

# Record-Setting Balloon Gondola Makes Final Flight From National Geographic

Explorer II soared nearly 14 miles into the stratosphere on its greatest flight in 1935, but it was lifted only ten feet into the air on its last flight more than 40 years later.

Late in January this year, the nine-foot magnesium-alloy balloon gondola was gently lifted by a crane onto a truck and carried from the National Geographic Society's Explorers Hall in Washington, D.C., to the new National Air and Space Museum a few blocks away.

Explorer II will join the Wright Brothers' first plane, Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis, and other relics of aviation and space exploration when the Smithsonian's new museum opens on July 4.

The National Geographic Society and what was then the Army Air Corps sponsored the flight of Explorer II on November 11, 1935. The huge helium-filled balloon reached an altitude of 72,395 feet, a record for man's highest flight that endured for 21 years.

It was the first organized effort in space exploration.

Captains Orvil A. Anderson and Albert W. Stevens, the balloon pilots, rose from the stratobowl, a cliff-encircled amphitheater in the Black Hills of South Dakota, and spent 8 hours and 13 minutes above the earth.

Dr. Melvin M. Payne, President of the National Geographic Society who was assistant project officer for the flight, recalled its significance:

Once Explorer II was in the air, Anderson and Stevens kept in constant communication with the earth by short-wave radio. Millions of excited Americans hovered around radios that Armistice Day in 1935, eager for reports of the epic flight.

Anderson was permitted to talk to his wife. She asked, "How is everything? Where are you?" And Anderson dryly answered, "I am up in the air." He was -- 54,000 feet at that moment.

People in the vicinity of the flight followed it by automobile. As Explorer II was descending, it drifted for miles a few thousand feet above the South Dakota countryside. Hundreds of automobiles took up the chase along dirt roads and across fields, leaving plumes of dust in their wake.

Anderson and Stevens prepared for touchdown by donning football helmets borrowed from the team at Calvin Coolidge High School, Rapid City. The balloonists hooked up a strong linen strap and clung to it as the gondola landed.

They shouted to spectators to seize a training dragrope to stop their drift. Only one man grabbed the rope, and he quickly dropped it. The balloonists then pulled a cord that ripped open the gas bag just as the gondola touched ground.

The National Geographic Society published the scientific findings of Explorer II and an earlier, 60,000-foot, flight of Explorer I in two technical volumes. Space explorers after World War II came to look upon those two books as their Bible.

The Explorer II gondola was placed on exhibit in Explorers Hall when the museum of science and discovery in the Society's headquarters building opened in January 1964.

Explorer II carried 64 scientific instruments totaling one ton. They revealed reams of startling new data on the thin upper atmosphere. In addition, Stevens and Anderson demonstrated that man could live and work in an environment almost as hostile as the dark reaches of space.

"Scientific reports of the flight became the broad foundation for much of this nation's subsequent research on the vertical frontier."

## BI Earnings Up

Burlington Industries, Inc. reported consolidated net earnings for the second fiscal quarter ended March 27, 1976 of \$23,752,000, or 85 cents per share and net sales of \$568,813,000. These results reflect a continuation of the improving trend of business, showing an earnings increase of 13.1 per cent over the prior December 1975 quarter earnings of \$21,007,000. In the 1975 March quarter consolidated net sales were \$456,180,000, with net earnings of \$3,559,000, or 13 cents per share.

For six months ended March, 1976, consolidated net earnings were \$44,759,000, or \$1.60 per share on 27,976,000 average shares outstanding, and net sales were \$1,105,434,000. For the comparable six months last year, net earnings were \$12,757,000 or 46 cents per share on 27,790,000 average shares outstanding and net sales were \$958,450,000.

Widows and widowers of veterans who died as a result of service connected disabilities are eligible for education assistance from the Veterans Administration.

Though a balloon and gondola are simple pieces of equipment compared to modern rockets and spacecraft, the launching of Explorer II was plagued by problems and delays.

In July 1935, the huge gas bag -- capacity 3,700,000 cubic feet -- developed a rip as it was being pumped full of helium. Three tons of fabric fell, enveloping three men, but a troop of cavalrymen stationed at the launch site ran on their rescue.

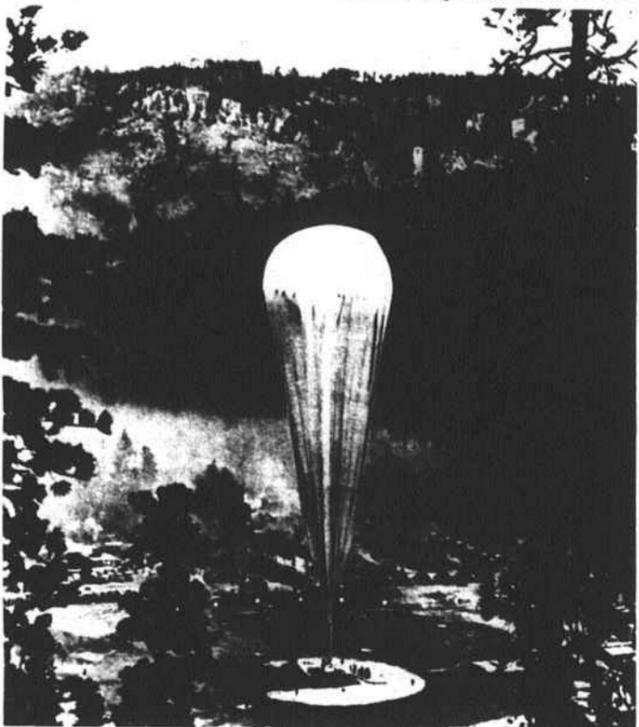
Other problems delayed the flight until well into autumn. The weather turned bitterly cold and snow fell, and everyone grew increasingly anxious -- except Stevens and Anderson.

"Both remained remarkably calm," Dr. Payne said. "Stevens kept in trim by climbing like a frisky goat on the nearby cliffs, frightening all of us. He, however, always seemed totally without fear, and I recall once he fell sound asleep during a discussion of the

hazards of the flight."

Inflation started again on November 10, and again the balloon ripped, but the 17-foot slash was patched on the spot.

The gas bag, towering 315 feet, finally was launched at 7:01 a.m. on November 11, 1935. It shot up swiftly, but when it was 100 feet above the rim of the Stratobowl, it was caught in a sudden downdraft. The balloon began to sink alarmingly, but Anderson and Stevens quickly dumped 750 pounds of ballast, and their craft started to rise again.



**POISED ON** the floor of a natural bowl near Rapid City, South Dakota, Explorer II prepares for its record ascent to 72,395 feet on November 11, 1935. The balloon gondola recently made its last flight when a crane lifted it into a truck that carried it from the National Geographic Society headquarters, Washington, D.C., to the Smithsonian Institution's new air and space museum.

## Community Calendar

- Tuesday, May 4, 1976, the American Legion will meet at 7:45 P.M.
- Thursday, May 6, 1976, the Kiwanis Club will meet at 6:30 P.M. at the Civic Center.
- Monday, May 10, 1976, the Lions Club will meet at 6:30 P.M. at the Civic Center.
- Tuesday, May 11, 1976, the Chaminade Music Club will meet at 7:45 P.M.

## Living Alone More Popular In Hoke County

As in most parts of the United States, a growing number of people in Hoke County are living alone these days, maintaining their own homes apart from other members of their families.

A decade or so ago, these single men and women, some young and some old, would have been living with relatives and would have been more or less dependent upon them.

However, public attitudes as well as employment possibilities, especially for women, have changed drastically in recent years, enabling people to be more independent and self-sufficient.

They find that they can get jobs and earn enough to be on their own. Many of the older people among them have been returning to the labor force where their earnings, added to pensions and other income, enable them to swing it financially.

As a result, there are now nearly 14 million people in the United States who are living alone, as compared with 7.9 million in 1960. About 1 out of every households consists of only one person.

In Hoke County, according to the latest updated figures from the Department of Commerce, approximately 12.4 percent of the dwelling units are occupied by singles. In 1960 it was 8.2 percent.

Throughout the nation as a whole, 22.2 percent are one-person households. In the South Atlantic States, it is 19.6 percent and, in the State of North Carolina, 16.1 percent.

Included in the singles category are unmarried people and those who have been divorced or widowed and have remained single since then.

In the local area, based upon the findings, the number of one-person households has now reached an estimated 520, as compared with the 1960 total of 290.

Although the high divorce rate has accentuated the number of men and women living alone, the big build-up has been among the young singles. There has been an increase of no less than 50 percent, between 1970 and 1975, in singles in the 25 to 34 age group, reports the Census Bureau.



**ON DISPLAY** -- This CH-46F Sea Knight is one of the aircraft on display at the annual Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station open house on Saturday, May 1 from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Also featured will be famous Blue Angels precision flying team, the Navy's parachute team, and a demonstration of the marine Corps' AV-8A Harrier, the only high performance jet capable of vertical takeoff and landing. The public is invited and admission is free.

## LEGALS

Noon on May 25th, 1976 and will sell to the highest bidder, for cash, the following real estate, situate in Hoke County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING in the north line of Will Burke's 101 acres, also Dewey Strother's south line and at a point N 78 W 725 feet from Burke's and Strother's east corner and runs thence as the Strother line N 78 W 210 feet to a stake and pointers; thence S 12 W 210 feet to a stake, 2 small pine pointers; thence S 78 E 210 feet to a stake, small oak pointers; thence N 12 E 210 feet to the BEGINNING, containing one acre more or less, and being the same lot or parcel conveyed by deed dated February 19, 1952, from Ira Patterson, Jr., and wife, Mary Patterson, to Archie Ray McDonald and C.N. Page as recorded in Book 92, at Page 610 of the Hoke County Public Registry to which reference is hereby made.

This sale is made subject to all taxes, prior liens or encumbrances of record against said property and recorded releases, if any.

A cash deposit of 10% of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale.

This the 20th day of April, 1976. Larry A. Thompson, Trustee Blackwell, Thompson, Swaringen, Johnson & Thompson, P.A. Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 469 300 Dick Street - Heritage Square Fayetteville, North Carolina 28302 Telephone: (919) 483-5176

52-3C

## Legals

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION 76 CVD 86 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HOKE COUNTY

JAMES E. WILDE, Plaintiff Vs C.J. WOOD And AGNES A. WOOD, Defendants

TO: Agnes A. Wood: TAKE notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

An action by the Plaintiff seeking specific performance of a contract to convey land located in Hoke County, North Carolina, or, in the alternative, seeking refund of all monies paid toward the purchase price of said land.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than June 9, 1976, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 29th day of April, 1976. MOSES & DIEHL By: Warren L. Pate Attorney for the Plaintiff Post Office Drawer 688 Raeford, North Carolina 28376 Telephone: (919) 875-3379

52-2C

NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA HOKE COUNTY Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Raeford North Carolina will conduct a full and open public hearing on May 3, 1976 at the City Hall in Raeford, North Carolina at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of authorizing the exchange of an easement owned by the City of Raeford, labeled Tract I and described as follows, for an easement owned by T. Carson Davis, Jr. and wife, Iris T. Davis, labeled Tract II and described as follows:

TRACT I: LYING AND BEING in Hoke County, North Carolina and being a portion of that easement described in Deed Book 189 at Page 369, Easement #11, and BEGINNING at a point in the southern right-of-way of State Road #1203, said point also being S 66 - 15 W 37 feet from the northeast corner of real estate described in Deed Book 185, Page 570, of the Hoke County Registry; thence S 0-30 E 460 feet; thence S 77 - 55 E 179.29 feet; thence N 24 - 00 W 30 feet; more or less; thence N 77 - 55 W 149 feet, more or less; thence N 30 - 00 W 400 feet, more or less; thence to the point of BEGINNING, and valued at \$336.00.

TRACT II: BEGINNING at a point N 66 - 15 E 500 feet from the northwest corner of a tract of land shown by map recorded in Map Book 6 at Page 87 of the Hoke County Registry; thence S 24 - 00 E 522.49 feet; thence 77 - 55 E 74.27 feet; thence N 24 - 00 W 567.48 feet; thence S 66 - 00 W 60 feet to the point of BEGINNING, and valued at \$752.00.

Any and all interested persons and citizens of Raeford are invited to appear and they will be heard.

This the 15th day of April, 1976. R. PALMER WILLCOX Attorney for the City of Raeford

52C

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE NORTH CAROLINA HOKE COUNTY

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER OF SALE contained in a certain deed of trust made by Geneva Kearns Joy, widow, to Larry A. Thompson Trustee, dated the 7th day of January, 1975, and recorded in Book 184, Page 279 Hoke County Registry, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the note thereby secured, the holder having directed that the deed of trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale, at the Courthouse door, in the City of Raeford, North Carolina, at Twelve (12:00) o'clock

52C

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF FIRST HOKE CORPORATION Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 55-119 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HOKE COUNTY

TO: NORTH CAROLINA SECRETARY OF REVENUE AND ALL CREDITORS OF FIRST HOKE CORPORATION TAKE NOTICE that Articles of Dissolution of First Hoke Corporation have been filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of North Carolina and the Hoke County Public Registry.

This 13th day of April, 1976. R. PALMER WILLCOX Attorney for First Hoke Corporation

51-2C

NOTICE "The Lumber River Council of Governments will hold a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 1977 Budget. The hearing will be held in conjunction with the Council's regular meeting on May 20, 1976 at 7:30 P.M. at the Council offices. A draft copy of the budget will be available for review in the Council offices at 111 West Fifth Street, Lumberton, North Carolina after April 23, 1976."

52C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of John Alvis Webb, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 15, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar in their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15 day of April, 1976. Charles A. Hostetler Administrator CTA Attorney - at - Law Raeford, N.C.

50-1C

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HOKE COUNTY IN THE DISTRICT COURT

EDWIN L. McDUFFIE, Plaintiff vs ANNE ADAMS McDUFFIE, Defendant

TO ANNE ADAMS McDUFFIE: TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Absolute divorce on the grounds of more than one (1) year separation.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than the 31st day of May, 1976, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 15 day of April, 1976. R. PALMER WILLCOX, Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 126 Raeford, North Carolina 28376

50-52C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Joe McRae, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 15, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15 day of April, 1976. R. Palmer Willcox Administrator Attorney - at - Law Raeford, N.C.

50-1C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Hillman P. Edens, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 15, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15th day of April, 1976. Pamela E. Collins Administrator C.T.A. R. Palmer Willcox Attorney at Law Raeford, N.C.

50-1C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Leslie Alan Moser, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 8, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 8th day of April, 1976. Katherine Brown Moser Administratrix Hostetler and McNeill Attorneys at Law

49-52C

## LEGALS

incorporated herein. Said property being on the southern side of a paved highway from Antioch to Dundarrach and constituting Lot No. Nine (9) known as the residence lot, same being .62 acres, more or less, and Lot No. Ten (10) being known as the station lot, and being .43 acres, more or less. Said property being a part of the Mrs. Edyth A. McGregor Estate and the said John E. McGowan and wife, Betty Lou McGregor McGowan being heirs at law of the said Edythe A. McGregor.

This sale will be made subject to all outstanding taxes, if any, and prior liens of record, if any.

CASH DEPOSIT: ten per cent (10%) of the first \$1,000.00 and five per cent (5%) on any additional bid will be required at the sale.

This, the 14th day of April, 1976. CHARLES A. HOSTETLER, SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE HOSTETLER & McNEILL ATTORNEYS AT LAW RAEFORD, N.C.

51-2C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the estate of John Alvis Webb, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 15, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar in their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15 day of April, 1976. Charles A. Hostetler Administrator CTA Attorney - at - Law Raeford, N.C.

50-1C

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HOKE COUNTY IN THE DISTRICT COURT

EDWIN L. McDUFFIE, Plaintiff vs ANNE ADAMS McDUFFIE, Defendant

TO ANNE ADAMS McDUFFIE: TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Absolute divorce on the grounds of more than one (1) year separation.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than the 31st day of May, 1976, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 15 day of April, 1976. R. PALMER WILLCOX, Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 126 Raeford, North Carolina 28376

50-52C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Joe McRae, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 15, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15 day of April, 1976. R. Palmer Willcox Administrator Attorney - at - Law Raeford, N.C.

50-1C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Hillman P. Edens, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 15, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15th day of April, 1976. Pamela E. Collins Administrator C.T.A. R. Palmer Willcox Attorney at Law Raeford, N.C.

50-1C

CREDITOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Leslie Alan Moser, deceased, late of Hoke County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 8, 1976 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 8th day of April, 1976. Katherine Brown Moser Administratrix Hostetler and McNeill Attorneys at Law

49-52C