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MARCH

1960



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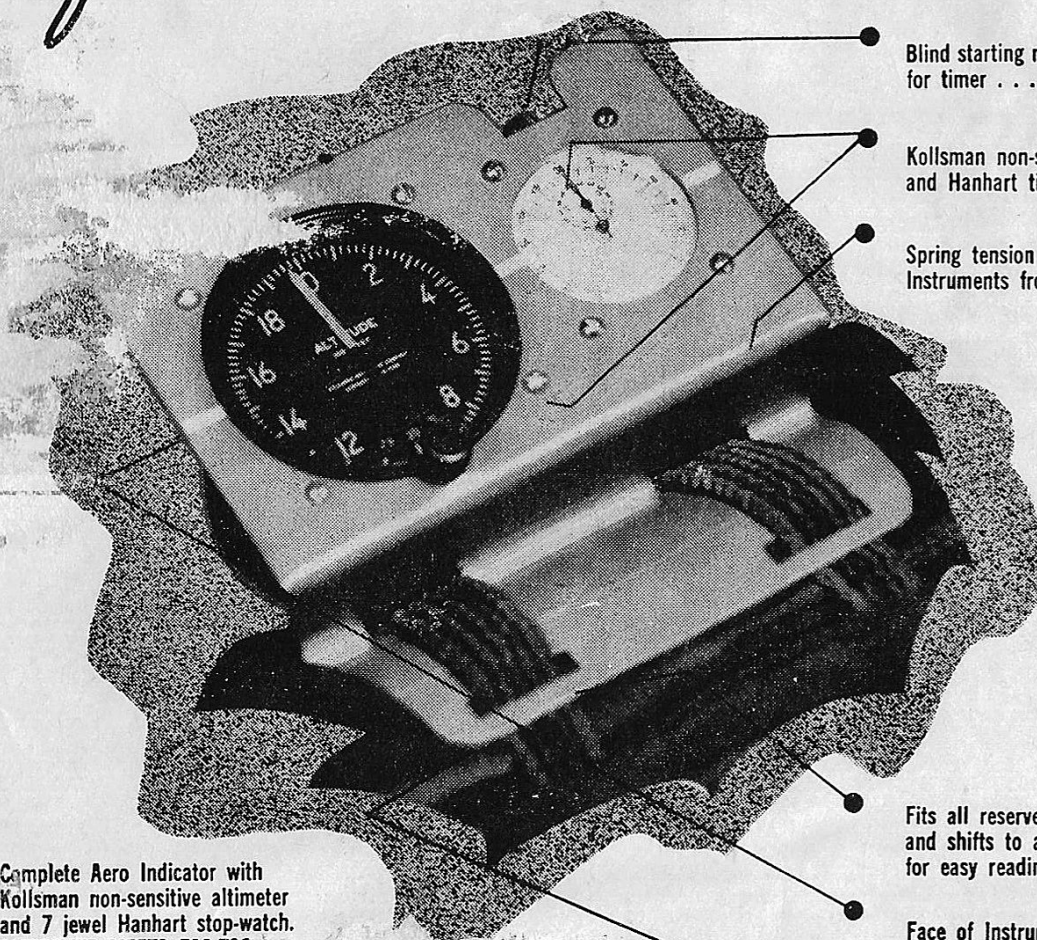
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# SKY DIVER MAGAZINE

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the Development  
and Safety of Sky Diving

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# LETTERS

I think you certainly are to be commended on the fine job you are doing and hope you will continue furnishing sky-divers in the U.S. and the rest of the world with the finest publication dedicated to Sport Parachuting.

Best of luck to you in the future.

Sure but gentle openings,

**Steve Snyder, D-5**

Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

I have had the chance to read one of your magazines and I enjoyed it very much.

I feel that you have a magazine that will be appreciated by everyone in the parachute industry.

With best regards,

**Eddie Brown**

Patterson, California

It was with growing pleasure that I read your December issue of Sky Diver Magazine. The extent of the advertisements indicates an enthusiasm for parachuting which has not yet been felt to such a degree here in the East.

Yours truly,

**John H. Talbott**

East Haven, Conn.

My home is in Burbank, but being in the Army keeps me away for long periods of time. Perhaps it is not quite fair to complain about being stationed at Fort Bragg when an individual is a sport parachutist, but I do miss the "swinging" scenes in California. I hope that I will be able to get on top of the smog with you and the other enthusiasts when I take leave next summer.

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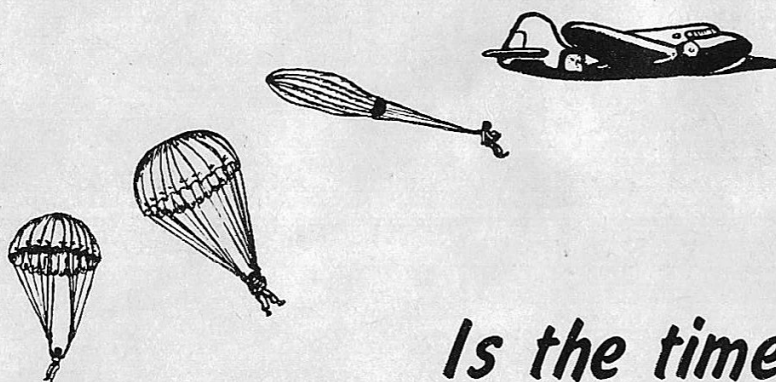
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## SKY DIVING ARMY LADY COMPLETES BATON PASS

By Sgt. Don Kidd

*Information courtesy Fort Bragg Sport Parachute Club Public Information Office.*

Ft. Bragg, N. C.—“We were flying at 8000 feet over the drop zone and were planning to make a baton pass. SFC Harry Arter, Sp4 Loy Brydon, and myself were aboard the Army L-20 aircraft. Our pilot was 1st Lt. Robert S. Schneider.

“I was to be the first to jump, followed by Harry and then Loy. I had the baton in my hand.”

This was the way Capt. Barbara Gray began her story.

Capt. Gray is affectionately called “Bobbie” by her fellow sky-divers in the XVIII Airborne Corps Sport Parachute Club. She was the first military lady to become a free-falling sky-diver last June.

Last Saturday, Jan. 16, Bobbie scored another first. She and two other sky-divers were flying over Ft. Bragg’s Sicily drop zone and planning to make a double baton pass.

“I was out on the step of the plane with both hands grabbing the wing strut and my right foot dangling free. Harry was sitting on the floor with his feet on the step ready to follow me out of the plane. Loy was sitting on the seat anxiously waiting for us to go. Our plan was for me to pass the baton to Harry, then Loy was to maneuver in on him, pick up the baton and complete a double baton pass.

“Jump time, I let go, and was away and stabilized immediately. I made a 180 degree turn to the right, lined up on the drop zone target and waited for Harry to come in on me.

“Seconds later, I glanced at my altimeter. It indicated 6500 feet. As I looked up from my altimeter I saw Loy coming in toward me from my

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## ASSEMBLY VOTES PARACHUTING A SPORT

Albany, Feb. 4 — A bill to legalize parachute jumping exhibitions floated airily through the Assembly Wednesday without stirring the winds of debate.

And thus came to light a new but growing sport in Western New York. We can all thank Assemblyman Manley (R., Fredonia) for his foresight in sponsoring this bill.

## FIRST BATON PASS IN NEW YORK

Jamestown, New York, Jan. 1, 1960 — Frank Falejczyk and Sherm Reed of Titusville made the pass after 25 seconds of fall on a 30 second delay from 7000 feet, using a fly-swatter handle for a baton. Congratulations on another first, Frank and Sherm.

left and wondered where Harry was. Loy was just a little above me and inching toward me slowly. I had never been so close to another jumper in the air before and seeing Loy at close range it reminded me of Superman on TV. Loy then disappeared over me.

"Seconds later I saw him coming in again from my left. He was still a little above me and coming in slowly. Suddenly I felt someone grab my ankle. Loy was over me reaching with his left hand for the baton and holding on to me with his right. I extended my left hand and arm back and thought I was going to get all out of kilter and lose control. Loy grabbed the baton and disappeared. I was still stabilized on the soft cushion of air and was so excited about passing the baton to Loy that I screamed out loud, 'We did it, we did it!!' I was so excited that I could hardly believe we had actually done it. I had been falling for 35 seconds and my altimeter showed 3000 feet. Time to pull the rip cord now and enjoy the ride to earth under an open canopy."

Describing the sensations involved in sport parachuting, Bobbie had this to say, "There is always a little anxiety before a jump. I feel that this is normal and at the same time desirable because it makes you more alert. This sport calls for extreme mental alertness, you can't be in a fog when you are about to jump or any time during your descent."



Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Ed Sylvester please have him contact George Bosworth, 282-B Millicent Avenue, Buffalo 15, New York.



# STABILIZATION

By Loy Brydon and Bob Miller

EDITOR'S NOTE: To those of you not familiar with the Authors of "Stabilization," Loy Brydon, Second Individual Place-Adriatic Cup, Tivat, Yugoslavia, 1959; Designer of the "Conquistador," competition parachute; member of the STRAC Parachute Team. Bob Miller is President of the XVIII Airborne Corps Sport Parachute Club.

Stabilization in free fall is the maintaining of a body position in such a manner that the free faller has complete control at all times. There are indeed many factors governing stability and control. A few of these factors include clothing, type and position of equipment worn, and most important, the position of the body.

In free fall, control and stability are obtained through proper utilization of the air flow and the air resistance created by the body of the free faller. In general, the greater the air resistance the more is the existing degree of control and the slower is the rate of fall.

To assist in obtaining this optimum degree of air resistance a pair of cotton coveralls, which is one size larger than a normal fit, has proven to be beneficial. Nylon, silk and similar fabrics are to be discouraged, for their coefficient of friction is so much lower that they do not afford a great degree of air resistance. A large pair of gloves will also enhance the degree of resistance. The helmet and goggles seem to make very little difference in so far as control and stability are concerned.

To the sport parachutist freedom for a maximum degree of movement while wearing all his equipment is all-

important. Contrary to the popular belief of the "paratrooper" (when the harness is so tight you can't stand up, then it is correctly adjusted), the harness of the sport parachutist should be just so tight as to prevent slippage on his body upon opening. With such adjustment he will be permitted his maximum degree of movement. Should the back pack container be attached to the harness in too many places or too tightly, regardless of the adjustment, a restriction of movement is apt to result. On the other hand this packtray should not be so loose that it will float or a buffet will result. The reserve or chest pack should have a belly strap looped to the rear of it and attached tightly at both ends to the sides of the main packtray. Under no circumstances whatsoever should the diagonal backstraps of the harness be tacked together or to the container. Since movement in free fall is most important when performing maneuvers, these are some of the factors to be considered in using any one rig.

Lowering the position of the reserve container on the body of the free faller has a definite effect on control and stability. Also the shape of the container possesses stability characteristics.

The lowering of the container causes the center of gravity of the free faller to be lowered on his body. This lowering of the center of gravity lends toward a lesser chance to buffet in free fall. In addition, this lower position of the reserve container permits more arch at greater speeds and allows more movement forward of the arms. The suggested position of the



reserve container is to have it rest just below the waist line.

As for the shape of the reserve container, a flat type is the better for it creates less drag when desiring to track at a maximum horizontal displacement rate in fall. Proper contouring or streamlining of any container will suffice for most purposes. The compactness and streamlining of the instrument panel worn on the reserve container has the identical characteristics as the effects of the container's shape. The AERO INDICATOR has proven itself to be most suitable for use as an instrument panel in free fall. Such items find an increased amount of importance when performing relative work with another jumper in free fall.

In free fall there are two very basic body positions from which stability and control will result. The one is the CROSS, and the other is the FROG. From these two basic positions come variations which can be utilized in order to accomplish specific desired objectives during a fall.

The CROSS position is so named because of its resemblance somewhat to the gymnastic acrobat of the same name. The body has a strong arch in the back, the arms are fully outstretched to the side, and the legs are fully spread and stiffened with the toes pointed outward. It is a position which is nearly uncomfortable because of the strain required in the arching and the stiffening of the spread and outstretched legs and arms. Upon exit from the aircraft the time for stability and complete control is dictated by the amount of arch. Throwing the head back until it presses against the top of the back pack assists the individual in obtaining a strong arch. As the rate of fall increases, the degree of arching must be lessened and the arms swept to-

ward the rear in order to maintain a state of equilibrium; otherwise, a buffet is apt to result. This position is very classic in nature, and it requires vigorousness in the exit from the aircraft. It is essential to exit the aircraft in a more belly-to-earth attitude with this position.

If the free faller loses the arch, the result of breaking forward at the waist will be an embarrassing half-loop onto the back. In an exit in a more feet-to-earth attitude and with the strong arch the jumper will find himself unwillingly performing a back loop.

The secret to the FROG position is simply relaxation. The body is held straight from the waist up, and it is not arched although the shoulders are rolled back slightly. The arms are not fully outstretched but they are extended to the side with a bend at the elbows such that a comfortable position is experienced. The hands are placed at about shoulder height, or if the jumper wants to fall head high, the hands are raised above the head a little. If he wants to fall head low, the hands are lowered a little. The legs are spread and relaxed. They are bent at the knees and held at nearly any position so long as the body is not bent at the waist.

A variation of the frog position is the radical frog. Here the legs are tucked up very close to the body at the same time the buttocks are thrust into the air. The arms are drawn in but the elbows are still bent. In this position the free faller is able to perform some very fast maneuvers. The whipping action of the legs, frequently experienced in fast maneuvers from the cross position, is reduced to a minimum and nearly eliminated. The jumper must exit the aircraft in a more face-to-earth position than is normal for the frog position.



In either the frog or the radical frog position moving the legs into a more or less tucked position requires a modification on the part of the position of the hands. With respect to the normal, the more the legs are tucked, the more the hands must be drawn back. The elbows should remain bent at all times.

There are two major advantages of the frog position in free fall. It is a very relaxed position with virtually no strain at all. The jumper may utilize more different types of turning maneuvers and gain more control in their use.

The DELTA position is used for tracking, which affords a greater amount of horizontal displacement. It also can be used to increase the rate of fall. Increasing the rate of fall with this position is helpful in the recovery from a spin. The use of this position is nearly always essential in any type of relative work.

The angle formed by the arms and the body is decreased, but they are still held straight at the elbows. At the same time the arch of the body is decreased a little with the legs held straight and stiff. Thus the free faller is falling head low at an angle to the horizontal. Here the rate of fall is increased, and because of the inclination of the body to the earth, the horizontal displacement is greater than any other position. To recover from a spin, the free faller should assume the delta position for a few seconds. When he realizes he is in an uncontrollable spin. Then he can flare out into the cross or the frog position as required. This procedure will in most cases relieve the free faller of the loss of control due to a spin. However, if it is still evident that a spin is present after having tried the delta, the jumper should exercise the use of

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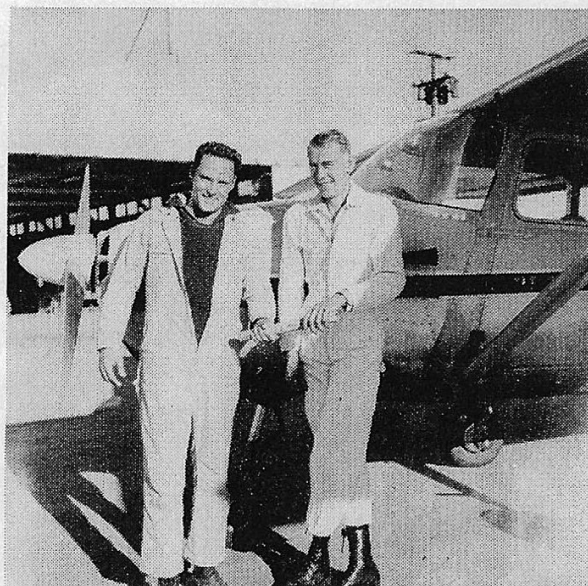
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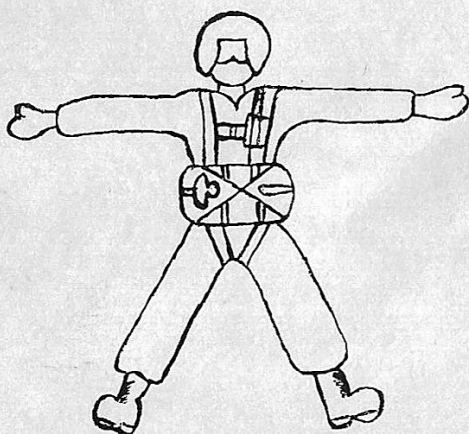


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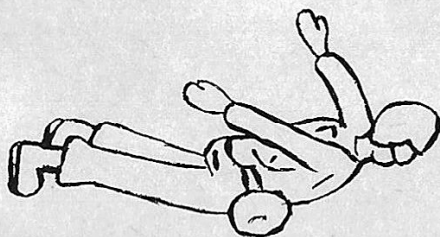


1st Baton Pass at Elsinore, Saturday, January 23, 1960. Verne Williams and Howard Curtis.

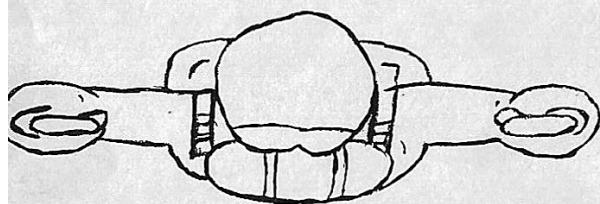




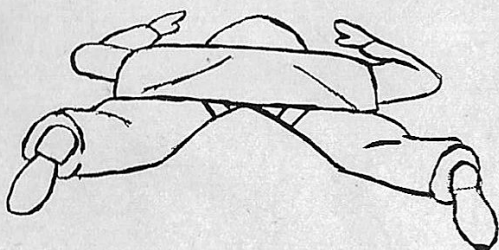
**CROSS (Bottom View)**



**CROSS (Side View)**



**FROG (Front View)**



**FROG (Rear View)**

activating his main parachute **without** delay.

A BOW position affords the maximum rate and amount of horizontal displacement along with a reduced rate of fall. This is true because of an inclination of the body to the earth and the creation of a bow which acts as an airfoil similar to that of an airplane wing. This bow position is a modification of the cross position, but it can be assumed from any of the positions. The legs are held straight and stiff as in the cross position. The arch of the body is reversed until a bow is formed. This bowing movement should be a relatively slow one. The jumper should pull in his stomach and lean forward very slightly. The shoulders are rolled forward and slightly with the arms outstretched and arched at the elbows slightly until they also form a bow. The hands are cupped and rolled forward a little. In this position the maximum amount and rate of horizontal displacement is experienced. So the jumper can track to an optimum opening point in case he misses his spot at exit.

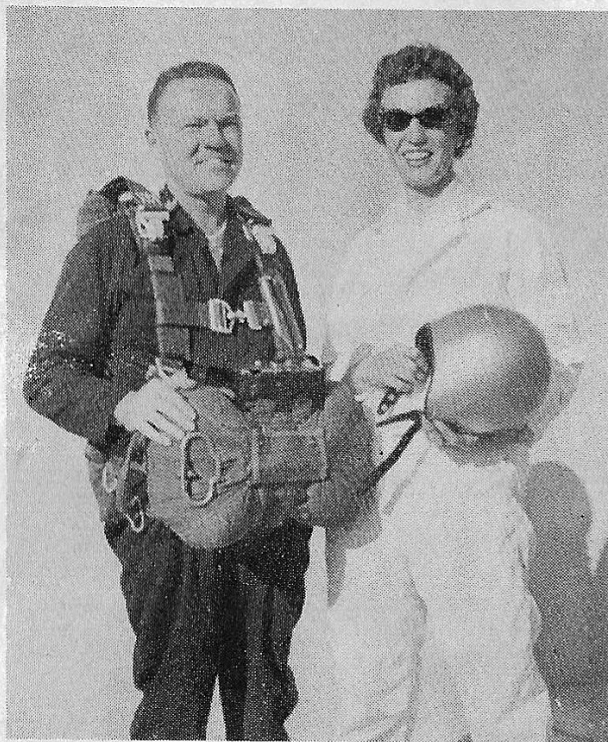
Practice always makes perfect, so in using any one of these positions the free faller will have to experiment a little until he finds the attitude which best fits his own body configuration. For the beginner the cross is the best one to use, and as he progresses into longer delayed falls he can experiment with the use of the other positions. In a short period of jump time he will soon be able to fall in any of the positions and in combinations in free fall. Then is when he will find the real enjoyment of sport parachuting.





# WHY I JUMP

By Earl Dykes



Earl and Joy Dykes, Golden Gate Sport Parachute Club.

I jump because I like it. I like the excitement before the jump, and the carnival colors of the packing area. I enjoy taking my family to spend the day with old fashioned young men who still value "honor." I like the feel of the harness and the drive of the wind. I prize each individual second of free fall. The view from under the canopy is nice, but fighting the wind for the target is the thing.

A jump story week opens when a jump day closes. My wife has now logged almost as many free falls as I have, and Earl, our older boy, is "Official Golden Gate Sport Parachute Club Sleeve Retriever." With this alert and well informed home audience I have been pushed to new heights of jump story telling. This, too, is fun.

I jump because I like it — a lot.



Ft. Bragg, N. C.—Distaff Sky-Divers: Sp4 Jean Edenfield, seated, PFC Fay Tostado, kneeling, and PFC Kathy Malik, members of the Women's Army Corps stationed at Ft. Bragg, pose after making their first free-fall parachute jump Jan. 24. They are members of the Special Warfare Center's Sport Parachute Club and are among the very few military women sky-divers.

The three women joined the club a few months ago, underwent the required ground training and made their "static line" jumps under the supervision of experienced and licensed sky-divers. Courtesy Office of Information XVIII Airborne Corps, Ft. Bragg, N.C. (U.S. Army Photo by Sgt. Betty Farmer.)

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# U.S. PARACHUTE TEAM TRY-OUTS

Individuals accepted for this competition will notify Major Merrill L. Shepard, XVIII Airborne Corps Sports Parachute Club, Fort Bragg, N. Carolina, of their date and time of arrival at Fort Bragg not later than April 1, 1960.

Persons desiring to enter these tryouts will complete the Application Blank and forward to the Chairman, PCA Committee for the Selection of the U.S. Parachute Team, 1960. Accepted applicants will be notified of their acceptance.

Authorities at Fort Bragg will make minimum-cost accommodations available. Contestants must have the following personal equipment: Main and reserve parachutes, coveralls, helmets, boots.

Two major elimination events will decide the seven finalists. The first event will be an accuracy jump from 7,000 feet and will be scored for accuracy in landing on a target. The second event will also initiate from 7,000 feet and be a "turn event" where the parachutist makes five turns and a backward loop. The chutist will be scored on accuracy and timing in this event.

Aircraft support and packing facilities will be provided by the Fort Bragg authorities.

Those interested in entering the competition are directed to report to the XVIII Airborne Corps Sport Parachute Club not earlier than 1200 hours 6 April or later than 1800 hours 7 April.

Entrance is limited to United States male jumpers holding a valid FAI Class "C" (Green) license or higher rating and to United States female jumpers holding a FAI Class "B" (Orange) license or higher rating.

Contestants must be at least 18 years of age, have 1960 sports registration and must be PCA members.

The Fort Bragg National Trophy, now held by Jim Pearson, will be awarded to the high score jumper.

An entry fee of \$10.00 to be used solely for the support of the U.S. Parachute Team will be paid on arrival at Fort Bragg.

Editor's note: To those of us who will not actively participate in this event.

The team derived from this competition will be serious contenders for the world championship.

## IF THEY CAN AFFORD IT

It's up to you and I to see they reach Bulgaria. We are contributing. Can we count on you?

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## APPLICATION BLANK FOR U.S. TEAM TRYOUTS, 1960

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3. SPORTS REGISTRATION FOR 1960..... (yes)..... (no)
4. PREVIOUS COMPETITION EXPERIENCE:  
MEET ..... TROPHIES .....
5. PRESENT CLUB .....
6. TOTAL NUMBER OF JUMPS.....
7. Total delayed falls of 20" or over.....
8. Request that I be entered as a contestant in the 1960 tryouts for the U.S. Parachute Team. I have read the regulations for these tryouts and I agree to abide by them.

.....  
(Signature)

MAIL THIS APPLICATION TO: Col. W. P. Grieves  
Chairman, Selection Committee,  
U.S. Parachute Team,  
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# Hemet Sport Parachuting Center Formal Opening



**Left to Right: Lynn Pyland, Verne Williams (behind Lynn), Walt Pica, Bud Keisow, Don Byran, Bob Sinclair, Bob Higbee, Merle (Lucky) Ruby, and Ed Cooley. These nine fellows representing 3 clubs made a mass 20 second delay.**

**January 17, 1960, Hemet, California**

Approximately 5000 spectators were on hand to view the proceedings this warm, sunny, Sunday at Hemet. During the morning hours while some last minute preparations were being made, a class of students completed their first jumps.

This class included the owners of the Hemet Valley Flying Service, Mr. Lloyd Venable, Bob and Jim Venable, their wives, and Harold Brister. The sporting centers personal secretary, Miss Kendall Murphy, made her first jump with this group.

Then as ceremonies got under way, Jacques Istel introduced Mayor James Simpson of Hemet, Chairman of the Riverside Airport Commission, who headed the dedication ceremonies.

Other distinguished guests on hand

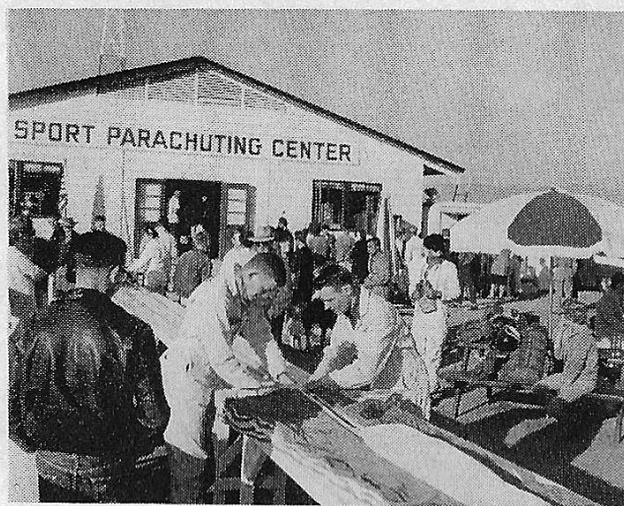
were Retired General Joseph Marriot, also of the Riverside Airport Commission; some top Mexican Officials of the Baja, California, Federal District, and the Ensenada Naval Station. It seems our good neighbors from South of the border are also interested in some of the aspects of this terrific new sport.



**Left to Right: Jacques Istel. Doctor William H. Lockwood, representing the Sky-Hi Pioneers of Phoenix, Arizona, won first place in the men's beginners class, making his 4th and 5th static jumps.**

Some exhibition jumps were staged beginning with a 30 second delay with smoke by Lew Sanborn, George Flinn, and Dusty Smith. (Dusty and Lew, by the way, made the first double baton pass in California just two weeks prior to this event.) Shortly after this a nine man group jump was made out of the Norseman. The fellows on this jump had a wide variety of multi-colored



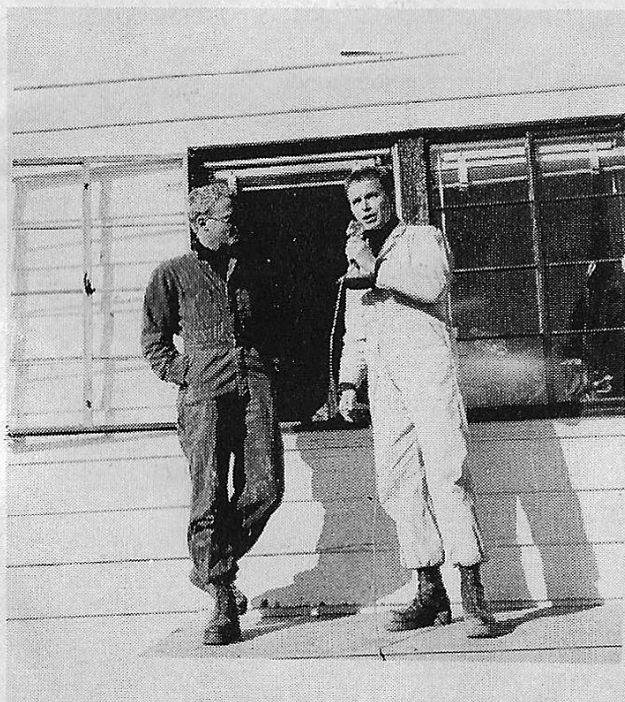


Bustling activity at the Western Sport Parachuting Center, Hemet, Calif. Photo by Lynn-Western, Inc.

canopies which made it even more impressive to the crowd.

At approximately 2:00 o'clock, a Spot Jumping Contest got under way with 58 entrants. Each entrant received one free jump out of two for the contest. As it turned out, there wasn't enough daylight left for everyone to get in their second jump. Consequently the first jump ruled in the contest, and the winners were as follows:

Mrs. Roxy McDonald, wife of J. P.



Left. Dusty Smith, Assistant Instructor. Right. Lew Sanborn, Chief Instructor & President of the Center. "Is everybody happy?"

McDonald of the San Diego Sky Divers, won the Women's Event.

**MEN'S ADVANCED:** First place, Ray Petrogallo, Elsinore Valley Sport Parachute Club, Elsinore, California, with 9'; second place, Verne Williams, also with the Elsinore Club, with 10'4"; third place, John Fritas, San Marcos Sky Divers, with 11'2".

**MEN'S BEGINNERS:** First place, Doctor William H. Lockward, Sky-Hi



"All aboard for the champagne flight."

Pioneers of Phoenix, Arizona, with 26'2"; second place, Richard Curtis, San Marcos Sky Divers, San Marcos, California, with 34'8"; third place, Michael McCreery, also with the San Marcos Sky Divers, with 35'.

Those who still had a free jump coming received tickets to be used anytime they return to jump at Hemet.

Lew Sanborn, Chief Instructor and President of the Hemet Sport Parachuting Center, said the turnout far exceeded their expectations. Jacques Istel and Lew, along with George (The Hawk) Flinn, Sec.-Treas., Dusty Smith, Assistant Instructor, and Miss Murphy, their Personal Secretary, have done a terrific job in organizing this very fine center for parachutists.







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Walt Roberts, while visiting California from the Shawnee, Oklahoma, Sport Parachute Club, informed us of an invitational meet to be held on Memorial Day in the Shawnee area. For further information contact Walt at 1204 N. Oklahoma, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

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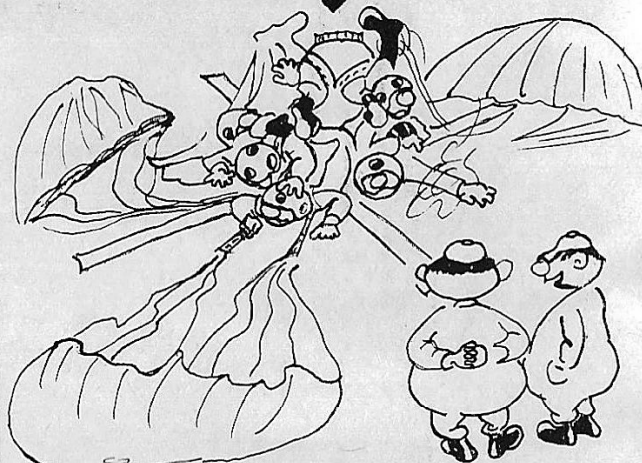
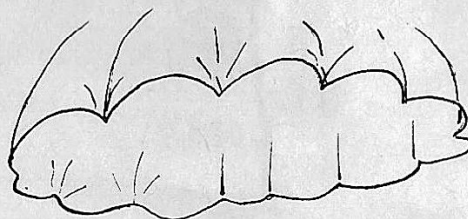
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