

# U. S. FLAG AT FAIR TOPS RUSSIA'S STAR

## Unfurled Atop the Parachute Jump—Greatest Throng on a Weekday Present

By **RUSSELL B. PORTER**

With a retired naval officer climbing to the top of the World's Fair parachute jump to unfurl an American flag higher than the red star atop the Soviet Russian Pavilion, and with American troops marching through the Court of Peace in Memorial Day exercises, patriotism was the keynote of yesterday's events at the Fair.

Although the day was not so designated officially, it was in effect Stars and Stripes day. After many "days" in which various foreign countries have held the spotlight in official dedications of their pavilions and exhibits, Uncle Sam gave himself the ruffles and flourishes yesterday, while one of the largest crowds of the Fair cheered and applauded.

Yesterday's Memorial Day attendance for the first holiday since the Fair was opened a month ago, on April 30, was 249,087 on the 12:30 A. M. accounting. The paid attendance was 216,597 and passes totaled 32,490. It was the largest week-day attendance of the Fair to date.

The official total attendance for the four-day holiday week-end passed the 1,000,000 mark last night. Day-by-day figures follow:

Saturday .....	246,828
Sunday .....	291,953
Monday .....	216,985
Tuesday .....	249,087

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Total .....1,004,853

### Following Course of Prediction

As the total attendance officially passed 5,000,000 on Sunday, it is now more than 5,500,000 with another day to go in the first month of the Fair, and is expected to reach 6,000,000 by the end of the week. Grover A. Whalen, president of the Fair Corporation, said last night that he was highly pleased by the figures.

"The attendance," he said, "is following the course of our plotted curve," referring to advance calculations for May figures.

Fair officials expect a peak in attendance on June 10, a week from Saturday, when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth will spend nearly four hours at the Fair as part of their American tour (receiving official honors and inspecting the British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand pavilions).

It was said at the United States Federal Building at the Fair yesterday that Edward J. Flynn, United States Commissioner to the Fair, who has been ill, would return today, and would announce immediately plans for the luncheon for the King and Queen at the Federal Building, to which only fifty-four guests will be invited.

Other attendance peaks are expected on July 4 and Labor Day. Fair officials hope that these holidays will bring larger crowds than the 605,000 they announced for April 30.

Patriotic exercises began at 3:50

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P. M. in the Goodrich Arena, when Mrs. Marie J. Buhler, past president of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, gave a short talk. When she finished the audience stood in silent prayer for one minute as an unseen bugler sounded Taps. Later in the day the same ceremony was repeated after a talk by William L. Anderson Sr. of West Roxbury, Mass., commander-in-chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

At 4 o'clock Commander James H. Strong, U. S. N., Retired, climbed a safety ladder to the top of the 250-foot parachute jump in the Amusement Zone and attached a large American flag to a forty-foot flagpole. While a band played "The Star-Spangled Banner" on the ground, where a large gathering stood with hats off, the flag was raised to its elevation of 290 feet, or thirty-one feet higher than the red star held aloft in the up-raised hand of the stainless steel statue of a Soviet worker atop the red marble tower of the Russian Pavilion.

The dominating position of the Soviet red star symbol as the second highest object in the Fair, subordinate only to the 700-foot Trylon at the Theme Center of the "World of Tomorrow," has caused much criticism. Now the American flag is higher than anything at the Fair except the Trylon, which has a red light at its tip at night, besides other red lights on its sides.

Jordan L. Mott, vice president of International Parachuting, Inc., said he was "proud to say that it (the American flag) is being flown on a structure invented by an American, fabricated in America, and erected by American workmen."

The Memorial Day exercises in the Court of Peace were scheduled to begin at 5:15 P. M., but were delayed three-quarters of an hour waiting for Mr. Whalen and the official party to occupy the reviewing stand. A battalion of troops under Lieut. Col. Courtlandt Parker, commanding the army contingent at Camp George Washington at the Fair, and several thousand spectators waited patiently in the broiling sun until the official party arrived.

## Approach Heralded by Sirens

Sirens from a motorcycle escort heralded Mr. Whalen's approach at 6 o'clock. A troop of Haskell Indian cavalry, the Fair's official guard of honor, wearing bright orange and blue uniforms, carrying pennants of the same color and mounted on dashing horses, preceded the official cars.

Mr. Whalen was accompanied by Count Victorio Cini, member of the Italian Senate and Commissioner General of the International Exposition to be held in Rome in 1942, his wife and daughter, and other members of an official Italian party spending the day on the grounds, whom the Fair's president had been escorting on a tour of the Perisphere, the General Motors "Futura" of highway travel in 1960, the Borden glass-enclosed revolving stage for milking cows mechanically, and other popular exhibits.

Ruffles and flourishes from an army band greeted Mr. Whalen and his guests, in top hats and other gala attire, as an Admiral of the Navy, in cocked hat and full-dress uniform, escorted them to the reviewing stand.

Right on time for the review was Harry Barton of Flushing, a 93-year-old member of the Grand Army of the Republic, who visited the Fair as a guest of the management. Another Civil War veteran who was to have taken part, William Rose of Whitestone, L. I., did not appear.

Two companies of the Sixteenth and Eighteenth Infantry and a company of the Sixty-second Coast Ar-

Chrysler and the air-cooled Garden Court at Ford were crowded all day. Ford announced, incidentally, that its "Road of Tomorrow" would be closed today to allow re-surfacing, just like a road of today. The Bell Telephone Building, the Borden Rotolactor, the House of Jewels and other popular attractions were thronged.

The police reported that highway traffic to the Fair was comparatively light, but the railroad and subway lines carried almost as many people as on Sunday. In many trains cars were crowded, with people standing or sitting on the arms of seats.

Observers impressed by the orderly nature of the crowds, who seemed to be overawed by the splendor and vastness of the Fair, also noticed that they are neater than big crowds sometimes are.

Although the pavements and lawns are sometimes badly littered, especially in places where the management has failed to put enough waste baskets, the majority of visitors throw the wrapping paper or newspapers in which they bring their lunches, the paper napkins in

tillery, the last named with its band, went through military evolutions that evoked much applause. Wearing their smart new parade uniforms, with well-tailored coats, roll collars and ties, long trousers, and white gloves, they drilled in precise unison that would have been envied by the famous dancing girls at the Radio City Music Hall.

The hit of the review was a Butts Manual drill to music, without a single spoken command, performed by the artillery company drawn up in rows in the center of the Court of Peace, facing the reviewing stand. While their color sergeant stood rigidly in front of the ranks, with his right foot slightly forward, and his left arm holding the company colors, the troops responded to orders given by drum beats from their regimental band.

One beat of the drum and the soldiers all together undid their belts and laid them on the ground. Another drumbeat and off came their caps. Another beat and their coats followed, all folded the same way and laid atop neat piles in front of each man. Before the inevitable "strip-tease" comments in the crowd died away, the troops picked up their rifles and went through their drill with each movement of the rifles, at the waist, at the shoulder and above the head, performed in chorus at the beat of the drums.

Following other drills, there was a parade by the entire battalion led by the band, past the reviewing stand, followed by the retreat ceremony in which the large American flags on the two flagpoles in front of the Federal Building at the end of the Court of Peace were lowered.

## 1,000,000th Visitor to Show

The throng of visitors to the Fair included Mrs. Mabel Bisel of 2,709 Clarendon Road, Brooklyn, who clicked the turnstile as the 1,000,000th visitor to the 25-cent show in the Perisphere, which gives the official Fair forecast of what "the world of tomorrow" will be like in a physical sense.

She came to the Fair with her husband and a party of eight others, and said she got "a real thrill" from having her picture taken with Mr. Whalen, the honor accorded her for her numerical achievement. The Perisphere has played to as many as 56,000 persons a day, and between 6,500 and 6,600 an hour.

William H. Klein of South Ozone Park, Queens, had the honor of being the 500,000th visitor to the New York City Building at the Fair, but in Mr. Whalen's absence had to be content with an official greeting from Murray W. Stand, director of the New York City Commission to the Fair.

The individual exhibits reported the heaviest attendance of any week-day since the Fair opened. Long lines waited outside the General Motors Building to see what motoring in 1960 will be like. The rocketport show at the Chrysler Building and the "Road of Tomorrow" at the Ford exhibit were also crowded, but both reported that their cool interiors were even more popular with the hot and tired visitors.

The Petrified Forest with its palm trees covered with artificial ice at

which hot dogs are served, the paper cups for coffee and tea, and the straws from soft drinks, into the receptacles provided for the purpose. Sometimes they are seen to walk many steps to do this, in spite of the fact that there are no signs asking them to do it.

## Flower Beds Are Spared

The crowds have also refrained from removing or damaging the fine flower beds and lawns despite the presence of only a few "please" signs. Occasionally some young people sprawl out on a shady bit of lawn to get relief from the hot sun, but this is rare, and is frowned on by most Fairgoers, who seem to take pride in the beauty of the Fair.

A cooling breeze gave relief from the heat yesterday, and it was very pleasant sitting on the benches under the trees on Constitution Mall, to eat one's lunch or just watch the crowd go by. All hot-dog, ice-cream and soft-drink stands did a rushing business, as did all the moderate-priced eating places and most of the expensive restaurants.

The cool interior of the Temple

of Religion has proved a haven for the hot and weary, and 40,000 persons have entered during the past week to hear the musical programs and religious addresses or to rest in the garden.

Many Fairgoers wore sun-glasses to protect their eyes from the glare caused by the reflection of the sun from the many bright surfaces of the buildings.

License plates in the Fair's parking fields indicated that visitors had come from England, France, Germany and Cuba, and from many Far Western, Midwestern and Southern as well as Eastern States.

Fifty yachts, cruisers and speed-boats were anchored in the Flushing Bay boat basin as their owners and guests visited the Fair. Among the craft were Arthur Curtiss James's 126-foot Aloha II, the 120-foot Arliss, owned by R. Livingston Sullivan of Philadelphia; the 100-foot Northwind, Stanton Griffis, New York; Walter M. Duke's Malolo, William L. Nicoll's Nadja II, O. S. Redfield's Renard, William D. Louck's Wilder and H. W. Pat-

erson's Markay III, all of New York and Westchester.

The American Express Company announced that it had placed seventy-five additional chairs in operation over the week-end and that the service was proving popular with the visitors, who prefer the push-chairs and Motoguides to walking.

Chief events of today's program will be the official opening of the Czecho-Slovak pavilion and the dedication of Jo Davidson's Walt Whitman statue and the Danish colony gardens.