THE SMITHSONIAN

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TORCH



Bavarian Mall Schmaltz

# HOST OF MUSICAL EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS SUMMER HERE; SPECIAL EXHIBIT ALSO OPENS

Music, music, music.

The accent on SI summer activities and programs was very definitely on music.

Thousands of Washingtonians and visitors to the National Capital enjoyed a variety of musical sounds and performances, most of which were held on the MHT terrace.

Civil War band music; the Maryland fife and drum corps; concerts by the bands of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps; Howard Mitchell and the National Symphony Orchestra; traditional Bavarian dances and music; "Old-Time" music with Archie Green and the New Lost City Ramblers; 13th century music from the SI tower; the incomparable New Orleans Marching Brass Band; and choral and chamber music of 18th century America.

The musical highlight of the summer was the opening in July of a special sixmonth exhibition on "Music Making— American Style," emphasizing significant trends in the history of this nation's music.

The exhibition was organized by John Fesperman, Cynthia Hoover, Robert Sheldon, Helen Hollis, and Jay Scott Odell of MHT's division of musical instruments. Miss Deborah Bertzfelder of MHT's exhibits office served as the designer for the display.

# SI-NBC TV Series Debuts October 15; Underwater Archeology First Program

It's designed for tots, but, according to the National Broadcasting Company, "parents may peek too." Thus, on October 15, the joint NBC-

Thus, on October 15, the joint NBC-Smithsonian Institution weekly series of color television programs for young people will begin. Show time is at 12:30 p.m.

## SI SECRETARY RIPLEY DEFINES HAWKS/ DOVES

"As an ornithologist, it's very distressing to me to have 'doves' exalted, and 'hawks' maligned," was the way Secretary Ripley put it to graduates at George Washington University's commencement exercises this June.

"Hawks," he said, "are sensible, longlived, full of wisdom, and nonferocious.

"The study of animal behavior will tell you that doves are not bright, but cruel and insensate and far more blood-thirsty than hawks."

Dr. Ripley said that someone's got his terminology all mixed up and called for "a proper ornithological lexicon for peace and war."

His advice was to the point:

"Certainly a bird man could straighten some things out if people would only bother to consult him."

## Summer Student Program Here Attracts 51 Undergraduates; "A Real Happening," Says One

The SI's second annual summer education program—described by a University of Maryland coed as "a real happening" —provided a chance to earn money and research opportunities for 51 undergraduates from 43 colleges across the country.

Research assistantships provided by the Smithsonian and the National Science Foundation were held by students from universities ranging from Hawaii to New Hampshire.

One student, assigned to MNH's Department of Mineral Sciences, said of the experience: "Here I have been introduced to research and science. I may have been introduced to questions I will be answering later in my career."

Dr. William Sturtevant of SOA has been appointed to serve as a Fulbright Professor for the Institute of Social Anthropology at Oxford University during Academic Year 1967-68. The television series will attempt to capture the excitement of the scientific breakthrough, the struggle and patriotism of the American heritage, the beauty and challenge of art, all represented in SI's museums, galleries, and research programs.

According to Bill Grayson, film and broadcasting chief in SI's Public Information Office, the opening program will focus on underwater archeology, the specialty of Mendel Peterson, chairman of the MHT's department of armed forces history.

Other programs will include studies of inventors, ecology, suffragettes, bones, meteors, painters, Benedict Arnold, radiation, American folk art, lawmen, and the flights of the "Spirit of St. Louis" and Friendship 7 with John Glenn as host.

"The series is an important opportunity for NBC and the Smithsonian to present programs of educational significance to a large audience of young people and adults," Julian Goodman, president of NBC, said,

large audience of young people and adults," Julian Goodman, president of NBC, said. "We will use," he added, "the worldwide facilities of NBC News to translate the Smithsonian's continuing search for knowledge in every field into exciting television presentations."

The series has a good chance of succeeding, being sandwiched between Saturday cartoons and the collegiate football game of the week.



DOWN TO EARTH DISCUSSION—Space pioneer John Glenn, left, and NBC producer Craig Fisher discuss series script between takes in the A&I Building. Glenn will appear in a segment relating to the flights of the Spirit of St. Louis and Friendship 7 (both in background), scheduled for future showing on SI-NBC TV series. Col. Glenn, we are sad to report, was ticketed for overtime parking during filming, which goes to prove there are more "docking" problems in inner, than outer, space.

# THE SMITHSONIAN



# TORCH *ABOUT SI PEOPLE*

AN EMPLOYEES' NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

# SMITHSONIAN REGENT



# SENATOR SALTONSTALL RETIRES IN DECEMBER; SERVED SI FOR 17 YEARS

When Leverett Saltonstall retires from the United States Senate in December, he also will step down as a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, a post he has held since January 1949.

The Board of Regents at their meeting on May 17, 1966 recorded their appreciation of Senator Saltonstall in the following resolution: "VOTED that the Board of Regents

"VOTED that the Board of Regents records its deepest gratitude to Senator Leverett Saltonstall for his distinguished service as a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution from January 1949 to December 1966. The Regents also wish to express their great admiration for Senator Saltonstall's dedicated service and loyalty to his country through his many years of public service."

Secretary Ripley recalled that Senator Saltonstall, over the past 17 years, had participated in many major legislative undertakings of the Institution, including the authorization and construction of the Museum of History and Technology; establishing the National Portrait Gallery; acquisition of the old Patent Office Building for art gallery purposes; establishing the National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board; authorizing the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; designating the site and authorizing construction of the Air and Space Museum building; and authorizing a program of capital improvements at the National Zoological Park.

Senator Saltonstall's record of devoted service to those whom he represents began in his hometown of Newton in 1920, when he became a member of the Board of Aldermen. In 1921, he served as an assistant district attorney in Middlesex County.

He was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives and served from 1923 until 1937. He served as Speaker of the House for eight years, the longest tenure in that position since the 1820's.

In 1938 Saltonstall was elected Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a position he held until he was elected to the United States Senate in 1944. To date, he is the only person in the history of the Bay State to serve as Governor for three terms.

In November 1944, when elected to the U.S. Senate, he established a record with the largest margin ever given a candidate for Statewide office.

At 74 years of age, Senator Saltonstall is currently ranking minority member of two of the most important Committees in the Senate: the Appropriations Committee and the Armed Services Committee.

# NPG GETS ADMINISTRATOR



Joseph A. Yakaitas has been appointed administrative officer for the National Portrait Gallery, coming from HEW where he served as executive officer for the President's committee on mental retardation.

Prior to that job, Yakaitas worked in the White House as executive officer to the President's special assistant for mental retardation. Previously, he served as an intelligence officer with the CIA.

Another NPG administrative move has Charles H. Olin, formerly head of USNM's analytical laboratory, appointed to direct the conservation lab of the soon-to-be completed fine arts and portrait galleries building in downtown Washington.



Richard Ettinghausen, head curator of the Freer Gallery and one of the world's leading authorities on Islamic art, has resigned to become full-time professor at NYU's Institute of Fine Arts. Dr. Ettinghausen leaves in February following 22 years at SI. . . . Security police awarded for distinguished duties over the summer included Eddie Richards, Calvin Willoughby, William A. Payne (pictured above), and John A. Gallagher. . . . Jacob Kainen, who came here in 1942 as a museum aide and retired in July as curator of MHT's division of graphic arts, will be aboard periodically as special consultant to NCFA.

Tilghman A. Hawkins, file clerk in USNM's office of the registrar, recently celebrated his 40th year with SI. The 58-year-old Hawkins came here at 18 as a junior messenger to Dr. Wetmore. . . . Roger Pineau, liaison editor in MHT's office of the Director, has transferred to the Smithsonian Press as managing editor. . . . Memo To Dr. Ted Reed: The Indianapolis News recently carried this headline-" 'The National Zoo Banishes A Mynah Bird That Says Dirty Words. Freedom Of Speech Demonstrators Will Please Assemble At The West Gate".... Jim Ma-honey, exhibits director for NASM, has added a selection of enamels, depicting various space-age themes, to his "Hall of Aerospace Art." Mahoney cleared out the old farm machinery hall in the A&I Building-left abandoned and disheveled in the wake of the machinery's transfer to MHT -and converted it into a striking art gallery. . . . Robert Meyer and Harry Hart put together over the summer what amounts to NASM's first permanent exhibition gal-lery: "The Hall of Aeronautical Propul-sion".... Dr. John White, co-author of 'Stonehenge Decoded'' and a staffer in SAO's editorial and publications division, culls information of no distinctly visible value from current books. Among his recent minutiae: The myth that Thomas Edison slept only two hours is false-he was an "inveterate napper"; also, "monkeys dream less then men".... Paul Garber, the NASM's distinguished historian, was moved almost to murder one day when a summer visitor offered him \$10 for "just a little piece of the Lindbergh plane." Would you believe \$15?

#### SLOTH, MASTODON, PECCARY PROVIDE LONG, HOT SUMMER FOR MNH PALEONTOLOGIST RAY

Clayton E. Ray, associate curator of MNH's Division of Paleontology, had a busy summer identifying fossils.

First, he was asked to evaluate a mastodon jawbone unearthed near Troy, Mo., discovered by workmen digging a footing for a bridge. Senator Edward V. Long of Missouri requested the evaluation of the prehistoric jawbone, presumed to be at least 10,000 years old.

Later, he moved on to Kingsport, Tennessee, to identify a skeleton of a giant ground sloth, estimated to have lived more than 10,000 years ago. The skeleton, found in southwest Virginia by three Kingsport youths, is one of two that have been discovered in the United States, Dr. Ray said.



MNH technician Leroy Glenn restores peccary bones.

Then, the Troy (Pa.) Community Junior High School gave outright to Dr. Ray a partial skeleton of an extinct peccary, recently found in a Mosherville, Pa., gravel pit.

Dr. Ray describes the remains of the pig-like mammal as "one of the better specimens known to science."

A sample peccary bone has been submitted to SI's Radiation Biology Laboratory for dating by the carbon 14 method. Dr. Ray anticipates that results of the test will show the specimen to be one of the last known survivors of its species.

#### SI'S DIAL-A-SOMETHING EXPANDS TO MUSEUMS

SI's Office of Public Information has added four more telephones to accommodate its expanding "dial-a-something" program.

First, it was Dial-A-Satellite.

Now, it's Dial-A-Museum.

The latter is designed to give prospective visitors the latest information, revised daily, on special events, museum hours, and exhibits.

If Dial-A-Museum (phone: 737-8811) achieves the same success enjoyed by Dial-A-Satellite (phone: 737-8855), points out PIO Director Richard Berg, it can expect to field more than 150,000 calls a year.



Dr. Ray examines relative of Mosherville Peccary.

## MHT's Section of Photography Documenting Past and Present

The art and science of photography have had more impact on our lives than any other visual medium, permeating every aspect of our culture. Photography, the advocates say, "moves, persuades, entertains, and informs."

It also touches lives in all countries and men of all persuasions.

The job of documenting the past and present of this most influential of art forms is being undertaken by SI's section of photography.

Collecting literally thousands of photographic tools and materials, curator Eugene Ostroff and his staff are now putting together a display covering the highlights of all phases of the photographic arts and sciences.

It will be on view sometime in 1967 in MHT.



#### SI MUSEUM-GOERS AMONG 300 MILLION NATION-WIDE

It comes as no surprise to SI employees in Washington that Americans are becoming avid museum-goers.

During the summer months, any employee who has fought the crowds near Miss Freedom, SI's Great Hall, the MHT cafeteria, John Glenn's space capsule, the rear end of the Fenykovi elephant, or the Mall walk between Henry's statue and Lady Bird's flower garden, doesn't have to rely on statistics to tell him that people like us.

Now comes this item from the National Geographic Society: "Every 3.4 days a new museum is opened somewhere in the United States."

And, according to the American Association of Museums there are 4,595 art, history, and science museums; historic houses and park museums; zoos and wildlife refuges; arboretums, planetariums, aquariums, and herbariums; and exhibit areas in public buildings.

Some 300 million people visited these facilities in 1965, more than double the number in 1950.

## NATIONAL COLLECTION ACQUIRES OUTSTANDING ART DURING SUMMER

The National Collection of Fine Arts enjoyed a successful summer both in the exhibition and aquisition areas. In the latter, NCFA was given or promised such outstanding collections as "Art: USA," a group of 102 paintings owned by the S. C. Johnson & Son, Inc.; nearly 500 sculptures and drawings by Paul Manship; and 33 pop art prints from the Phillip Morris Company. David W. Scott, director of NCFA, on the left, and James Bowling, vice-president of Phillip Morris, discuss one of the pop art prints.

# Special Report SAO Discounts Asteroid-Earth Collision; Claims Loch Ness Monster More a Reality

There were numerous newspaper accounts over the summer relating to the prediction that the asteroid Icarus would collide (in 1968) with Earth with the force of 1,000 hydrogen bombs. Jim Cornell, SAO's able information officer, has prepared a TORCH special report on the scare, its background, and implications.

Move over Loch, Ness Monster. There's a new and perennial threat of "astronomical" dimensions that makes the old lakesnake look like a dew-worm.

The wandering asteroid Icarus will swing by the Earth in June of 1968 and the prophets of doom say it could hit our planet with the force of 1,000 H-bombs, neatly reducing everything under it to cigarette ash.

Holy planetoids! Shades of H. G. Wells! Can this be true? Is a small world somewhere in the vast, uncharted regions of deep space speeding along a collision course with Earth?

Relax. The chances are roughly one billion to one that we'll be squashed by flying rock. At least, that's the estimate of most U.S. astronomers, including those at SAO.

Icarus is indeed an asteroid, and it will indeed come close to the Earth in 1968. "However," says SAO's Dr. Owen Gingerich, Director of the Central Telegram Bureau, "its closest approach to the Earth will be something like 4 million miles close in astronomical terms, but hardly anything to worry about."

"Three other asteroids, Adonis, Apollo, and Hermes all have come closer to the Earth without causing any ill effects. In fact, Hermes came within less than 500,000 miles back in 1937," says Gingerich. Why, then, is everyone worried? And why does Icarus make headlines every summer?

The reason is probably a combination of human nature and summer madness. Earth-bound mortals apparently need something to worry about and the more "astronomical" the better, to pun it rather badly. And news-slim summer newspapers provide perfect vehicles for spreading general public concern. (Think back, folks. Most UFO's float in on summer breezes. The Loch Ness monster is a tourist attraction. And even the New England ghosts seem to like warm weather.)



Actually, the Icarus story started in the winter of 1965 with a scholarly article in *Scientific American*. A writer discussing the original discovery of the asteroid happened to mention that Icarus would come particularly close to Earth in 1968 on its periodic 19-year journey around the Sun. He suggested that it would be interesting to see how modern man, with his modern technology, could avert a crash should Icarus come *too* close. Blowing it out of the heavens with a thermo-nuclear device might be one solution, he thought, but



planting a rocket on the mile-wide body and propelling it away from Earth might be even better. His suggestions were completely speculative, however, because all calculations indicated that there was little likelihood of the asteroid hitting our globe.

The article sat and smoldered for almost six months. Then, one hot July day in Rome, a correspondent heard that the Vatican Observatory was watching Icarus. When the reporter filed his story, he included the misinformation that the asteroid-watch was part of an international plan to predict Icarus' impact point on Earth. Like a snowball, the story picked up more misinformation in Boston, when a reporter for a national wire service quoted a SAO scientist as saying there was "a possible danger of collision." What he had really said was that "collisions with asteroids were possible, but not probable."

The worriers of America never bothered to read the correction. Letters by the score poured into the Observatory's Information Office, all seeking more news of the impending catastrophe. Many asked for advice on where and when to move for safety's sake. In desperation, the Observatory ran off a standard, multilithed, formletter reassuring everyone that no danger existed. Dr. Gingerich even issued an official Astronomical Announcement Card to all major planetariums and observatories around the world giving the up-to-date, corrected, and earth-missing orbit of the asteroid.

Finally, in the fall of 1965, the asteroid slipped from the public's fancy. Until this past summer, that is, when an Australian physics professor hinted that a slight jog in the orbit of Icarus could send it crashing into the Earth and that the U.S., Russia, and Britain were looking for means of averting the holocaust. The Great Icarus Flap was on again; and once more, the SAO became the Reassurement Center of the world. "No, it will still be a near miss of some 4 million miles" we said again.

Hundreds of news stories, telephone calls, and letters later, the Icarus file finally closed for good. Or did it?

Icarus seems to have entered the annuals of popular folklore with the Loch Ness monster, banshees, and Count Dracula.

# FAMILY REUNION AT THE ZOO

If you're of a mind to criticize the composition of the adjacent photograph, obviously you've never tried to pose a human with an animal, even when they're relatives of a sort. At any rate, the TORCH brought together Cecilia Gabriel, Dr. Ripley's appointments secretary, and her namesake for a family portrait at the Zoo. Cecilia Giraffe, born on May 26, was named in honor of Miss Gabriel. The two Cecilias stood at a distance of about 10 feet, but eyed each other and seemed pleased. As for Michael-John, the father, he was interested only in the flora held by Miss Gabriel as a gift, or peace offering, depending on how you look at it. The giraffe's mother, Marg, was standing just outside camera range ready to protect her offspring in case Miss Gabriel came too close.

