

# Around the World with Glenn

## 'Man and the Marine' Gains World Spotlight

By HUGH MULLIGAN

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Astronaut John Herschel Glenn Jr., the man in the foreground of America's biggest space effort to date, tried desperately to keep himself and his family in the background of his orbital mission around the world.

In every way it was typical of the superbly conditioned, immensely dedicated Marine lieutenant colonel.

So concerned was the 40-year-old Glenn over the public's losing sight of the scientific aspects of his flight that he blurted out his feelings to the President of the United States.

AND YET, as John F. Kennedy reminded him, in their White House chat Glenn—the man and the Marine—were inseparable from his historic mission.

Despite a habitual reticence Glenn revealed himself in subtle ways as a warm and vibrant human being.

There was Glenn the dedicated astronaut, jogging along the beach in the early morning mists to keep his muscular 168-pound body in "go" condition, going on and off the low residue diets as planned flight days came and went, sweating out each countdown with the serenity of a Buddhist monk.

THERE WAS GLENN the explorer and adventurer, excited over the prospects of what he would see and feel in outer space, zoning up on constellations and cloud formations in his spare time.

There was Glenn the devout Presbyterian, driving over to Cocoa Beach each Sunday to add his sturdy tenor voice to the hymn singing at the Riverside Presbyterian church.

There was Glenn the family man, faithfully reading a diary of his daily activities into a tape recorder for his wife and children.

There was Glenn the hometown hero of New Concord, Ohio, where he played center on the high school football team, had the lead in the senior play.

THERE WAS GLENN the man of destiny, the "Mig-mad Marine" who once returned from a Korean dog fight with 375 holes in his plane, the winner of five Distinguished Flying Crosses and 18 air medals, the icy-nerved jet pilot who set a supersonic speed record on a flight from Los Angeles to New York in 1957.

"There'll be another day," a disappointed Glenn had announced upon climbing down from his capsule Jan. 27 after his flight had been postponed.

Tuesday was that day.

## Glenn's Feat Pleases Family

NEW CONCORD, Ohio (AP) — Astronaut John H. Glenn Jr.'s biggest boosters in his space flight yesterday were not on his rocket, but in his own hometown.

Chief among them were the parents of the astronaut, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Glenn Sr.

The couple, their faces lit by broad smiles, walked into Muskingum College gymnasium for a news conference after they knew their son's space capsule had been recovered safely.

MEANWHILE, in Arlington, Va., Mrs. John H. Glenn Jr. was smiling and happy after her astronaut husband's historic triple orbit.

The children are so proud of their father and the Mercury team

and everyone else who made this possible," the petite brunette, 41, told reporters about an hour after her husband completed his mission safely.

For Mrs. Glenn there was more joy to come—telephone calls from President Kennedy and from her husband. At about 4:30 p.m. Glenn called from aboard the destroyer, USS Noa. He talked to their two children and Mrs. Glenn.

AFTER SPENDING the day keeping track of Glenn's flight by TV broadcasts, Mrs. Glenn and the two Glenn children, Dave, 16, and Lyn, 14, emerged from their home to face a milling, happy crowd of reporters, cameras, microphones and neighbors.

Her worst moments, Mrs. Glenn said, were the last 15 seconds before liftoff.

Had she been worried? "Well, yes," she replied, "I think I probably was some of the time." But she said it was "faith that makes things look right, like everything's going to be fine."

THE ASTRONAUT'S parents, particularly Mr. Glenn, gave the

best indication that the tension had lifted by the jocular manner used to answer reporters' questions. Mr. Glenn was asked if his son had any ambitions for a moon flight.

"I wouldn't be surprised if when the time comes, he'll want to make the trip," he answered.

MRS. GLENN was asked how she felt when the blastoff came.

"That's a hard question to answer," she said. "There never has been a moment since John was chosen for the space flight that we had any doubt about his success."

Asked if they believed that prayer had played an important part in their son's success, Mr. Glenn replied: "We certainly do." He pointed out that John always has been a Christian boy who attended church regularly.

Phila. 'Ham' Hears Glenn  
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Thomas A. Benham, instructor of physics at Haverford College, said yesterday he heard the voice of John H. Glenn Jr. direct from the Friendship 7 spacecraft on a radio set he and some students constructed.

## Flight Slows Capitol Work

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government came to a virtual standstill yesterday during the takeoff and landing of the first American to orbit the earth.

In between it may have slipped a few cogs as clerks and stenographers, bureau chiefs and cabinet members kept one eye on the television screen while shuffling the papers on their desks.

In the House, debate on a national debt limit bill was halted twice while members applauded news of Glenn's safe return from space and his recovery by the destroyer Noa.

The Senate gave up and adjourned for the day as the climax approached at 2:30 p.m. Most of the members already had adjourned to watch television and listen to radio reports.

### Area Reacts—

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me, but I was the one who ended up being informed."  
Ronald Sackowitz, freshman in counselling from Roosevelt, N.J., said he was sleeping and didn't hear of the space shot until he arrived at the HUB.  
The news reached Joseph Schuster, graduate assistant in political science, as he had lunch in a local restaurant.  
"When I did hear it," Schuster said, "I was elated!"

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