

Operation Periquito ...

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line for its entire length from Hawaii to Tonga. The same technique using a directed stream of ionized barium has since been used in other high latitude field line probes launched from Poker Flat, Alaska, and Cape Parry in Canada's Northwest Territories.

Two explosive shaped-charge barium plasma generators are to be released at an altitude of about 500 kilometers into the dayside polar cleft region of the earth's magnetosphere by rockets launched from NRC facilities at the Distant Early Warning station at Cape Parry, Canada.

The two NC-135 flying laboratories, which are operated by the U.S. Air Force for the Energy Research and Development Administration, are equipped with banks of special image-intensifying cameras and various measuring devices designed to record the glowing stream of barium as it streaks upward and traces the geomagnetic lines of this little-understood region of the atmosphere.

Under the leadership of

scientific commander Dr. John H. Wolcott of LASL and pilot Capt. R.T. McGuire of the U.S.A.F. 4900th Test Group at Kirtland AFB in Albuquerque, additional data is hoped to be gathered about the magnetosphere and its effect on global weather, communications radar defense systems, and electrical power distribution networks.

The NC-135 flying laboratory based at Eielson AFB will be positioned approximately 1000 kilometers north of Resolute Bay in the Canadian Northwest Territories for its observations of the experiment while its counterpart, a similarly equipped NC-135 based at Ellsworth AFB near Rapid City, South Dakota, will be flying near Hudson Bay at the same time.

On the ground, University of Alaska Geophysical Institute staffers K.M. Driscoll and B. Delana will provide operational support and data interpretation at the Sachs Harbour and Cape Parry ionosonde stations, respectively.

On the ground, additional observations of the event will be made from an optical station located on the southern shore of Cornwallis Island at the Canadian Communications Research Centre's facility near Resolute Bay and from radar-like ionosonde stations located at Cape Parry and Sachs Harbour, both within the Canadian Northwest Territories.

The aircraft and various ground stations will all be linked to a command post at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in New Mexico by an extensive telephone and radio communications system.

Periquito is the latest in a continuing series of experiments that use explosive shaped-charge barium plasma generators as active probes of the earth's magnetosphere.

Special attention will be paid to the formation of striations (glowing light streaks) along magnetic field lines in the area. Project Tordo, the initial investigation of the polar cleft last January, showed that barium ions ejected as a directed stream quickly broke up into many well-defined streaks (striations) aligned parallel to the direction of the earth's magnetic field.

These striations could have a profound effect on

National Gallery of Art—

Forms Collectors Committee

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Board of Trustees of the National Gallery of Art announces the formation of the Collectors Committee of the National Gallery.

The committee has been created to enable the National Gallery to carry out a three-year program of large-scale commissions of works of art for its new East Building, currently under construction.

The committee will assemble for the first time this week in Washington. Forty-two persons from 12 states and the District of Columbia have accepted the invitations extended by Mrs. J. Lee Johnson III of Fort

Worth, Texas, national chairman of the committee, to participate.

Most first-time visitors to the National Gallery are unaware that the Gallery's world-famous collections have been made possible, since its founding in 1937, solely through the munificence of private citizens.

Over 250 donors have generously added to the collections during this time. Although maintenance funds are provided by the federal government, no appropriations of federal funds are available for the acquisitions of works of art.

The committee, which will meet annually, has been set up for three years, to provide works of art in time for the opening of the East Building exhibition galleries, which is targeted for 1978.

The East Building is being constructed as a gift to the nation through the continuing generosity of the Andrew W. Mellon family. It has been designed by I.M. Pei & Partners.

The scale of the new building is such that works of monumental art must be commissioned for key locations, since suitable pieces of sufficient size are not available.

Among the commissioned works for the new building are contemplated a mobile by Alexander Calder; a tapestry design by the late Jean Arp; a sculpture by Henry Moore; and a tapestry design by Joan Miro.

Construction of the building is more than 50% complete. The project will provide more square footings than the existing building.

The Connecting Link, providing enlarged restaurant facilities for the public, will be opened next summer at the height of the Bicentennial celebrations in Washington.

Paul Mellon, president of the National Gallery of Art, is honorary chairman of the committee. Mrs. Johnson is also president of the Amos Carter Museum of Western Art in Fort Worth.

(Editor's Note: The members of the Collectors Committee have been invited by Mrs. Ford to the White House at 4 p.m. on Friday. Coverage permitted; contact Mrs. Ford's press office in advance, 456-2164.)

KCC Building

FAIRBANKS—A \$672,947 contract for construction of a third building for Kodiak Community College has been awarded to the F & W Construction Co. of Anchorage.

The company was one of four bidding on the building, which will house classrooms and a fish processing laboratory for the college's new fisheries technology program.

The other firms and their bids: A.I.C. Construction, Inc., of Seattle, \$697,447; Firor Construction, Inc., Anchorage, \$770,261; and J.I.J. & Nelson, joint venture of Ferndale, Washington, \$887,275.

This was the second round of bidding on the project. Initial bids were in excess of funds available for the work.

Job Grant ...

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for unskilled, unemployed Alaskans, particularly in rural parts of the state.

Hammond said 87 Alaskans will be hired under the program. Nearly \$100,000 will go to Kawerak, Inc. in Nome for three to work on day care and nine to help start a cannery.

Just over \$200,000 goes to RurALCAP's Energy Conservation and Winterization Program which will employ 29 in the Copper River area and on the Alaska Peninsula.

Another \$200,000 will go to hire 12 maintenance people to work on Alaska Village Electrical Co-op equipment.

\$83,000 of the grant will go to the RurALCAP Community Development Employment project to hire five persons. And \$243,000 will be to hire 32 who will work with the Head Start Human Resources Development project.

Each of the projects will be subcontracted to established community action organizations with wide experience in serving the needs of Alaska's unemployed.

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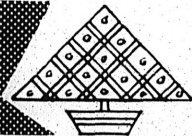
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