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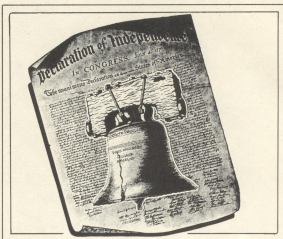
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About The Cover

Jeffrey Wyrick, PH3, of the Photo Lab, shot the front cover picture of a Filipino boy as he drives his carabao, or water buffalo, down the banks of the Pagsanjan River, with his load of coira (dried coconut meat), which he will sell in the local market place. The famous Pagsanjan Falls are nearby.

Back Cover

A LA-1E, an anti-submarine aircraft, returns from guarding D-Day beach landings on Mindoro Island, Philippines, during operation MOUTAS. A lone man on lookout watch duty observes the plane making its approach.



Editorial

Voice of Liberty Bell Shouts

Its 2,080 lbs. of ancient bronze hang from a beam of solid hand-hewn black walnut in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, where both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were proclaimed. Armed guards watch it night and day.

Around its crown are these words from the Bible: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof"—Leviticus XXV, 10.

The inscription on the Liberty Bell was chosen by Isaac Norris, speaker of the Assembly of the colony of Pennsylvania who, in 1751, was chairman of a committee to get a bell for the steeple of the state house.

The Bell was cast in London. When hung in 1752, it broke at the clapper's first stroke. It was recast by a local bell-caster, but this time its tone was not satisfactory. It was melted once again and a third bell was formed.

Throughout the events which led up to the American Revolution, the Bell proclaimed many occasions of joy and sorrow. In strict historical accuracy, the Liberty Bell did not ring July 4, 1776. The motion for independence was unanimously carried July 2. It was accepted by final vote on July 4 and the document was rushed to the printers.

On July 8 a crowd gathered from near and far and the Declaration was read aloud to the people by Colonel John Nixon in front of Independence Hall. There were cheers, musket shots, fireworks and the ringing of bells, but the voice of the Liberty Bell shouted above them all.

Fifty-nine years later, in 1835, the Liberty Bell cracked while tolling in honor of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court John Marshall who had died. Although it has never been rung since, the Liberty Bell still sounds a cherished note symbolizing the day—the Fourth of July—when America declared lasting freedom for her citizens.

The Liberty Bell is probably the only bell in the world to which every American takes off his hat. And rightly so.