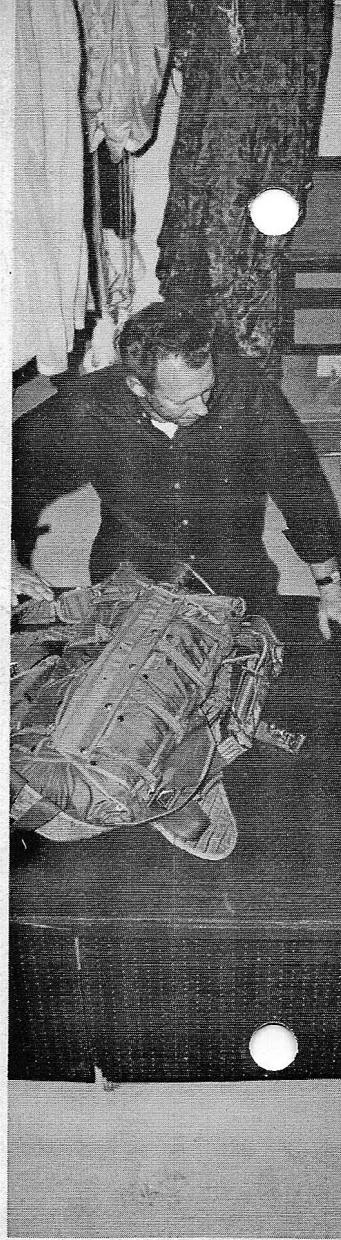
colonel.

Termed a "marginal success" by meet judges, the competition was plagued each day by a low-lying haze that refused to lift until noon. Army helicopters, ferrying the jumpers, were required to have five miles of visibility before getting airborne.

Directing the event were three veteran judges, all of whom have solid military sky diving backgrounds. Meet director and judge, Sergeant First Class Alva English, 8th Infantry Division, was a member of United States 1959 team that placed fifth in the official international championships in Yugoslavia. His aides, both pioneers in military sky diving, were Major Robert L. Vranish, Seventh Army G-3 section, Stuttgart, Germany; and Major Louis Peterka, U.S. Army Europe Headquarters, Quartermaster Division at Heidelberg, Germany.

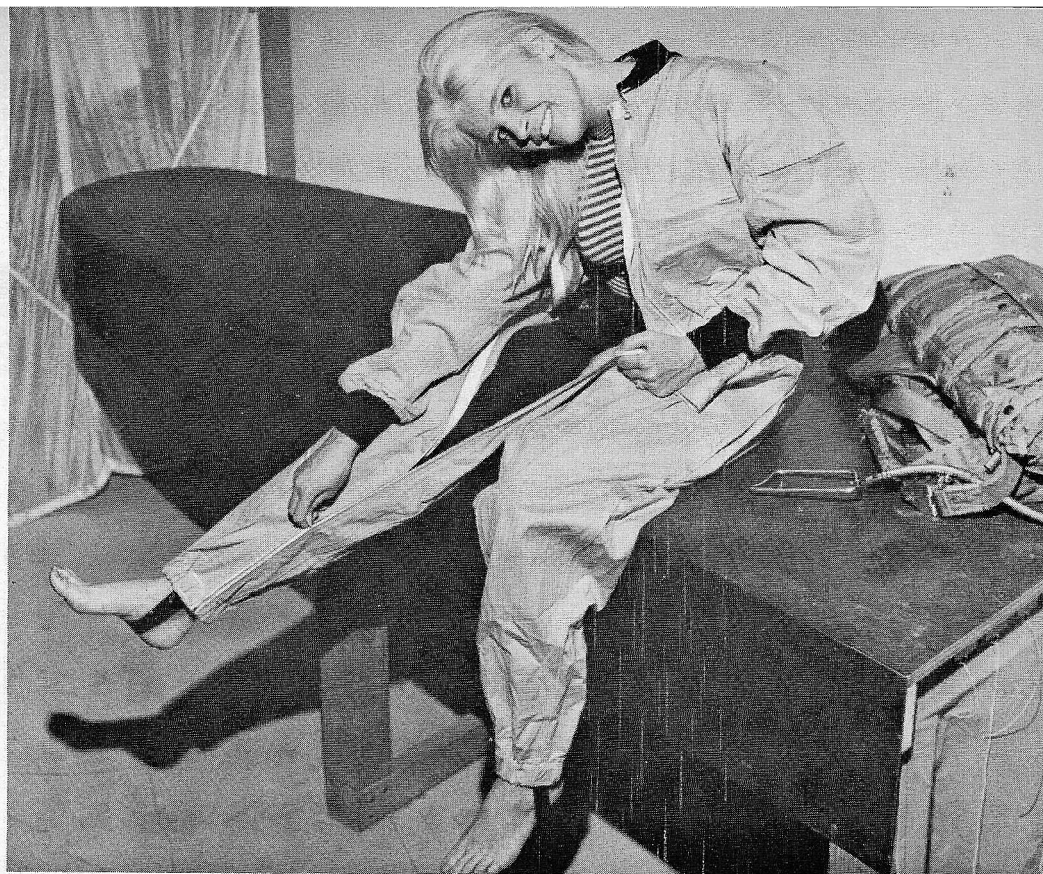
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PHOTOS BY ALLEN KUHN



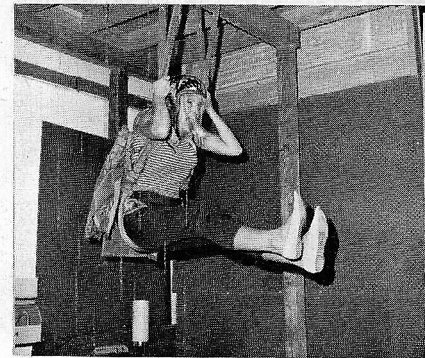
Kathy Kessler looks on as that he is sewing together





bang you in the head with the front door as she did to one hapless jumper who was peeking through the mail slot. She was just trying to let him in the place, but the door opens outward!

On the serious side, Jim runs a real nice place, and he does excellent work. He has been around parachuting for a long time, and knows his business. We recommend him, his work, and the gear that he sells.



Jim Rinder shows Ron Simmons the new custom rig for Ron.

Accompanied by actress Kathy Kessler, we dropped by for a visit to Rinder's Parachute Loft in Los Angeles. Kathy, who appears in the films "Muscle Beach Party" and "Bikini Beach," is quite a surfer, but knew little about parachuting.

We were quite impressed by Rinder's Loft, it is clean, well stocked, and seems to run smoothly. Kathy had all kinds of fun watching the guys pack chutes, playing with the sewing machine (she found working on a canopy modification a little more difficult than sewing a bikini), and listening to jump stories. Jim let her hook up to a pair of risers that were hanging to the ceiling, and she almost didn't know when to come down.

We suggest that you drop by the Loft when in Los Angeles, and if Kathy is there, she will try not to



Bill Manbo decides to work overtime at the loft, despite the teasing that he gets from Kathy!

PASCAGOULA MISSISSIPPI

April 25-26, 1964

The meet got started Saturday morning and proceeded to get along fine. It did have to be halted for a few short periods to allow a Southern Airlines plane to land, or a private pilot to take off. The wind fooled several jumpers who missed their spot. Luckily a local Ford dealer provided a truck to haul them back to the airport!

The rains came Saturday night, despite the fact that the Gulf Coast club members desired calm skies. Trophy presentations were made by Danny Byard, who did a bang up job as chief judge.

RESULTS:

SKYDIVER STYLE:

1. Ron Radhoff, Huntsville SPC (11 second series)
2. John Garrity, Jr. Commando SPC
3. Joe Tierce, Alabama Parachute Association

PARACHUTE ACCURACY:

1. Fred Rich, Ft. Benning SPC
2. Jim Dodson, Huntsville SPC
3. Robert Mintz, Montgomery SPC

JUMPER CLASS:

1. Leone Rice, Southland Skydivers
2. Joe Richard, Gulf Coast Parachute Association
3. Larry Ford, Opelika SPC

SKY DIVING ACCURACY:

1. Bud Sellick, Tennessee Skydivers
2. Noble McGehee, Ft. Benning SPC
3. Morton Freedman, Commando SPC

CALISTOGA, CALIFORNIA

April 26, 1964

Sunday morning found a total of 86 jumpers at the Calistoga Airpark. After the morning haze burned off it was obvious that a full day of competitive jumping was in order. There was the usual amount of confusion in registration and manifesting with most of the jumpers being very cooperative. For the most part the day progressed without a hitch.

There were a total of 178 jumps with no malfunctions or injuries.

INDIVIDUAL ACCURACY:

1. Joe Bryant
2. Susie Clements
3. Frank Powers

TEAM HOOK-UP & ACCURACY:

1. Don Ross, John White, Denny Money-maker.

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The following are the meet results from the second annual Aggie Invitational Parachute Meet, held April 25-26, 1964.

Event I:

1. Bob Walworth-Houston Sport Parachute Center
2. Mike McDuff-Austin
3. Mike Mullins-San Antonio

Event II:

1. Mike Harnett-Ark-La-Tex
2. H. V. Fisher-Ft. Hood
3. Jerry Williams-Houston Sport Parachute Center

Event III:

1. Carlos Wallace-Houston Sport Parachute Center
2. Chuck Warwick-Houston Parachuting Club
3. George Sage-Houston Parachuting Club

Event IV:

1. Dallas Independent Parachutist John Porter, Bob Crump, T. Crump
2. Houston Parachute Club Bob Arthur, Chuck Warwick, Cy Stapleton
3. Conglomeration

Charlie LeBlanc, Mike Harnett, Mike Sinitiere

Event V:

1. Carlos Wallace-Houston Sport Parachute Center
2. Eldon Streich-Ft. Hood
3. Chuck Warwick-Houston Parachute Club

OVERALL:

1. Carlos Wallace-Houston Sport Parachute Center



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Representation, local and national
Orientation and training films
Growth
Right to voice in Club
Education of public
Safe procedures
Standard training methods

BOX 409

MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

JUMPING TWIN PILOT 'CHUTES

(continued from page 17)

seems doubtful that many of us could experience the panic of ejection and still, without instruments, know the exact instant to pull after a seven-mile drop. But Rankin could: "I started thinking about my rate of fall . . . at one point I had confused the terminal velocity of my free falling body with the rate of descent of a jet. . . . You're not a jet, you're a pilot and you're free falling. Get those rates squared away in your mind," I thought . . . I reached for the D-ring and was about to pull it when suddenly my body lurched violently . . . my chute had opened! . . . 'Uncanny, perfect timing,' I thought." Yeah, I'd say so, too, Colonel. For a man who was so utterly fearless when shot down in Korea and being pursued by the enemy, he was mightily cautious in the scrub-pine country of North Carolina. "My knife, large and heavy, almost like a small machete, I kept in my hands at the ready for an emergency."

Probably I am being too critical. Because Rankin's publisher is also my publisher, I heard it discussed over coffee before it was published. The accounts of flying and the few emergency bail-outs make the book well-worth reading. It should be required reading for all Marines, especially those in recruiting.

One sure way to avoid pilot chute hesitation is to jump with two of them in your pack. The U. S. Army Team has been doing it for quite some time now, and so have quite a few civilian jumpers. We have not heard of a single pilot chute hesitation with the adaptation of dual or twin pilot chutes.

Dan Poynter of Paladin Sport Parachutes has come with a nice little

device for this system. It is a siamesed bridle used for connecting the two pilot chutes to a apex of your sleeve. For one buck, you can't go wrong on this item. Of course you can rig up something similar with a little time and patience, but whatever you do, don't fool around with suspension line, unless you want to start chasing around the country looking for your pilot chutes.

Duane Deckert Shown Opening His Twin Pilot Chute Pack Over Arvin, Calif.



ROBERT H. BUQUOR PHOTOS

Everything For The Skydiver

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Complete Rigs | Instruments |
| Single Chutes | Goggles |
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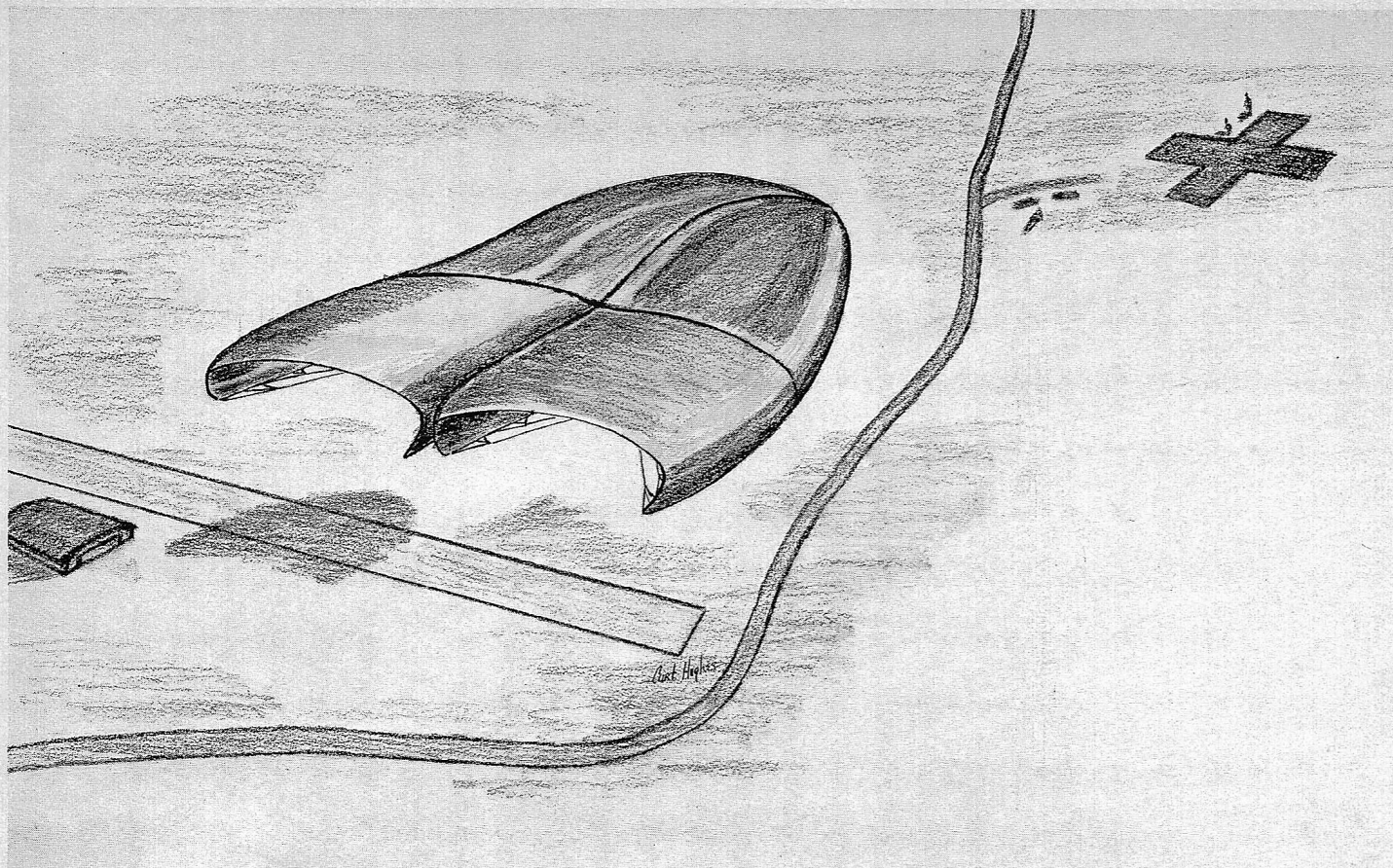
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the

Parachute of the future, the Cutlass is shown during sports target approach. The top right rear perspective and the contemplated shortness of the Cutlass' lines which are also unequal in length, block the line of sight to the load. The Cutlass' center of gravity will be at a point forward of its longitudinal center.

CUTLASS

by Curtis Hughes

Designed by Capital Parachuting for sky diving, space recovery, and special purpose applications, the Cutlass was conceived as a high-ratio glide, ultra sensitive parachute. A patent is pending in the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany and South Africa.

The basic airfoil shape assumed by the Cutlass canopy on inflation will render a true net quotient of lift and a resultant glide speed between 15-18 mph. Its intrinsic novel form — especially the canopy stern section being composed of two independent members — will provide amazing stability, glide ratio control and fast turn char-

acteristics. Utilization of a special heavy, non-permeable fabric will enable the canopy flying area to be comparable to, or even less than in the present 24 ft. flat canopy.

The Cutlass' center of gravity is at a point forward of its intersecting longitudinal and transverse tapes, with the suspension lines being unequal in length and shorter than those of a 28 ft. circular canopy. Containment, its pack and harness, release and deployment sequence of the Cutlass will be similar or not overly departing from the current conventional means on circular type steerable parachutes. However, its deployment contrivance and manner of packing are expected to be quite radical from

present practice.

Estimated list price:

In the neighborhood of \$250 for canopy assy.

Mode of Glide Control:

1. Rear risers.
2. Single or multiple control lines at mid-canopy by simultaneous retraction.

Method of Turn Manipulation:

1. Single or multiple control lines at mid-canopy.
2. Front or stern risers, or a combination of both.

The Cutlass is presently in development process, and limited production is anticipated by 1966.

BOOKS

by Bud Sellick

THE LONG, LONELY LEAP by Capt. Joseph W. Kittinger, Jr., USAF, with Martin Caidin; 249 pages, 5½ x 8¼, 26 photographs in color and in black-and-white, \$4.95 (E. P. Dutton & Co. 300 Park Ave. S., New York 10, N.Y.)

Before 1924 when the first really practical parachutes were put into general use, thousands of persons died for lack of this lifesaver. Basically that same chute is used today although aviation has advanced beyond space itself. What happens when a man has to abandon his space ship or his aircraft at extreme altitudes? Tests proved that a free falling body could attain a spin of 465 rpm in a prone position — and most skydivers have experienced some type of lesser spin at one time or another. Project Excelsior was formed to experiment with the problem on high-altitude bail-outs among other things. With all the ingenious gadgets for pressurization, heat, de-icing, etc., the whole mess would be worthless if the subject got sick in a flat spin and drowned in his own vomit or if his parachute opened too high or too low or not at all. Joe Kittinger — an ace pilot with 4,900 hours military flying was selected for the team which was to get the answers. Joe had tested death when he ejected his Super Sabre over the New Mexico desert and qualified for the Caterpillar Club. He went on to make more parachute jumps testing not only his equipment but testing man's ability to withstand the punishment of high-speed and high-altitude jumps. On one of his high-altitude drops from 76,000 feet he tested a rig with a small stabilization parachute used to prevent spin — it wrapped around his neck and never worked. Because the stabilization chute failed he could not prevent spin and describes the sickening sensation of slowly losing consciousness in a violent spin. When he regained consciousness he was descending beneath his reserve parachute which had opened automatically after the main chute had become wrapped around his body. But Kittinger went on to make greater jumps in following months — including his

most famous 4½ minute delay from 102,800 feet! Only a jumper can fully appreciate this book and re-live the experiences described here. When I wrote *SKYDIVING I* devoted seven pages to copy and pictures of this epic event — now you can read the *whole* story, told by the man who lived through it. In my library of aviation and parachuting books this one tops the list for sheer excitement and true adventure.

THE MAN WHO RODE THE THUNDER by Lt. Col. William H. Rankin, USMC. 208 pages, 5½ x 8¼, 16 photographs, \$3.95 (1960, PRENTICE-HALL, INC., Englewood Cliffs, N.J.)

This is the story of a man who ejected his plane at 47,000 ft., free fell for 7 miles and was sucked into a thunderstorm after his parachute had automatically opened. He lived to tell the story and his account is interesting. But this story takes a minor part in the book and it would be more honest to title it *A Marine Recruiting Bulletin* by Col. Rankin. The book is well-written and is interesting especially to pilots and to Marines. But if somebody else had written this book it would have been better . . . somehow when wonderful accomplishments are said about you it sounds better if somebody *other than yourself* says them. Of the 208 pages of this book, only 30 actually involve his ejection and descent — the other 178 pages are devoted to Rankin's praise for himself and his beloved, glorious, stupendous, superlative, perfect U.S. Marines. A former club member and jump student of mine, Capt. John T. Downer, is a Marine jet jockey and is one of the finest guys I've ever met . . . I was attached to Naval Aviation myself when Rankin and his "Fearless Four" were bombing the bridges of Toko-Ri in Korea . . . I have the greatest admiration for the Marines and for Marine pilots . . . but after wading through pages and pages of flag-waving and cries of "gung-ho," I sort of hoped that thunderstorm would get him! Of the 16 pages of

photographs, 13 are of Rankin. Unless you're a Marine I suggest you start on page 150.

I thought it ironic that Rankin in his introduction says, "Referring to myself as the MAN WHO RODE THE THUNDER smacks of a degree of egotism, if not arrogance, which causes me some discomfort." Yet all the way through his book he sings his own praises loudly. If you take my advice and skip the first 149 pages you'll miss some jewels like the following.

Even as a raw recruit at Parris Island, *Rankin is tough*: "Enraged, I hit him (his DI) and sent him reeling against the wall of the barracks, blood oozing from his mouth." *Rankin is admired*: "If looks were applause I think the admiring glances of my pilots would have resounded thunderously." *Rankin is faithful and patriotic*: "The only comfort I could derive was that like all good Marines I had done my duty and had at least tried to serve the best interests of the Corps." *Rankin is confident and strong*: "I knew I could do it easily," he said when he beat the island strongman in a weightlifting contest. *Rankin is brave*: "I wasn't too frightened. I replaced the revolver, took out my jungle knife and was just about to lunge for his throat." *Rankin is fearless*: "I am normally calm in flight, even under emergency conditions, and I was not now perturbed by the sight of an ugly wound . . . all I could see was blood almost pouring through a hole in my flight suit," he said when flying back to the carrier after getting shot up in Korea. *Rankin is cunning and brilliant*: "By now, however, I knew that I had more than proved my point." *Rankin is an outstanding pilot and statistician*: ". . . we had received what I thought was a rather unusual compliment for our proficiency. . . ." Nothing disturbs Rankin from his cool and calculating mind and his flawless actions. He recounts every instance of his epic 7-mile free fall with far more accuracy than I could ever imagine despite my having well over 200 free falls. It

(continued on page 15)

Shooting Stars

by Ron Simmons

ROBERT H. BUQUOR PHOTOS

Bob Buquor and I had a hell of a good time a while back, when you consider that we were not jumping that day. We did the next best thing, though, as we went up for a ride with the U.S. Navy parachute demonstration team, the "Chuting Stars."

Bob took exit shots, while I just hung my head out the door and watched the smoke trails disappear below me. Being dyed in the wool civilians, regulations would not permit us to jump with this great group of guys, but we were happy to go for a ride in the big blue bird that they jump from, and somehow resisted following them out.

The Chuting Stars are well organized, as you would expect. They have a swinging time with the party bit at night, but when it comes down to jumping it is all business. They line up in front of the aircraft, stand at attention, and do the rest by the numbers. Lt. Pelkey spots for them (he is a jumper), and, given a warning signal, the men pop their smoke grenades inside the aircraft prior to exit. Everything is a scene of smoke, whistles, noise, and apparent confusion, but only to the onlooker, as they have been through this before, and it is done right. Brandishing flare guns, they go out the door with a big burst for the spectators below. And they put on a show that you will never forget.



7th

INTERCOLLEGIATE PARACHUTING COMPETITION



Miss Model Airplane poses for our photographer at Los Alamitos NAS, California, with the Chuting Stars in the background.



The University of Massachusetts 'A' Team won the Gavel to become the National Intercollegiate Champions at the Seventh Annual Intercollegiate Meet held at Orange Sport Parachuting Center on May 2, 1964. The team was composed of Phil Bedaw, Ed Dorey and Dick Fillmore, who earned 391 points out of a possible 600 points.

West Point Military Academy was second with 299.29 points and the University of Massachusetts 'B' Team was third with 263.79 points.

The individual winner was Phil Bedaw, representing the University of Massachusetts, with 167.72 points out of a possible 200 points. Dick Williams of West Point was second with 157.14 points and Bob Ware of Norwich University was third with 153.04 points.

Paul Jones of the University of Massachusetts received an inscribed beer mug, offered by Orange Sport Parachuting Center for the closest jump in the meet. His distance from the center of the target was five feet.

Meet Director, Ted Strong of Allston, Massachusetts, said he was pleased with the turn out and the efficient way the meet was run. Fifty two contestants competed, making three jumps each. The best of two out of three jumps counted for their scores. The following colleges were represented:

- University of New Brunswick
- University of Massachusetts
- Brooklyn Polytechnic
- Norwich University
- Northwestern University
- Boston University
- Yale University
- Harvard University
- University of Connecticut
- West Point Military Academy
- Hobart College

Chief Judge, Mark Schmidt, of Brookline, Massachusetts, said the tricky wind conditions over the large Para-Bowl in the center of Orange Airport made it a tough day for accurate in landings, on which the meet was scored.

The trophies were awarded by Jacques Istel, President of Parachute Incorporated, at a Banquet at the Inn At Orange that evening.

facilities in this area or connected with the University of Oregon.

Our clubs jump every weekend from our own Howard. We welcome any jumpers passing near or through Eugene to jump with us. Our rate scale is among the lowest on the coast (\$4.40 for a 60). (We might even be able to arrange a jump during the week if you're on your way through.) Stop by and jump with us some time.

Jim Wright
Pres., Emerald Skydivers
Chuck Aylworth
Pres., Webfoot Sport Parachutists
Eugene, Oregon

We have received notice from Terence Crawley that the first full time sport parachuting centre in Britain is now open for business. The British Skydiving Centre is located at the Thruxton Aerodrome, some four miles west of Andover, Hants, on the edge of the Wiltshire Downs.

This centre is open every day from 9:00 A.M. until half an hour before sunset. Beginners must have Air Ministry Permits. For the outdoor type, camping facilities are available on the Aerodrome, with a free transport service to Andover when necessary. The entrance fee is L6. Special clothing required by parachutists include a crash helmet without a peak, a pair of white overalls and strong ankle boots with rubber soles.

I have received the second issue of PARACHUTE in my subscription today; January-February, 1964. I think your magazine is the greatest thing since reserve parachutes. Your pictures and articles are great.

I was especially surprised to see Lakewood, New Jersey mentioned in your "Around The Drop Zone" page. I didn't think that anybody out your way even knew we are alive.

I am a newcomer to this sport at 16 years of age, but I plan to make as many jumps as I can in the near future. Your magazine is enough to make someone who has never tried this sport start making plans to do so. Keep up the good work.

Scott Wilson,
Sea Girt, New Jersey

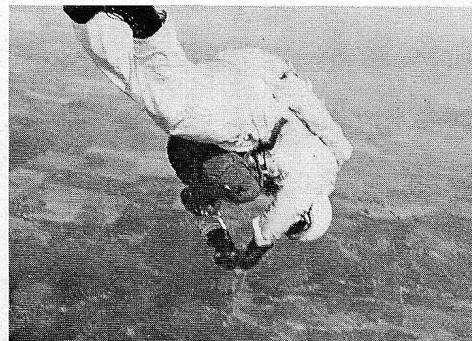
Don't give up, Scott, we know that you have some drop zones on the East Coast, we have just had a bit of trouble obtaining material from that area. Watch the next few issues of PARACHUTE, though, and you will be in for quite a surprise!

Parachute

Last December, I was happy to see that you published three shots of me taken by Paul Gassen in your letters to the editor. This has encouraged me to send you these sequence shots.

These were taken by me with a hand held Minolta 35mm sequence camera at 500th of a second during a jump from 10,500 feet over Elsinore, California. I was also carrying an 8mm slow motion helmet-mounted movie camera which I turned on at the beginning of the jump and forgot about. By good luck the movies came out quite good — especially since I didn't use the sight as I was too busy thumb cocking the still camera. I hope that I don't have to dump a reserve under these conditions!

Keep up the good work, Carl! We like to encourage amateur free fall photographers, and it is interesting to watch your progress. Just remember, play it cool, don't get over your head, and watch the ground. Oh, a tip. Next time try hooking the ring on your smoke to the hardware on your chest strap. Then come in for a good hard pull with one hand without loss of control!



Sequence shots of Lou Booker pulling cap on smoke grenade. Reaching in to pull the cap put Lou out of control for a moment, but he quickly regained stability and headed a little closer to target. Note the rip-stop nylon tail sewn into his jump suit.

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Spot Jump Contest Every Sat. and Sun. Skydiving Movies on Weekends. Open Tues. and Thurs. First Jump Course \$25.00. Cessna 180 Twin Beech

investing sums of money into the hands of dare-devil egotists who could just as well lose their money as double

If you are carelessly running a commercial jump center where the buck means more to you than a good safety record it is soon discovered that you will make less than if you had played it straight. Responsible safety conscious boors may seem square in the beer halls, but they are rewarded by staying clear of jails and flaming headlines.

In commercial parachuting it is not always so much what you do but rather how you pre-plan and handle it. I handled several stunts for both Ripcord and magazine articles, which if not carefully planned out could have cost me my life and damaged sky diving's public image. The same can be said of Howard Curtis, Dave Burt's crew and many others.

Usually, if a crew of people are smart enough to gain a commercial contract in the first place, they should be smart enough to protect it through propriety. In the end run, you must make a decision whether you want to be responsible and earn a good living or be a loudmouthed daring type of Flash Gordon who gets a lot of beers, but few contracts.

There are obviously many avenues open in which to approach commercial parachuting such as photography, jump centers, parachute equipment, instruments, jump clothing, etc. All these fields are probably only embryonic in their development at this time. People dabbling in these fields must be progressive and constantly aware of a changing market.

Jumpers are always conscious of new styled jump suits, more comfortable equipment, and softer DZs. In providing these things you are both furthering yourself and performing a service for the jumper for he would not buy your service if it were not agreeable to him.

I have never engaged commercially in parachuting itself. I have had limited faith in the amount of money that can be made at present within the sky diving world. Instead, I have found it much more lucrative to sell sky diving services to the general business community such as to magazines, motion

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pictures, television, and advertising.

If a commercial parachuting enterprise is run responsibly and puts sky diving in a favorable light, then that enterprise is adding ammunition to the national sky diving image as a whole and can, therefore, be considered as an asset to the parachuting world and not just to themselves.

(continued from page 4)

FRONTIER INVITATIONAL
Orchard Park Airport, N.Y.
July 25, 26, 1964

Current PCA Membership and Class B license required. Practice on July 24th.

FIVE EVENTS:

1. Accuracy from 3500 feet, Jumper Class (PCA B license with less than 75 jumps), three jump event.
2. Accuracy from 5400 feet, Jumper Class, two jump event.
3. Advance accuracy, three jumps from 5400 feet.
4. Advanced Style. Two jumps from 7500 feet.
5. Team Event. One jump, advanced accuracy from 7500 feet, three jumpers.

For Further Information Contact:
Frontier Skydivers
Orchard Park Airport
Orchard Park, New York


VII WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
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August 2-16, 1964

This will be the years greatest parachuting event, and well worth a trip to Europe to see.

LAKWOOD, NEW JERSEY
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Lakewood Open Meet. Formal Open Competition.

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Out The Apex



Well, they said it couldn't be done! A lot of the people that gave us this advice when we were thinking of bringing out a magazine on parachuting almost two years ago usually knew what they were talking about. We are glad that we did not pay too much attention to them.

We have finished our first volume of twelve issues, and this puts us into the second volume. We have learned a lot about business, tried to keep out of squabbles while calling our shots as we see them, and still continue to put out the very best quality magazine that we can print. We have high hopes for the future. The results will hinge on several factors. A continued increase in circulation, and a new concentrated drive on advertising sales.

At any rate we are going forward. We have had very good results on our renewal subscriptions from the readers that have been with us since the first issue.

We are adding this new column of odds and ends for your enjoyment. Please feel free to submit material that you feel will be of interest to our readers around the world.

JACK SMITH

Sports Parachuting has lost another good friend. On Sunday, May -10, 1964, Jack Smith and Al Anderson jumped from 7,500 feet over Lancaster, California. Engrossed in relative work, Jack pulled his reserve at about 200 feet. Al Anderson had pulled a fraction sooner. Jack Smith was killed instantly, and at the time of this writing Al Anderson is listed as being in critical condition.

Jack Smith, like Don West, was a soft spoken easy going man. He was safety conscious to the point that he had been stepping on other peoples toes lately. He had written letters of complaint to the PCA, the California Aeronautics Board, and other persons. I have jumped with Jack, and he was not a show off. He did not have a habit of pulling low. He was a cool headed guy with a good reputation and an instructor with 299 jumps.

We all feel sorry for Jack, and for his pretty young wife and two small children. The unfortunate thing about it is, it will happen again to one of us. Just about the time you begin to

think "It can't happen to me," and forget to watch the ground, will be taking that long step to the land of no return. If any of you think I am kidding, stop by the office and look through the subscription blanks that I have had to pull from the files as a result of a jumper having been killed in a parachuting accident.

Ron Simmons

Competition Season is here, as you can see by looking at the meets listed in Around The Drop Zone. This is a very healthy situation, and the resulting increase in the meets we are holding in this country will provide us with a World Championship team one of these days.

We are going to stick our necks way out, and predict the new World Champions to be crowned in Leutkirch, Germany, this coming August! There are a multitude of factors to be considered in a guess of this kind, and it is really difficult to predict. So, here is our educated guess. Anne Baterson of the United States, and Daryl Henry of Canada. With former Champion Jim Arender in retirement, Muriel Simbro not sure whether or not she will compete, Dick Fortenberry in Helicopter School, and the skill of the Iron Curtain Country jumpers unknown to us at this time, we have chosen Anne and Daryl. We also will expect to see Loy Brydon and Gerry Bourquin of the Golden Knights doing well. V. Klima, J. Vrabel, and D. Maley of Checkoslovakia will give them a rough time. The Russian, O. Kazakov, and Girard Treves did well in the last World Meet, and will bear watching. Also in the running are Coy McDonald who won the 1963 Adriatic Cup, Phil VanderWeg, Bill Berg, Ron Sewell, and Rudy Peterson. We wish Rudy Peterson all of the luck in the world, and he will need it. He is a relatively inexperienced jumper, and some think that he placed second in the 1963 Nationals as a result of a fluke, and because they were held on his home DZ at Issaquah, Washington. Time will tell. France's Girard Treves fooled everyone in the last world meet, and Rudy could do the same. Watch out for the Russian Evin Tkachenko to grab the style if Daryl Henry misses, and the Russians might just grab the whole bit. On the distaff

side, we really think that Anne can do it. If not, and if she competes, Muriel Simbro might repeat, with Maria Stancikova and Dagmar Kuldova pushing the Check team. We could have a new Champion in T. Crump of Texas, and Carlyn Olson has a chance, as does Gladys Inman.

Paratroopers from the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 327th Infantry, 2nd Battalion, 320th Artillery, units from the 101st Support Command, 326th Engineer Battalion, 501st Signal Battalion, and the 101st Military Police Company formed an Airborne Brigade representing the 101st Airborne. They loaded into assault aircraft and were airlifted over 6,000 miles from Ft. Campbell, Kentucky to jump into Vahdait, Iran, over 6,000 miles away. The 2nd Battalion then rappelled down the 100 foot cliff overlooking the Bala Rud River, crossing it by three-strand rope bridges and assault boats, with the unit attacking to the north. The troopers began redeployment back to Fort Campbell after three days in Iran and Turkey.


Our own Leigh Hunt has had his picture in several issues of Argosy magazine lately. We flew down to Brawley, California, and got the picture for the March cover. Then Leigh took a trip to Mexico, where he vacationed with three pretty young actresses, covered pictorially in the May issue of Argosy. As a result of meeting Leigh there, pretty blonde Kathy Kessler has become interested in parachuting. Her pictures appear in this issue of PARACHUTE.

Speaking of publicity, our friend, William Berry, PCA Vice-President turned ballonist, made the wire services and the May 1st issue of Life. An 11 year old boy had inadvertently wrapped his wrist around one of the launching ropes immediately prior to ascent. After 10 minutes of flight and at an altitude of 3,000 feet, Bill heard the boy calling, "Sir, please help me!" Bill yelled back "Hang on tight!" and brought the ballon down, with neither of the two any the worse from their flight, thanks to the cool head of the pilot.



P.S.

Duane Deckert shown jumping into . . . “ Say, what is that reflecting on the side of his helmet? Is that the U. N. Building? Wait until the New York ASO hears about this one!” Photo by Buquor.



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October, 1962. Articles on 6th World Championships, Ft. Benning jump school, British Special Air Service, etc.

November, 1962. Articles on Pioneer Para-Sail, Taft, California meet, Parachuting Pulchritude, etc.

December, 1962. Articles on San Diego and Tennessee meets, Fabulous Las Vegas, Golden Knights, California Regulations, etc.

*January, 1963. Articles on meets in Arkansas, Florida, California, and Orange, Massachusetts, plus feature articles.

February, 1963. Features on Hank & Muriel Simbro, testing the Bell Helmet Radio, South Pole Skydiving, etc.

March, 1963. Features on Golden Knights at Yuma, Arizona, Victoria, Australia Championships, Raymond Young, etc.

April, 1963. Articles on Relative work and air-to-air photography, Jumping the Leica 35mm Camera, etc.

May, 1963. Articles on Chuting Stars, Style Versus Time, Jumping the 16mm Gun Camera, the KAP-3 Opener, etc.

June, 1963. Competition issue with coverage of Los Angeles Sky Divers, 3rd European, '63 New South Wales, Cal Poly, '63 National Intercollegiate.

*July, 1963. Articles on Seattle Skydivers, US Team at Leutkirch, Germany, Product Evaluation of 1.1 Parachute, etc.

*November-December, 1963. Articles on 1963 US Nationals, 3rd Adriatic Cup, US Chutes in European Skies, etc.

January-February, 1964. Articles on Smoke Jumpers, Photography, Lancaster, California DZ, Drop Zone Wedding, Product Testing, Army Team, etc.

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