



NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE  
1916 Sunderland Place N. W. Washington 6, D. C.

FOUNDED BY  
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PRICE  
5 CENTS PER COPY

Volume XIII, No. 2

19 November 1956

COMING EVENTS

- 25 Nov. - Harper's Ferry, Md.
- 27 Nov. - MEETING. At Moira and John Rowland's home, 4434 "Q" St., N.W. (FE-3-9558) at 8:00 PM. Arnold Wexler will talk about Peru. Slides, of course!
- 2 Dec. - Carderock, Md. Belay practice with "Oscar". (Special attention given to novices who aren't acquainted with the dummy)
- 9 Dec. - Great Falls, Va. (Juliet's Balcony Area)

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FACE CLIMBING ON MT. RUSHMORE

First of all we should explain that climbing on Mt. Rushmore is strictly prohibited. This mountain, as any conscientious tourist should know, has been carved into the giant likenesses of four great statesmen. From left to right, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln proudly gaze out across the South Dakota landscape.

The area is not a National Park but a National Memorial, and there is a subtle difference. National Parks are playgrounds for the enjoyment of the people, even the mountaineer. But a National Memorial is a holy place to be gazed upon with awe and left strictly untouched.

Irreverent climbers usually do reach even the holiest mountains, however, whether they be guarded by native superstition or Park Service policy. The present episode came about under unusual circumstances. Of prime importance was the fact that Bill Hoy, enthusiastic climber and member of the New Mexico Mountain Club, has been working at Mt. Rushmore this fall as a temporary ranger.

We were visiting with Bill in the Mt. Rushmore museum where he was on duty. In discussing recent mountaineering developments, one of us mentioned Gaston Rebuffat's new book describing climbs of the famous North Faces in the Alps. And inevitably our thoughts turned to the four famous Faces directly above us, which obviously had never been done in true mountaineering tradition.