

King Peak - Yukon Expedition, 1952 - Contd

EQUIPMENT COMMENTSTENTS (By P.S.)

Army Tent 52-1--This tent has an impervious floor and a pervious upper of a cotton material. This feature is very valuable in allowing ventilation and yet preventing surface water from passing in through the floor. The roof of the tent is arched and maintains its form by a pair of collapsible arched poles; one at each end. The arched roof facilitates more space inside the tent and allows the occupants to be in the sitting position with reasonable comfort. This is not the case with the present 2 man Army tent. At one end of the tent there is a regular tunnel entrance and ventilator vent, whereas at the opposite end there is a full size zipper door. This zipper door is a very favorable feature since it will allow; 1) plenty of light to enter the tent when open, 2) easy cleaning of the tent, 3) a very convenient exit and entrance, 4) a controllable ventilation system, and 5) a means of making the tent by pitching another tent or a tarp at the entrance. This experimental tent also had a sod cloth which is well worth the extra weight of material. The number of tie-downs or guys is important in tent design and the Army tent could be pitched with a front and back anchor, and an anchor on each side. There are actually 2 guys on each side but these can be tied to a common anchor.

MacGowan's Tent--This tent was used almost entirely for the high altitude operations because of its light weight and low wind resistance. It could have held 6 or even more men but was very comfortable with 4 men and with considerable extra space. Probably this tent could be improved by slight changes in design to eliminate this extra or unused space. The tent was all nylon (pervious) of about 3 ounces per square yard and was quite satisfactory. There was some frosting but nothing serious. It would probably be desirable to include a water-proof or impervious type floor. Also an attempt should be made to eliminate some of the guys in order to decrease the pitching time.

Vic's Logan Tent--This tent also was of the pervious nylon and as with MacGowan's tent was waterproofed, with the lanolin-silicone-carbon tetrachloride mixture. This waterproofing was probably satisfactory but an effort should be made for improvement. At high altitudes the sun's rays will melt the snow that settles on the tent so water-proofing is essential even at below freezing altitudes. Logan type tents have been time tested and was also found quite satisfactory on this expedition. One unique feature was the zipper door which is probably superior to the more conventional tunnel type doors.

Pete's Small Tent--More of a bivouac sized tent and although it is made for 2 men it is just about the right size for one man. The zipper door is slightly small, and the floor should be impervious.

Pete's Large Tent--Because of its size and weight, this tent should be used for a base camp tent only. The design is not altogether perfect and should be cut back about a foot and a half in the rear end. This tent had an extra heavy nylon floor but the extra weight would probably not be worth the extra comfort. Had the floor been impervious, this extra heavy floor may have been more desirable. As with Dick's tent there are far too many guys which make the pitching time quite long.