

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

November 2011

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Byrd Expedition

Rear Adm. Richard Byrd was born in 1888 to a prominent Virginia family. His commission in the Navy enabled him to pioneer developments in aviation, and he learned to fly during WWI. Byrd was instrumental in developing new technologies and capabilities, such as open-water flight and seaplane night landings, and he worked to develop the Navy's role in trans-Atlantic crossings. He also harbored a passion for exploration.

The United States Antarctic Service Expedition (1939–1941), or “Byrd’s Third Antarctic Expedition,” was backed by government agencies such as the Navy, State Department, and Departments of the Interior and Treasury. The goal of the voyage was exploration, and the establishment of U.S. bases in Antarctica.

As with any large-scale expedition, there was a great deal of planning. With the unique requirements of the Arctic, those become even more stringent. Add in people’s individual peculiarities, and the selection became very narrow. That is evidenced in the accompanying documents, taken from the series Correspondence Relating to Sales, 1934–1953, Juneau Area Office, Alaska Reindeer Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75. Byrd, on his third expedition, knew the Arctic still depended on dogsled teams, and he had specific requirements for the dogs, as shown in the telegrams. More than 25 communications are devoted to the acquisition of exactly the right sort of dog, the numbers, their names, leader experience, weight and gender.

Form 100-B (Revised 1935)

SIGNAL CORPS, UNITED STATES ARMY
ALASKA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
TELEGRAM

RECEIVED AT
44WEEK 65 INT

SEATTLE WASH 1122 A JUL 25 39

ROOD
NAME

HAVE REQUEST FOR THIRTY SLED DOGS FOR ANTARCTIC VOYAGE SPECIFICATIONS ALASKA MALAMUTE TYPE MALES EIGHTY POUNDS FEMALES SEVENTY POUNDS TO HAVE NO TRACE OF STBERNARD NEWFOUNDLAND DANE OR OTHER BREEDS MAXIMUM PRICE FIFTY DOLLARS EACH PROVIDING THEY CAN BE PURCHASED IN TIME FOR TRANSPORTATION ON NORTHSTAR OR BOXER PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF PURCHASING THESE DOGS IN YOUR LOCALITY

UNMEL
907A

271 Expedition

Form 100-B (Revised 1935)

SIGNAL CORPS, UNITED STATES ARMY
ALASKA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
TELEGRAM

RECEIVED AT
3 KANJ T 37 COLL GOVT BLK

TELLER ALS AUG 2 1939 NFT

ROOD
NAME

THIRTEEN MALE DOGS MEETING SPECIFICATIONS AVAILABLE STOP FEMALES THIN SUMMER CONDITION NOW RUN ABOUT SIXTY POUNDS STOP ADVISE RUSH WHETHER TO PURCHASE THIRTEEN MALES OR TAKE FIVE LIGHTER FEMALES STOP MAIL SUPPLY TEN THIRTY FOUR FORMS — *mailed with letter 8/6/39* —
BRIGGS
1023A

271 Expedition

Top: July 25, 1939 – Telegram from Sidney Rood, with absolute mandates regarding the dogs’ breed and size: “. . . Alaska Malamute males eighty pounds females seventy pounds to have no trace of St. Bernard Newfoundland Dane or other breeds.”

Bottom: Aug. 2, 1939 – Telegram: “Thirteen male dogs meeting specifications available. Stop. Females thin summer condition now run about sixty pounds . . .”

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

U. S. Antarctic Service
Navy Yard, Boston

October 26, 1939

Mr. J. Sidney Rood, Acting Reindeer Supt.
Name
Alaska

Dear Mr. Rood:

Upon request from the Division in Washington your name and address was sent us, as being the person responsible in gathering dogs for the Antarctic Service in Nome. May I repeat a statement which I gave upon the arrival of the “North Star” here in Boston regarding the Alaskan dogs, and which appeared in the local papers, namely: “It is the finest lot of sledge dogs I have ever seen”.

With the exception of looking slightly thinned down, they seemed to be in excellent shape and showed signs of possessing all the vigor required for the longest sledge journeys south. As to their sizes, they were larger than we had expected.

Much work is expected from these dogs and they will, no doubt, be the “main brace” to depend upon for doing the field work. We are, therefore, indebted to you for the fine choice shown in the selection of the dogs.

Please be assured that Admiral Byrd as well as all members connected with transportation appreciate your cooperation as the judgment shown will be highly valuable to the success of the whole expedition.

With kindest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,
Finne Ronne
Finne Ronne
Transportation Engineer

FR:K

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Above: Oct. 26, 1939 – Letter from Finne Ronne to J. Sidney Rood thanking him for the fine selection of dogs. “Much work is expected from these dogs, and they will, no doubt, be the ‘main brace’ to depend upon for doing the field work.”

NARA WestCoast November 2011

Corn fields on the Dutch Flats near Mitchell, Nebraska, July 24, 1910
Records of the Bureau of Reclamation
Record Group 115
National Archives at Denver



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Seattle, WA Stillaguamish Genealogical Society—Intro to NARA 9–10 A.M. Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115	2 Riverside, CA “Careers in Public History” Panel Noon–1 P.M. Educators/Students Panel 951-956-2040	3	4 Seattle, WA Eastside Genealogical Society 12:30–2 P.M. Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115	5 Redlands, CA Many Facets of the National Archives Web Site TIME TBD Genealogists Workshop 951-956-2000 Seattle, WA Online Genealogical Resources from NARA All-Day Conference Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115
6	7	8	9 San Bruno, CA The Pearl Harbor Attack and Its Aftermath 1 P.M. Veterans and General Public Lecture 650-238-3501 San Bruno, CA Veterans’ Records Workshop 1:30–3 P.M. General Public Workshop 650-238-3501	10 Denver, CO Veterans Day Military Records Workshop 9 A.M. General Public Workshop and Tour 303-407-5749 Seattle, WA “Brick Wall” Genealogical Discussion Group 11:30 A.M.–1 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 206-336-5115	11	12 Bellevue, WA Immigration-Naturalization Records at NARA All-Day Conference Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115
13	14	15 Portland, OR Jewish Genealogical Society of Portland TIME TBD Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115	16	17 Pueblo, CO Colorado State University Federal Job Fair 9 A.M. General Public 303-407-5749	18 Denver, CO Talk/Tour for Colorado Fed Executive Board 9 A.M. Federal Agencies Lecture and Tour 303-407-5749	19 Riverside, CA Nixon Presidential Library History Day Noon–1 P.M. Educators/Students 951-956-2040
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Exhibit: Seattle, WA “Faces of the Pacific Northwest” 9/1–12/11		

The National Archives at

Riverside
951-956-2000
riverside.archives@nara.gov

San Francisco
650-238-3501
sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

Denver
303-407-5740
denver.archives@nara.gov

Seattle
206-336-5115
seattle.archives@nara.gov

Anchorage
907-261-7800
alaska.archives@nara.gov

NARA EastCoast November 2011

Visitors to the Craftsmen's Fair at the Cherokee
Indian Reservation, Cherokee, North Carolina
Records of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board
Record Group 435
National Archives at Atlanta



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
		1	2	3	4	5	
Exhibit: Boston, MA "Documented Rights" Ongoing		Waltham, MA Torn in Two: Researching Civil War Records 2 P.M. Lecture and Tour General Public 866-406-2379		Waltham, MA Torn in Two: Researching Civil War Records 6 P.M. Lecture and Tour K-12 Teachers 866-406-2379 Morrow, GA Society of Georgia Archivists 9 A.M. Archival and Allied Professionals Conference 770-968-2555		Philadelphia, PA First Friday Genealogy Open House on Ancestry Noon Genealogists Open House 215-606-0100	Exton, PA Pennsylvania Family History Day 10 A.M. General Public Conference 215-606-0100
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Morrow, GA Naturalization Ceremony 10 A.M. General Public Open House 770-968-2555		New York, NY Finding Family: Civil War Draft Records 12:30-1:30 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 866-840-1752		New York, NY New York's National Treasures Noon-2 P.M. Workshop General Public 866-840-1752 Waltham, MA 50th Anniversary of the Federal Executive Board All-Day Federal Agencies Conference 866-406-2379		Morrow, GA College Park DAR 9 A.M. Genealogists Workshop 770-968-2555 Bethpage, NY Exploring the 1940 Census 10:30 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 866-840-1752	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
		Waltham, MA Meet the National Archives 12:30 P.M. Workshop and Tour K-12 Teachers 866-406-2379 Morrow, GA Home School History 10 A.M. K-12 Students Guided Group Research Visit 770-968-2530		Waltham, MA Make a Gift of Family History 6 P.M. General Public Workshop 866-406-2379		Morrow, GA Afro American Historical & Genealogical Society 10 A.M. Genealogists Symposium 770-968-2555	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	Exhibit: Philadelphia, PA "Libro Curio: Reconstructing the Book" 9/27/11-3/31/12			

The National
Archives at

Boston
866-406-2379
waltham.archives@nara.gov

New York City
866-840-1752
newyork.archives@nara.gov

Philadelphia
215-606-0100
philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

Atlanta
770-968-2100
atlanta.archives@nara.gov

NARA Midwest November 2011

Wild turkey introduced on Manistee Forest
by Michigan Department of Conservation,
February, 1959
Records of the Forest Service, Record Group 95
National Archives at Chicago



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
Exhibit: Chicago, IL "Becoming American: Immigrants, the Federal Courts in Chicago, and the Expansion of Citizenship, 1872-1991" Ongoing				Lee's Summit, MO Introduction to the National Archives Web Site Noon General Public Lecture 816-268-8000	Fort Worth, TX Genealogical Research in Military Records Noon-1 P.M. Genealogists Workshop 817-831-5620	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Exhibit: Kansas City, MO "Christmas in the Archives" 11/14-30/11		Kansas City, MO Election Day - polling site 6 A.M. General Public Polling Site 816-268-8000	Hutchinson, KS Introduction to the National Archives 8 A.M. K-12 Teachers Workshop 816-268-8000	Kansas City, MO The Kings of Cut-Rate by Steve Katz and Brian Burnes 6 P.M. General Public Author Event 816-268-8000		Chicago, IL Over There, Over Here: The World War I Homefront 9:30 A.M. K-12 Teachers Workshop 773-948-9010 Kansas City, MO Military Records 10 A.M. Genealogists/Workshop 816-268-8000
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Westwood, KS Genealogy and the National Archives Noon Genealogists Lecture 816-268-8000	Kansas City, MO Introduction to Genealogy 10 A.M. Genealogists Workshop 816-268-8000		St. Louis, MO Native American Heritage: Past, Present, Future 6 P.M. General Public Symposium 314-801-0847 Kansas City, MO The Battle of Mine Creek: The Crushing End of the Missouri Campaign by Jeffrey Stalnaker 6 P.M. General Public Author Event 816-268-8000		Fort Worth, TX Digital Photography for Genealogists 10-11 A.M. Genealogists/Workshop 817-831-5620 Leavenworth, KS Genealogy and the National Archives 1 P.M. Genealogists Lecture 816-268-8000
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
			Kansas City, MO Introduction to Genealogy 10 A.M. Genealogists Workshop 816-268-8000	Exhibit: Kansas City, MO "Picture This!" Through 12/31/11		Exhibit: St. Louis, MO "Documented Rights" 10/3/11-3/2/12

The National Archives at

Chicago
773-948-9001
chicago.archives@nara.gov

Kansas City
816-268-8000
kansascity.archives@nara.gov

St. Louis
314-801-0850
Archival Programs Division

Fort Worth
817-831-5620
ftworth.archives@nara.gov