

# THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

NO. 3 (NEW SERIES), APRIL 1965

## PROPOSED MUSEUM SITE RECOMMENDED

Secretary Ripley announces that the Board of Regents has recommended the establishment of a National Armed Forces Museum, to be situated on a 340-acre tract bordering the Potomac River at Fort Washington, Md., 25 minutes from the center of the Capital.

A detailed study, undertaken for the Smithsonian by the National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board, emphasizes that the proposed museum represents "a dramatically new approach to the documentation of history."

The site is ideal for an outdoor "museum in a park." The Advisory Board noted that Fort Washington already possesses many facilities that could be readily incorporated. Included are existing examples of fortifications spanning nearly 125 years of the nation's history, a ready-made network of roads and park facilities, and water frontage offering an anchorage for historical ships and also convenient access to the Potomac channel.

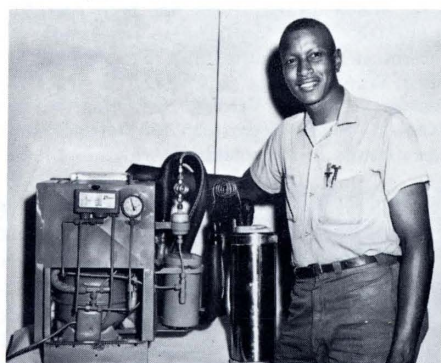
## SMITHSONIAN GUARD'S NAME IN RECENT WAR HISTORY

World War II seems very far away to some, but to one of the Smithsonian guards, Louis T. Dymond, remembrances of the parts he saw, fought, and endured will live forever in a book recently published by



Louis T. Dymond

Houghton Mifflin Company, *The G. I. Journal of Sergeant Giles*. The Normandy Invasion, the Battle of the Bulge, and the building of the bridge across the Rhine at



Remagen are all relived in Sergeant Giles's journal, which was compiled from letters to his wife and short accounts by other men in the 291st Combat Engineers. Twenty years ago on April 26, Giles tells how he and "Speedy" Dymond, in a group near Hammelburg, Germany, road mending and bridge building, had the rest of the day off and decided to go deer hunting:

This is hilly, woodsy country & the fellows have been seeing them in these woods. We didn't have a burp gun. We just took our M1's.

We tried the woods first & did see one big buck but he was too far away. . . . Then we decided to try the meadow that ran alongside. It was a fine big meadow of clover. We were walking along & I thought I saw another deer ahead of us. Speedy kept watching him & he finally said, "I don't think that's a deer, Sarge. Durned if I don't think it's a jackrabbit."

I said, "If that's a jackrabbit it's the biggest one I ever saw. Looks like deer antlers to me."

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## SCIENCE AND GOVERNMENT EXHIBIT OPENS IN MHT

President Johnson appeared on the evening of April 6 to open the exhibit "The Vision of Man" in the Museum of History and Technology. This exhibit illustrates the productive partnership of science and government; its primary objective is to stimulate student interest in the study of science and engineering.

The exhibit, designed by Herbst-LaZar, a Chicago firm, features actual scientific equipment and spectator-participation devices. A career guidance center has been



President Johnson and Frank A. Taylor, director of the National Museum, at the opening of the exhibit "The Vision of Man" on April 6.

set up in connection with the exhibit. It shows the opportunities for scholarships, fellowships, and grants available for study in broad fields of science, engineering, and technology.

"The Vision of Man" may be visited through May 14 in the Special Exhibits Hall. It will then be displayed at the Federal Pavilion at the New York World's Fair from May 20 until the Fair closes in October. It will return to the Smithsonian in the spring of 1966, after being shown in Chicago and Los Angeles.





AN EMPLOYEES' NEWSPAPER, PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITORIAL BOARD: JAMES BRADLEY, PAUL H. OEHSE, WILLIAM WARNER  
EDITOR: ELIZABETH BEVERLEY

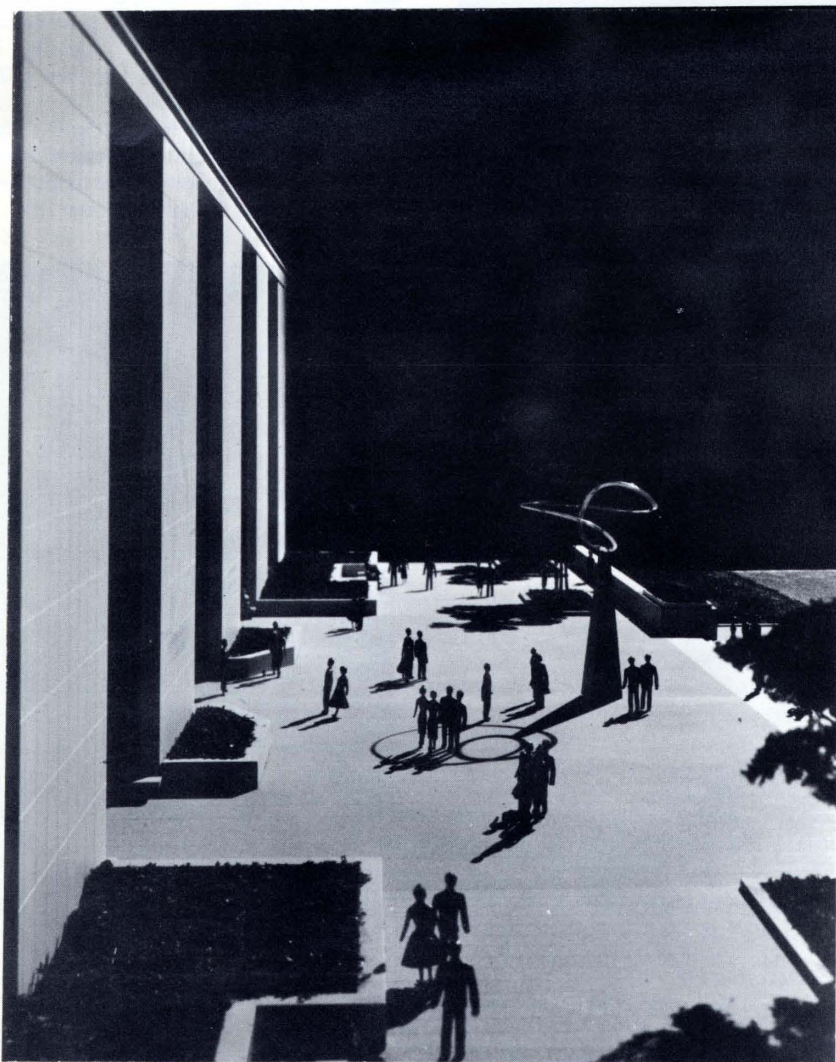
PHOTOS: ALBERT J. ROBINSON

### ATTENDS ISRAEL MUSEUM OPENING

Dr. George S. Switzer, head of the Department of Mineral Sciences, will represent Secretary Ripley and the Smithsonian at the opening of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem on May 11, 1965. Dr. Switzer is at present in South Africa on a mission for the Smithsonian.

### BLAIR HOUSE CURATOR APPOINTED

Mrs. Helen Maggs Fede has been recently appointed to the Smithsonian Institution as curator at Blair House. She is a graduate of Bryn Mawr College and spent 12 years as curator at Mount Vernon. She is married to Frank J. Fede, Department of Defense, and has a family of four children.



The sculpture shown in this artist's sketch of the Mall entrance to the Museum of History and Technology has been created by Jose de Rivera, one of the nation's foremost sculptors. He was commissioned to create a granite pylon surmounted by a rotating, highly polished, stainless steel element for the south terrace of the Museum. Frank A. Taylor, Director of the U. S. National Museum, noted that the design of the sculpture has been thought of as a "foil to the deliberately restrained and severe rectilinear lines of the building facade. Its curvilinear shape and form poised atop the granite pylon will be a dramatic focal point of the Mall approach . . . highly polished to catch the sun." The sculpture will rise 16 feet from the ground; the stainless steel composition will be 16 feet wide by 8 feet high; it will rotate once every eight minutes.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM DEVELOPING

The Smithsonian will serve as an informal clearinghouse in the Department of State's international student exchange programs. According to William W. Warner, Office of International Activities, the State Department will tap the Smithsonian's experience in the basic sciences and humanities in its recruiting and programing of Americans going abroad and foreign grantees coming to the United States.

The State Department has already announced the Smithsonian's role in an Airgram sent to all American embassies and major consulates, from Ankara to Zanzibar. Expected areas of cooperation include: Smithsonian suggestions of candidates for State Department or private grants; suggestions for training and programing of grantees at institutions in the United States; help from American embassies in screening of applications for research appointments at the Smithsonian.

A Smithsonian Advisory Committee has been named to channel requests and to forward suggestions to the State Department. Serving voluntarily on this committee are members from each department of the Museum of Natural History: Drs. Knez, Evans, Soderstrom, Spangler, Crabill, Switzer, Desautels, Peters, Watson, Squires, Boardman, and Hotton. The committee is now being enlarged to include representatives from the Museum of History and Technology and other bureaus at the Smithsonian.

### TURTLES WANDER FAR

James A. Peters, associate curator in the Smithsonian's Division of Reptiles and Amphibians, was requested to determine the identity of an organism that apparently had invaded the eye of a great marine turtle taken in the frigid waters off Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Believing the organism to be a member of the plant world, Dr. Peters called upon William L. Stern, chairman of Smithsonian's Department of Botany, to examine the unusual specimen. Dr. Stern, one of the nation's leading wood anatomists, found that microscopic sections proved beyond doubt that the parasite was, indeed, from the plant world—a fragment from the stem of the black mangrove.

The identification gives a clue to the extensive travel done by the leatherback turtle, for the black mangrove is native to the shores of southern Florida and the Keys, as well as regions far to the south.

"It seems," suggests Dr. Stern, "that such marine turtles invade the waters off Nova Scotia every August and September, perhaps looking for cooler climes during this season of the year."



## ROBERT MASON APPOINTED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Office of the Secretary now has an executive secretary in the appointment of Robert M. Mason. Mr. Mason comes to the Smithsonian from the National Science Foundation, where he served as assistant program director for administration in the Office of Antarctic Programs. He will handle for the Secretary administrative matters in his immediate office including the review, referral, and follow-up of incoming correspondence; project status information; and the supervision of the SI Files. He is now located in Room 217, SI Building, extension 5005.



Robert M. Mason

## NEW RESEARCH CURATOR APPOINTED

Brian Mason, former curator of minerals at American Museum of Natural History, New York, has been appointed Research Curator to the Smithsonian's Division of Meteorites. Dr. Mason, an eminent geochemist and meteoriticist, has written the only authoritative text on meteorites. He is a New Zealander by birth, with a Ph.D. from the University of Stockholm.

## TAKES TO WHALER FOR BIRDS

George Watson, curator in the Division of Birds, is aboard the *U.S.N.S. Craton*, a baby aircraft carrier, and will leave the ship daily on a Boston whaler, collecting birds at sea. The Smithsonian was invited to join the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in this research expedition.

## EXHIBITS PRODUCTION OFFICE ADDS TO STAFF

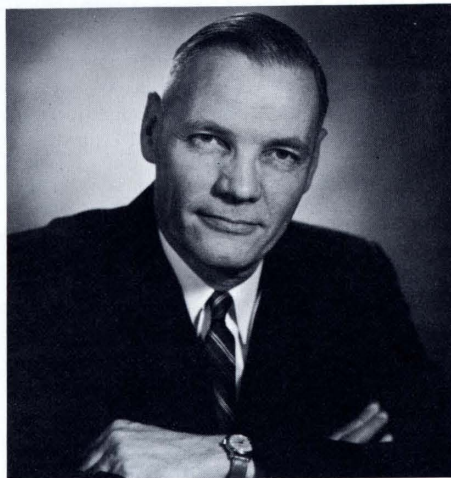
The Museum of History and Technology Exhibits Office has announced that its Exhibits Production Office has a new chief of production, William M. Clark; a new assistant chief of production, Stanley M. Santoroski; and a new installation supervisor, Eugene F. Behlen.

## GOVERNMENT AID FOR ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Dr. Theodore W. Taylor spoke at Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania, on April 3, 1965, on "Some Aspects of the Government and the Arts." This speech was before the American Studies Association of the Middle Atlantic States. He summarized his views on Federal financial support for the arts by stating that the arts and the humanities would definitely profit from Federal subsidy. He did not anticipate in such a subsidy the need for Government interference, citing the National Science Foundation as an example of a Government agency created for support but not control of scientific research. But he agreed with the Reports of the Commission on the Humanities and the Rockefeller Panel on the Performing Arts that support for the arts must remain pluralistic. "Private, local, State, and Federal support will provide flexibility and responsiveness to need," he said.

He quoted from Secretary Ripley's testimony before the Pell subcommittee (Senate Special Subcommittee on Arts and Humanities and the House Special Subcommittee on Labor) in which Mr. Ripley stated his views clearly:

"The arts and the humanities are essential to our character, our objectives, and



Theodore W. Taylor

the stature of our leadership—they constitute in reality our first line of defense, the basic foundation of our culture. Without them life becomes mere existence. I believe that our government can judiciously undertake a program of cooperative support for those things which lie so close to the heart of our lives as Americans."

## ACCIDENTS-SAFETY PROGRAM

Margaret Slota, Health Unit, reports that a reminder to all workers, from time to time, does help prevent accidents. President Johnson has launched Mission Safety-70 to combat the rise in federal employee on-the-job disabling accidents. He noted that "no one can relax in the pursuit of safety."

## ARGENTINE BOTANIST DOING RESEARCH HERE

Cleo Calderon, a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, is currently studying tropical grasses in the Department of Botany. Miss Calderon has been in this country since the end of January and is working hard to master the English language. She intends to leave for Yale University in June to study with Dr. John Reeder but she hopes to return to the Smithsonian, where she enjoys the work and the people. Cleo shares a Washington apartment with another Argentine girl.



Cleo Calderon

## ZOO OFFICIAL RESIGNS

J. Lear Grimmer resigned as Associate Director of the National Zoological Park effective April 15. He will continue as an honorary collaborator at the Zoo. Mr. Grimmer, who came to the Zoo in 1957, will be remembered for such expeditions as his trip to Koltzelbue, Alaska, in 1958, to capture and bring back reindeer for President Eisenhower's "Pageant for Peace."

## SINGING ANYONE?

Interest has been expressed in the formation of a mixed choral group, under competent direction, composed of SI employees. Although an important objective is to sing for one's own enjoyment, another principal goal is to become proficient enough to entertain for SI public functions. If you are interested, call Karen Loveland, extension 5034, 5187.



Karen Loveland



GUARD from Page 1

Anyway, Speedy took aim & cut down on him. It was a hell of a long shot, at least 200 yards. But, by george, those eyes of his were good & he made one of the prettiest shots I ever saw anybody make, anywhere. It was a jack-rabbit & he got it right through the head. With an M1, mind you. What shooting!

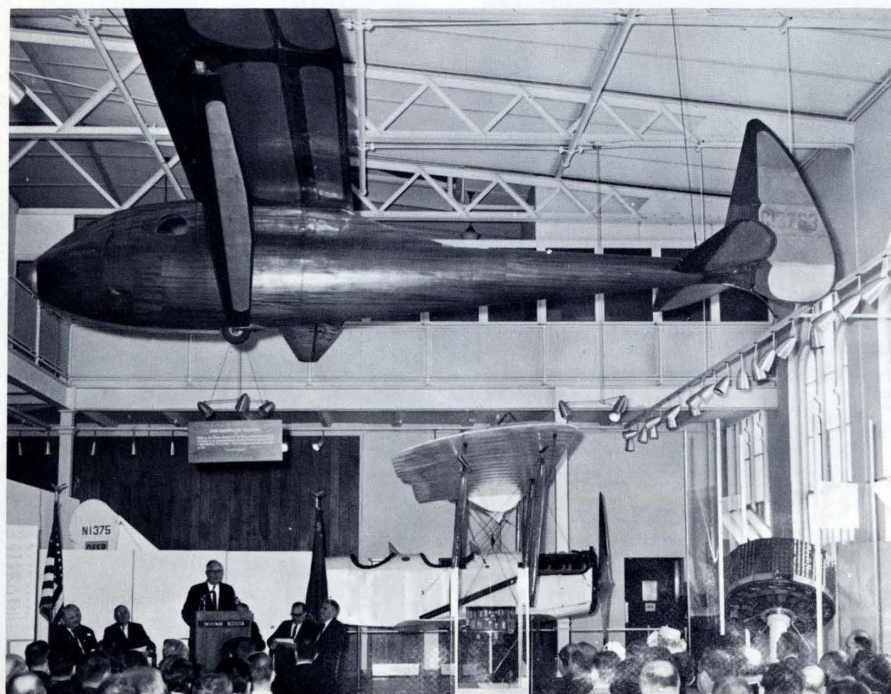
He was almost as big as a young deer. . . . We finally worked our way back, mostly due to Speedy's good sense of direction. Had a fine rabbit stew for chow.

Louis Dymond and his wife now live in an apartment in Washington during the week and spend weekends at their home in Charlottesville, Virginia. They enjoy their property in the country with its gardens and orchards.

## NASA PRESENTS TIROS SPACECRAFT

NASA has presented the National Air Museum with the Tiros, a prototype of one of five spacecraft built in 1960 by RCA. The other four have been launched successfully. The Tiros presented to NAM was used until recently as a functional development model for a large variety of ground tests.

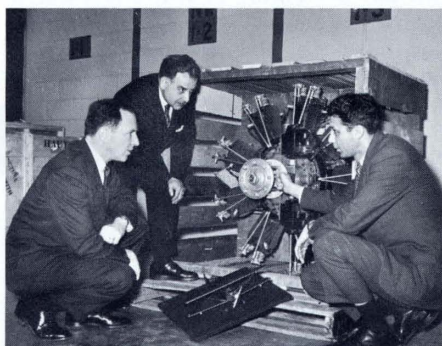
Tiros weather observations are being used by the U. S. Weather Bureau in daily weather analyses which are transmitted around the world. The Tiros satellites telemeter to ground tracking stations hundreds of thousands of photographs of earth cloud cover and infrared radiation measurements. New knowledge of the formation, distribution, and paths of weather systems, including hurricanes, has been discovered by use of the Tiros satellites.



S. Paul Johnston speaking on presentation of Tiros Spacecraft by NASA.

## AIRLINE PRESENTS NAM WITH EARLY TYPE OF ENGINE

The National Air Museum was presented with an engine of the type used by Northwest Orient Airlines in 1926, its first year of operation. The engine is a Wright J-4, 9-cylinder radial powerplant that was manufactured in April 1926. This engine—one model earlier than the J-5 which powered Charles Lindbergh's *Spirit of St. Louis*, on display at the Smithsonian—is of the type used on Northwest's single-engined Stinson-Detroiter biplanes, which went into service on Northwest Orient routes shortly after the carrier inaugurated service between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Chicago on Oct. 1, 1926.

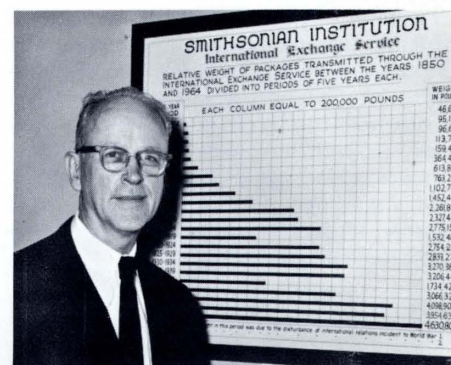


Robert B. Meyer, Paul E. Garber, NAM, with Charles A. Dinardo, district sales manager for the Northwest Orient Airlines, who presented the engine to the Smithsonian.

Secretary Ripley has announced that an extended schedule for the Smithsonian Institution's museums, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., will be in effect through August 31. The cafeteria in the Museum of History and Technology will remain open daily until 7:30 p.m. and its snack bar will close at 9:30 p.m.

## IES PUTS MUSEUM PHILOSOPHY TO PRACTICE

The simple stamp which reads "Forwarded through the International Exchange Service, Smithsonian Institution" means much



Jeremiah A. Collins

to a library in India, or France, or Colombia. The International Exchange Service itself, with an office staff of 11, is housed in the basement of the Smithsonian Building. It is headed by Jerry A. Collins.

The output of the Service has grown from a few hundred packages of publications transmitted per year to more than a million during 1964. Publications are accepted from Government bureaus, Congressional committees, universities, and scientific organizations and are transmitted to more than 100 different countries. It is the only such operation in the U. S., and there are not many like it in the world. The material distributed by the Smithsonian cannot be Communist propaganda, nor can the material going abroad be confidential or security information useful to Communists. Mr. Collins confirmed the report that his material is subject to inspection before forwarding. The CIA and FBI are well aware of this service.

Asked how to prepare for such a job, Mr. Collins said he knows of no special way. He has been with the Smithsonian for 32 years, and he says he finds it refreshing to receive the thanks for the material he sends to libraries and institutions all over the globe. But he also looks back with fond memories to his 22 years at the Zoo, and to the mynah bird that was there in the 30's who would say to the gathered visitors: "How about the appropriations?"

## CALIFORNIA KITCHEN

The new-old California kitchen (see *THE TORCH*, February 1965) will be displayed beginning May 7 in the California exhibit in MHT. The exhibit is sponsored by the California State Society. On this same occasion the Museum will display a temporary exhibit of pictorial materials on California and material devoted to the Chinese in California. A shop figure carved of California redwood also will be on exhibit.