

The Symmes Antarctic Intelligencer

"There will be no gossiping." — Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd

Winter Review 2001

Inside!!!

Robert Scott Party Fulfills Food Cache Preservation Metrics HR Won't Start Concert "Until Puppy Comes Back Dead"
NSF Logo Replaced with Face of Smiling Child Heavy Shop Secret Service Plants Beer, Cocaine, Guns in Rolled Truck

Denver Celebrates Denver Appreciation Day

Denver announced Tuesday that Labor Day will be replaced with Denver Appreciation Day. The new holiday will honor the countless historical achievements of Denver.

"There is no place to get a better perspective of Antarctica than from Denver," said Raytheon spokesman Jack Englewood. "To truly understand and administrate the workings of Antarctic stations you must see them from a viewpoint of office parks, strip malls, and drive-thru espresso shacks located in a temperate climate and with access to the amenities full-time employees demand in order to make hard and fast decisions such as the wages of a greenhouse attendant on a cold dead continent."

Denver's rich Antarctic history includes the time so-and-so slept her way to a one-week McMurdo deployment to see penguins, the time so-and-so used the wrong acronym and all hell broke loose up in HR, and the time so-and-so, who is such a crack-up, went out to get a salad and said he was going out for some "freshies"!

Contract employees are encouraged to participate in a Denver Donation Drive to contribute to those Denver employees who have been injured hefting their Benefits handbooks. Contract employees will each be issued a "Personal Donation Jar" and are authorized to give up to 30% of their pay to the DDD. It is YOUR responsibility to pick up your PDJ from Finance. Finance will NOT store your DDD PDJ!

On-ice sub-employees will also have the opportunity to celebrate this special occasion with a three-hour vigil of silence in honor of the wisdom of Denver. It will be held on Sunday. Attendance is mandatory.

Raytheon Introduces Safety Assault System

Raytheon announced Tuesday that since the introduction of its patented Safety Assault System, reported injuries by workers have dropped dramatically.

Following an on-ice injury, workers are now given the opportunity to receive free consultation with their supervisor, their supervisor's supervisor, and the Raytheon Chairman of Shareholders' Interests. The Safety Assault System includes armed guards outside Medical to help escort potential patients into the building for their treatment. And a mine field has been installed in front of Medical to protect crucial supplies necessary to care for workers seeking medical consultation. In the case of an injury, contact your supervisor for a map of the mine field. ECW must be worn while traversing the mine field.

"I like the new Safety Assault System," said one happy worker.

Other workers feel exactly the same way.

"We are pleased with the results of the Safety Assault System," said Safety and Liability Representative Jill Flory. "Our workers are working safer and safer every day and injury statistics are plummeting. The Raytheon Safety Assault System targets injury where it starts: the employee."

Rescue Flight Scheduled for October 2nd

NSF announced in a press release Tuesday that a rescue flight has been planned for October 2nd. The magnificent mercy mission will send heroic pilots into deadly cold and dangerous winds to rescue 200 scientists and researchers who have been trapped in Antarctica since last February.

"We have to get those people out of there now," said NSF rep Jack Huggler. "The clock is ticking and conditions are getting worse."

Antarctica is a continent made of ice somewhere in the exotic southern hemisphere where dragons still lurk in the seas.

Temperatures in Antarctica often reach -630F and wind speeds up to 4,000 miles an hour are not uncommon.

"This will be a very dangerous mission," said ANG spokesman Jack Vashka. "We definitely won't make it out alive."

The stranded scientists were trapped on the icy continent when the plane that had rescued them from Christchurch crashed safely in the Antarctic and then took off again before the icy talons of the earth's last frontier could destroy the courageous crew. The 200 castaways spent the winter performing valuable scientific experiments that will contribute to the progress of humanity.

NSF is the government agency which runs the USAP and generally flies several hundred rescue flights each year.

Raytheon Ethics Committee Committed to Commitment of Workers

The Raytheon Ethics Committee announced Tuesday that it is "Committed to a broad outreach plan of infusing Raytheon policies with the ethical integration required of tomorrow's future today."

Confused reporters attempted to flee the conference room but found the doors locked with signs reading, "These doors have been locked for your safety."

The Raytheon Ethics Committee spokeswoman, sensing the reporters' fear, seemed to grow larger, and some swear her eyes began emitting an eery red glow. "Let me ask you three questions," she piped. "Is it right? Is it wrong? Who cares?"

The reporters sat stunned, mesmerized by the corporate mystic.

"There are plenty of uses of leverage that can be accomplished without a blip on the labor radar as well as within legal means, which brings me back to ethics. Ethics is YOUR responsibility."

Reporters began scribbling furiously.

"Not so fast," said the Ethics spokeswoman.

The hypnotized reporters' pens clattered to the floor.

"Raytheon is dedicated to the values of general commitment within the support of a system of ethical formulas built on trust. The Raytheon structure of an ethical business model has the capacity for viable ethical standardization for ethics determinance in the workplace and the responsibility of bunny for the happy tree in our commitment to the challenges of the future."

(This report was compiled from the various notebooks of dead reporters.)

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Contribute, comment, complain to: antarcticsymmes@hotmail.com. Anonymity guaranteed. SAI treats all information as rumor until verified by several witnesses. Most names herein are alternating genders with Antarctic place names as the surname. Any association with real people is coincidental. SAI believes that free press is an integral part of our culture and a symbol of American freedom. Unfortunately, anonymity is necessary to protect against proven USAP censorship.
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Humanity Thanks NSF for Progress

NSF received a fruitbasket from Humanity Tuesday, along with a memo thanking NSF for Progress.

In the memo, Humanity—an unquantifiable recipient—thanked the government agency for its gift of Progress—an unqualifiable concept with only positive connotations.

NSF could not reach Humanity to express its gratitude, but Humanity's lawyers verified that Humanity was fully cognizant when sending the memo and that—after dealing with some affairs of starvation, crippling parasitic infestation, and economic inequities that milk the blood of the living to provide ergonomic office furniture for lobbyists—Humanity would “touch base” with NSF later.

“We are very pleased to provide Humanity with Progress,” said NSF spokeswoman Jill Tiw. “As long as that's all it wants and it doesn't start getting needy on us.”

NSF announced that they will continue to provide Humanity with an unending supply of Progress. Steaming heaps of Progress pile up minute by minute, day after day.

McMurdo Historical Society Seeks Old Crap

The McMurdo Historical Society put out a call to the community Tuesday for old crap it can use for an upcoming display about history.

“To us history is about old crap,” said Society Grand Poobah Jack Rothera. “Why waste your time collecting current local curiosities that will take ten, twenty, or thirty years to become historical when you can save a lot of time by cherishing the name plaque of some Deep Freeze officer. Look, here's the turd of a CODF.”

Raytheon Network Announces New Sitcom

Raytheon Network Producers announced Tuesday that their new sitcom “Open-Door Policy” is ready for broadcast.

“It's basically the story of a few unscrupulous and subservient bureaucrats at a Polar base who are drawn together by their mutual interest in ladder-climbing,” said Raytheon Network Producer Jack Ronne. “Their wacky antics start out with amiable public invitations to ask questions and ‘please don't hesitate to contact me’ but quickly become a topsy-turvy rollercoaster ride of veiled intimidation and squirming language! The outrageous fun escalates when economic penalties are used to threaten workers who ask for clarification of policies! The madcap adventures continue when one of the supervisors calls Medical in a fantastically illegal attempted breach of privacy to find out specific information about the employee's medical condition! And a employee is fired for using a logo that was made by another employee during a ‘Logo Award Contest’ said to help give employees ‘the opportunity to feel a sense of ownership in the company...!’ The fun never stops on ‘Open-Door Policy!’”

“One of the show's characteristic gags will feature the fun-loving bureaucrats all throwing up their hands at the same time and saying ‘Denver made me do it!’ We're sure the laughs will follow. More hilarity is sure to ensue when company actions inconsistent with company words are called ‘policy changes’ instead of ‘lies!’ We don't know how well-received the show will be by the National Sitcom Foundation, but with this zany cast of characters— who honestly believe that human beings will undergo a year of persistent contempt and disdain from above without challenging at least some of the malignant tendencies that manifest themselves in such “petty” issues as Housing Policy inconsistencies, the asbestos memo from management that reads like a piece of fiction, or that the entire community is punished for the deeds of another like in some Communist prison camp— we're sure anything can happen! We believe the format will be so successful that it may run five, even ten years. We may decide to change the characters once in awhile, but we're sure the show will retain its side-splitting USAP flavor!”

Offended Person Offended By Breadsticks, Donuts

A McMurdo Station resident complained to HR Tuesday that she had seen a breadstick and a donut on the same plate of another McMurdo resident. The initiator of the complaint remains anonymous, but the culprit of the foodstuffs incident has been called into HR for questioning.

“This is a very serious matter,” said HR representative Jack Tressler. “Every employee has the right to force the local community into an atmosphere where sexuality is considered a disease.”

The incident arose after a McMurdo resident unwittingly placed a dinner pastry and a breakfast pastry on the same plate. The stale breadstick, leftover from the previous night's Italian supper, was heated up in the morning and the unwary diner had thought nothing of placing the rock hard stick on the same plate as the dripping glazed ring of soft, sweet sustenance.

Fact-Finding Investigation Finds Fault

In a shocking turn of events Tuesday, a fact-finding investigation found fault.

“We don't know how it happened,” explained Safety and Liability Representative Jill Frontz with an honest amazement that precludes even the slightest understanding of her place in a larger political view. “The forms were all filled out properly, and the next thing we knew we had someone to blame.”

The investigation in question occurred when an unharnessed worker wearing non-OSHA-approved workboots slipped on the ice in the confusing intersection while walking too quickly back from work without carrying a flashlight.

“Hindsight is always 20/20,” said glum worker Jack Cumbie. “I know now that I should have used a Herman Nelson to melt a walking path. To think I could have been such a fool.”

“We use these forms only to prevent future accidents,” said Frontz, “but when an employee confesses that he wasn't even using a microscope to observe samples of the molecular terrain he was trodding upon, we just have to throw up our hands and let the chips fall where they may.”

Ice has been renamed Safetywater in an effort to make it less slippery.

Raytheon Benefits Center Discovers Antarctica

A Raytheon Benefits Center manager discovered a strange new seventh continent Tuesday and has named it “Antarctica.” The continent is almost entirely covered in ice and no human being has ever set foot there.

“We were receiving a lot of calls from Raytheon employees that were causing problems and confusion amongst my staff of friendly and helpful customer service representatives,” said proud manager/explorer Jack Leton. “These employees were playing devils-advocate and asking questions like ‘Does my insurance cover me in New Zealand?’ and, when told to go to their medical provider closest to their U.S. mailing address, pretended they couldn't walk or drive there. The little scoundrels. Can you imagine working outside the United States? Ha ha. So I began imagining— I've always been admired as a “creative problem-solver”— like what if there actually WAS some strange place that didn't conform to standard Raytheon policies and procedures as outlined on raytheonbenefitscenter.com? Ha ha.”

The brave explorer spearheaded an expedition and sent the wooden vessels “Zero Tolerance” and “Non-discrimination” out in search of the very large, very white continent.