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NEWSLETTER

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Philippe Petit Bibliography

COMPILED BY HOVEY BURGESS

A. BOOKS

- 1974 *Guinness Book of World Records—1975 Edition* by Norris McWhirter and Ross McWhirter, New York: Sterling Publishing Co., Inc. p. 472 "HUMAN ACHIEVEMENTS—HIGHEST TIGHTROPE WALK: Philippe Petit..." illustrated.
- 1974 *Kane Book of Famous First Facts and Records in the United States—A New and Updated (1975) Edition* by Joseph Nathan Kane, New York: Ace Books. p. 685 "THE FIRST—TIGHTROPE WALKING—TIGHTROPE WALKER TO SPAN TWO SKY-SCRAPERS was Philippe Petit..."

B. INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINES

Reader's Digest has purchased the rights to Philippe Petit's own story of how he did it—the article will be appearing in a forthcoming issue.

C. CITY MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS

- ASBURY PARK EVENING PRESS Asbury Park, New Jersey, August 8, 1974, p. A3
OFFICIALS FORGIVE HIGH WIRE CRIME—ILLUSTRATED
- THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN Asheville, North Carolina, August 8, 1974, p. 31
AERIALIST STAGES ILLEGAL SHOW AT 1,350 FEET
- BOSTON HERALD AMERICAN Boston, Massachusetts, August 8, 1974, p. 2
AERIALIST IN WIRE WALK QUARTER-MILE ABOVE NEW YORK—ILLUSTRATED
- THE BURLINGTON FREE PRESS Burlington, Vermont, August 8, 1974, p. 1
1,350 FEET ABOVE THE STREET, IT'S HIGH-STEPPING PHILIPPE!—ILLUS
- CHICAGO SUN-TIMES Chicago, Illinois, August 8, 1974, p. 40
DAREDEVIL WALKS TIGHTROPE 1,350 FEET OVER N.Y.CITY—ILLUSTRATED
- CHICAGO TRIBUNE Chicago, Illinois, August 8, 1974, p. 5 + Midwest Section p. 1
STAGES HIGH WIRE ACT AS N.Y. POLICE WAIT—ILLUSTRATED
- THE COURIER-JOURNAL Louisville, Kentucky, August 8, 1974, p. A1, A13
ILLEGAL WALK 1,350 FEET IN THE AIR—ILLUSTRATED

PHILIPPE PETIT INJURED IN 25/30-FOOT FALL !!!

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June 24, 1974, p. 57
ONLY HUMAN—THE ROPE DANCER—PHILIPPE PETIT: JUGGLING UNTIL THE NEXT
HIGH WALK—ILLUSTRATED
August 8, 1974, p. 2, 26, 56-57, 112
TOPS TOWERS ON TIPTOES—TOURIST IS TOWN'S TOP ATTRACTION—ILLUS;
ANOTHER MAN ON A TIGHTROPE—ILLUSTRATED; ON THE TOP OF THE
SKYLINE—ILLUSTRATED
August 28, 1974, p. 4, 54
WIRY THRILLER IN PARK TONIGHT—ILLUSTRATED; FOR PHILIPPE THE
COST OF LIVING IS HIGH—ILLUSTRATED
January 8, 1975, p. 4
AERIALIST PETIT FALLS AT CIRCUS—ILLUSTRATED
- THE DAILY OKLAHOMAN Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 8, 1974, p. 23
AERIALIST THRILLED BY NEW YORK STUNT—ILLUSTRATED
- THE EVANSVILLE COURIER Evansville, Indiana, August 8, 1974, p. 1
"IT WAS LIKE A SHOW FOR ME..."—ILLUSTRATED
- THE GREENVILLE NEWS Greenville, South Carolina, August 8, 1974, p. 35
1,350 FEET UP—NEW YORKERS GAPE AT HIGH WIRE ACT—ILLUSTRATED
- LA CROSSE TRIBUNE La Crosse, Wisconsin, August 8, 1974, p. 14
DAREDEVIL WALKS BETWEEN ROOFTOPS 110 STORIES UP—ILLUSTRATED
- MILWAUKEE SENTINEL Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 8, 1974, p. 1, 12
SKYSCRAPER IS STAGE FOR HIGH WIRE ACT—ILLUSTRATED
- NEW YORK MAGAZINE New York, New York, July 15, 1974, p. 26-27
THE BEST STREET LIFE IN THE WORLD—ILLUSTRATED
- NEW YORK POST New York, New York
August 7, 1974, p. 1, 5
TAKING A WALK 110 STORIES HIGH—ILLUSTRATED; HE WALKS ON AIR—
—ILLUSTRATED
August 8, 1974, p. 12
THE UPS AND DOWNS OF PHILIPPE PETIT
January 8, 1975, p. 12
PHILIPPE PETIT HURT IN FALL
- NEW YORK TIMES New York, New York *SEE ALSO: D. NEW YORK TIMES INDEX*
September 25, 1974, p. 36
FLOATING A PUBLICITY BALLOON
January 8, 1975, p. 43
NOTES ON PEOPLE...—PHILIPPE PETIT
- ST LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT St. Louis, Missouri, August 8, 1974, p. 1A, 7A, 10A
A WHIMSICAL STROLL...1,350 FEET HIGH/COURT MERCIFUL AFTER STROLL—
ILLUSTRATED; DARING YOUNG ABOVE CITY—ILLUSTRATED
- SARASOTA HERALD TRIBUNE Sarasota, Florida, January 4, 1975, p. 6-B
CIRCUS OFFERS GLITTER; GLAMOR IN FIRST PERFORMANCE OF '75
- THE SUN Baltimore, Maryland, August 8, 1974, p. A3
PARISIAN WALKS CABLE BETWEEN N.Y. TOWERS—ILLUSTRATED
- THE TAMPA TRIBUNE Tampa, Florida, January 3, 1975, p. 2-D
RINGLING BROS. CIRCUS IS COMING TO TOWN
- WORCESTER TELEGRAM Worcester, Massachusetts, August 8, 1974, p. 12
DAREDEVIL SENTENCED TO SECOND SHOW—ILLUSTRATED

D. NEW YORK TIMES INDEX

1974 August 1-15 p. 100, 108, 135, 163; August 16-31 p. 113, 139; September
1-15 p. 125, 151:

August 8 p. 20 French high-wire artist Philippe Petit, walks tightrope
between 2 towers of World Trade Center, NYC, is arrested for disorderly con-

(continued page 9)

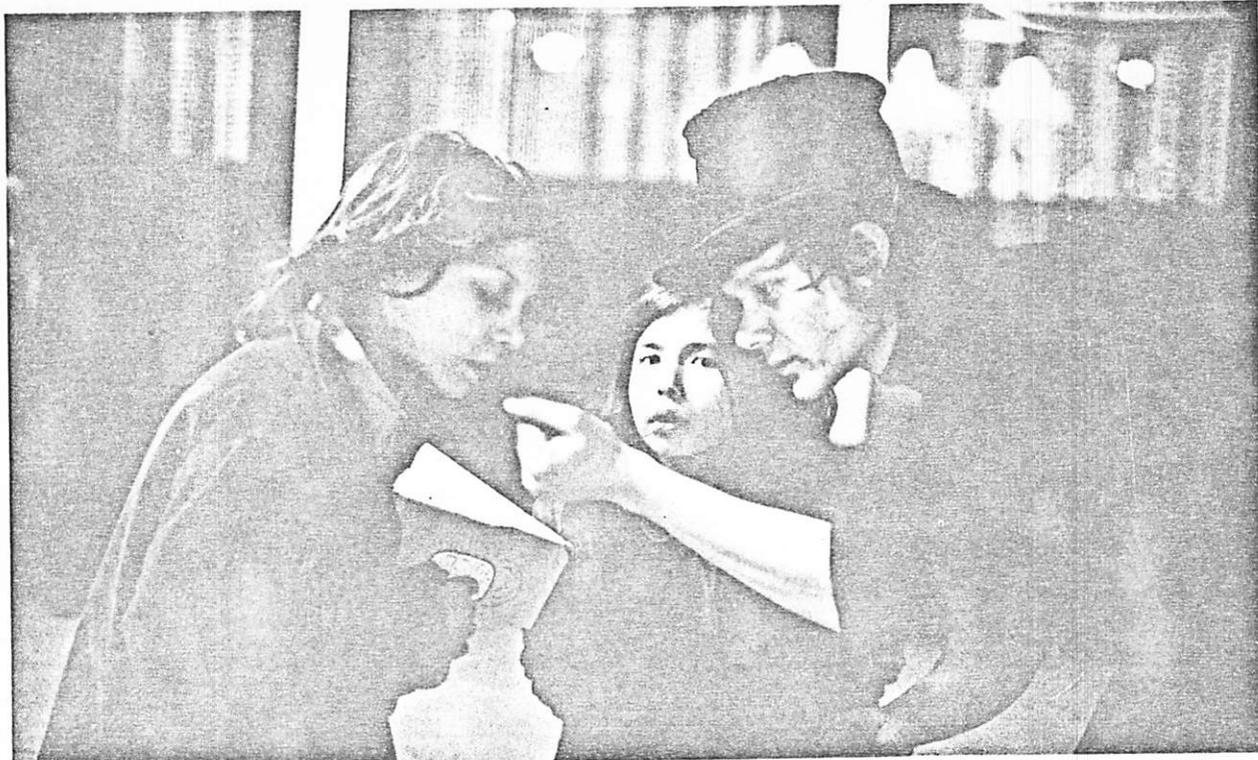
Philippe Petit Tribute

PHOTOS BY
JUDY BURGESS

TEXT BY
HOVEY BURGESS

Francis Brunn, Hovey Burgess, Judy Burgess and Jerry Greenberg were in the audience when, exactly one year ago this month, Philippe Petit made his first rope walk in New York City. The performance took place in front of the main branch of the New York Public Library on a fiber rope stretched between a lamp post and the base of a flagpole. In spite of the cold—there was snow on the ground—Philippe was barefooted. Moments after this photo was taken he began to juggle three flaming torches on the rope, but not before getting a laugh from the audience by using the flames to warm his feet.

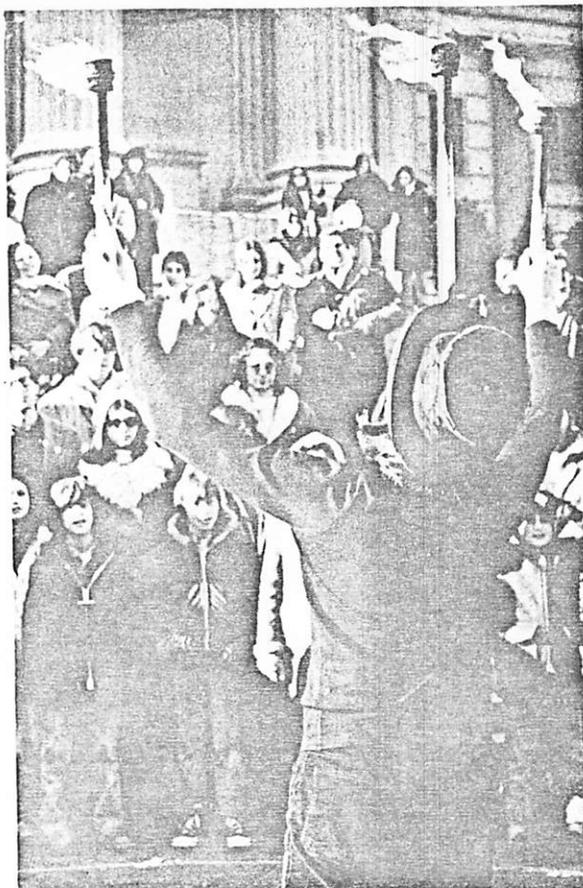




Philippe shows sleight-of-hand coin tricks to two children—street people like himself—who make their living selling flowers to theatre-goers in the Broadway theatre district. The children gave him a flower which he wears on his hat as he discusses with Barry Farber, in the radio studios of WOR, his intention, with or without permission, of rigging and walking a tightrope between the towers of the World Trade Center. This discussion was being broadcast over the public airwaves half a year before the actual event was to take place.



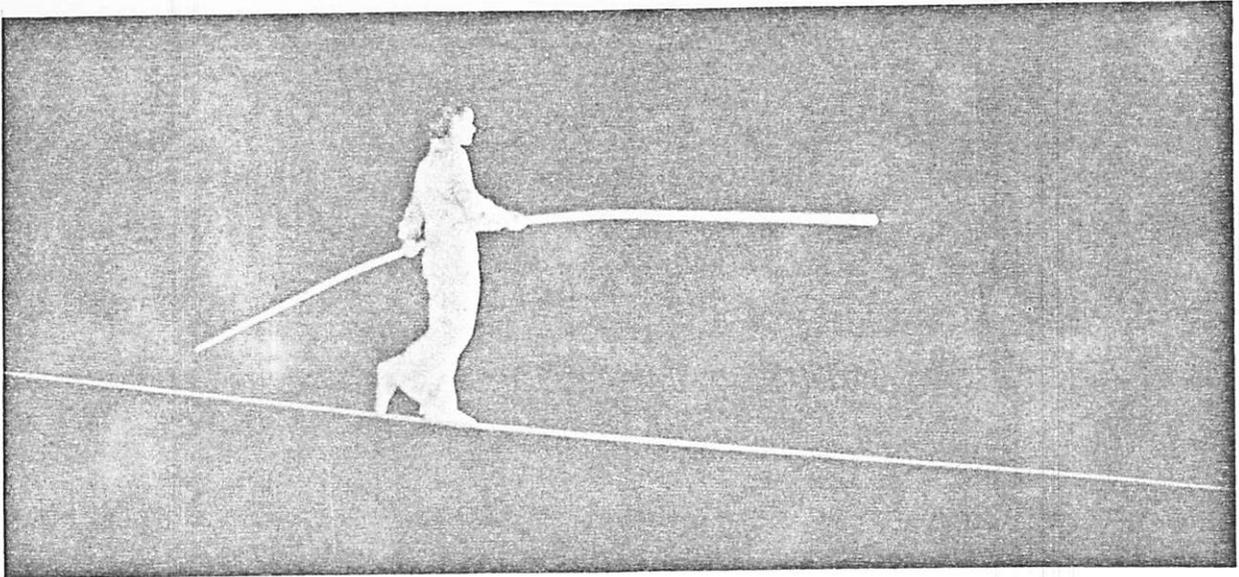
PHILIPPE PETIT TRIBUTE



In front of the Metropolitan Museum of Art Philippe patrols his circle of chalk by unicycle.

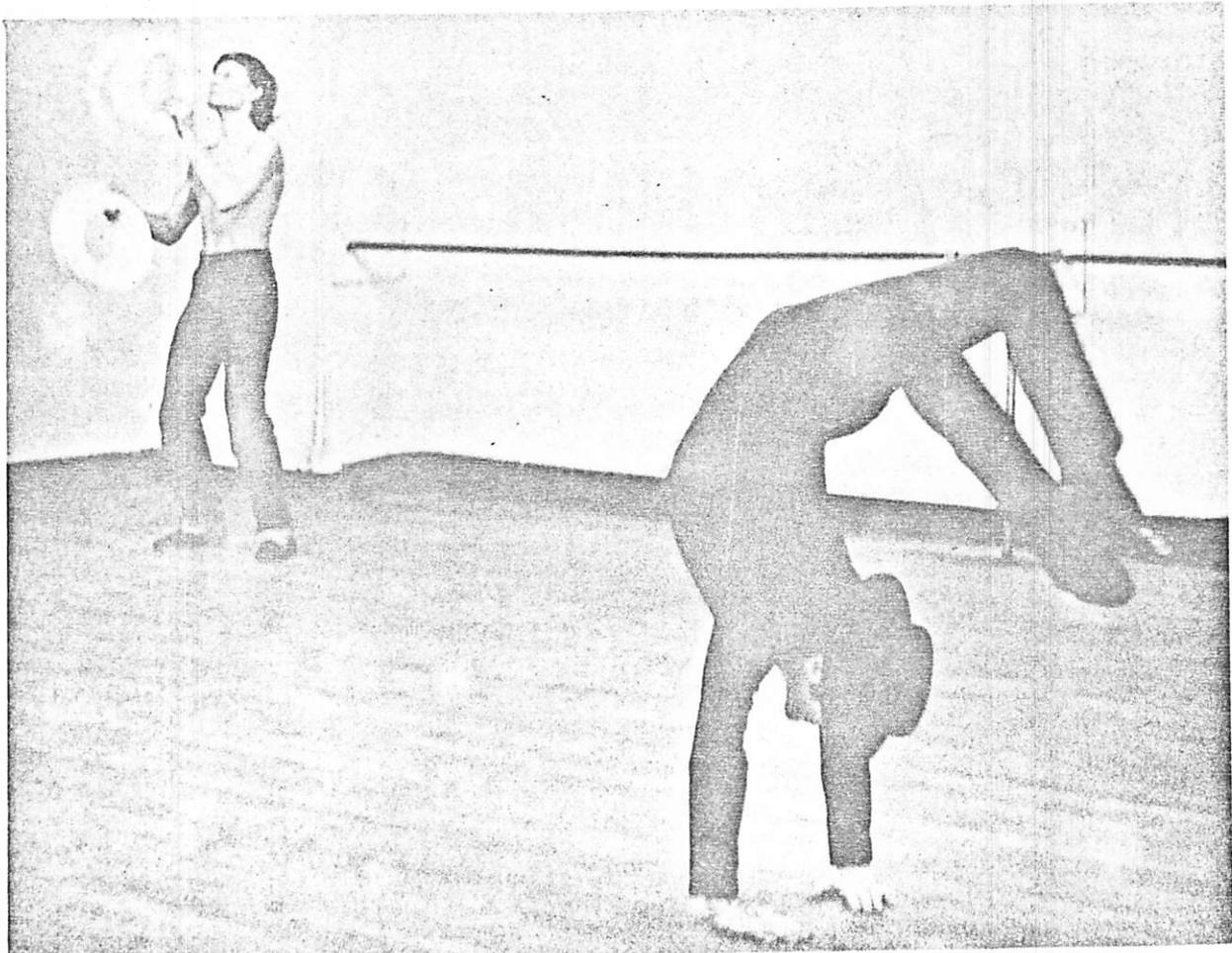
Reasonably certain his territory is safe from invasion he begins his fire-torch juggling routine.

The circle is violated and the spell broken; a gracious spectator reaches toward Philippe's battered hat with a donation while a policeman is frowned upon by a disenchanted crowd.



A punishment to suit his crime—hardly distinguishable from his crime, except that for his crime he had worn a black costume against a white sky and for his punishment he wore a white costume against a black sky. In the crowds that came to witness his ordeal: Hovey Burgess, Judy Burgess, John Grimaldi, Susan Pores, Dennis Soldati and John Townsen.

Away from the public Philippe Petit rehearses alongside his close friend, Francis Brunn.



Prop Makers

BY DENNIS SOLDATI

Since most prop makers seem to do a minimum of advertising, and since most jugglers need props, I've tried to compile as complete a list of current prop makers as possible: stating who makes what and for how much. I wish to thank Roger Montandon for supplying me with many of the names on the following alphabetical list. Included are only those people who to date have responded to my inquiries.

DAVE CASTLE, 921 North 7th Street, Seward, Nebraska 68434
Dave makes a sturdy, decorated mouth stick for \$10 that includes a manuscript of instructions (you supply your own ball). He also sells a 9 ball gag that includes 3 clusters of 3 balls each, 2 single balls, plus routine and instructions for \$10. Finally, Dave sells a set of 3 regular sized juggling balls that vanish with gimmick, instructions included (no sleeve work, no boxes, no tubes) for \$7.50. Dave pays complete postage on all orders.

CLAUDE CRUMLEY, 3 N. 305 Cardinal Street, Addison, Illinois 60101
Claude makes fiber-glas clubs in the 9 or 10 oz. range styled along the lines of the Harry Lind club for \$15 each. He also makes a number of other things from fiber-glas including a 20" dia. rolling globe, devil sticks, shakers, and a comedy top hat, plus cork clubs which he says are good for kick-ups. However, all of these are special jobs that demand setting up molds...if you're interested, please write directly to Claude for his prices on custom jobs.

HAMILTON FLOYD, 240 E. Rosewood Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78212
"Ham" sells lariats from a 6' \$2 E-Z lariat to the very best Floyd Texas Skip lariat for \$20. This deluxe lariat has a swivel honda, swivel handle, 2 stops that are weighted for balance, and a sliding stop; it's made from about 18' of #12 Solid braid nylon rope. Same lariat except honda does not swivel and it has an end knob instead of a handle: \$15. 8' E-Z lariat (#12 nylon): \$5.

DICK FRANCIS, 2122 Windsor Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44502
Dick makes a white high-impact polystyrene ring that weighs 4 ozs. and measures 1/8" thick, 14½" dia. (large enough to fit over your head): \$6.50 each.

JAY GREEN, 10 West 47th Street, Room 1206, New York, New York 10036
Jay makes a 19½" Standard American Club and an 18½" European Club. Both of these fully decorated clubs are made of sturdy Linear Polyethylene with neoprene rubber at both ends. The clubs sell for \$14 each and are available with special "psychedelic" light-reflecting decoration at 75¢ extra per club. Jay also makes a torch similar to his European club and also at \$14 each. However, his torch is available with an open-top cap that covers the wick at \$3 extra, and a closed-top cap for \$2 more. That makes a total of \$19 each for a deluxe torch/club combination. Finally, Jay makes white plastic rings with red tape around the outside edge at \$5 each. His rings are approximately 12" in diameter.

PROP MAKERS BY DENNIS SOLDATI

JACK MILLER, 1895 N. Kansas Avenue, Springfield, Missouri 65803

Jack makes wood clubs with hardwood handles and a white enamel finish. His standard 19½" club weighs 11 ozs., has a flat knob and measures 4 1/8" across the middle: \$45 for a set of 3. His European club is 18½", weighs 10 ozs., has a round knob and measures 3 7/8" across the middle: \$37.50 for a set of 3. Jack also makes 18½" fire torches: 3 for \$18. And his "juggling hoops" are made of 3/8" plywood that are gum taped and enameled: \$6 each, up to and including 16" diameter. All orders should include \$3 for insured parcel post and Jack will return any unused portion of the postage.

STUART RAYNOLDS, 2716 Silverside Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19810

Stu makes custom fiberglass clubs from 8½ to 12 ozs. (to your specifications) with a glossy white enamel finish for \$25 each, slightly more for decoration. He makes Harry Lind style clubs, too, in a Junior model and Bobby May model. Also available in fiberglass are the Truzzi model and Zilak model from 6½ ozs. among others. He makes a Circus model practice club that is used by Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus Clown College for \$4.50 each; it's similar to a professional club in size and balance. All clubs are backed by a replacement guarantee. He also makes wood practice stick clubs in two styles (20" long and 16 1/8" long) both finished in glossy white enamel for \$6 each. Wood devil sticks in two sizes (29 7/8" long and 28½" long) that are cloth covered for \$18.50 each. Large fiberglass bicycle-type hoops (19½" dia.) with white enamel finish for \$22 each, and Gil Dova model fiberglass cigar boxes with white enamel finish and suede leather ends for \$18.50 each. Stu requests half payment with order and the balance on receipt.

Anyone looking for a bongo board (also called a rola bola or rolla bolla or roly poly) has probably found that many toy stores no longer carry them. Hovey Burgess suggests that you try ski shops. I've called a few in New York and find that the going price is \$34.95 for those stores that carry them (skiers use them during the off season).

It may seem just as important to know who is no longer making props as to know who is: it avoids delays and disappointments when ordering. Ernest Carlson of Jamestown, N.Y. sold his machinery and no longer makes clubs. Homer Stack of Burlingame, Calif. is no longer in the prop business; he only makes props for jugglers he instructs. And finally, (unless someone has better information) the Van Mac Juggling Co. of Portland, Oregon has gone out of business.

As with all articles of this type, errors are bound to sneak in and all prices are subject to change without notice. Please send your inquiries directly to the prop makers. Unless otherwise stated here, to avoid problems, you should also ask about delivery time, payment, and postage.

Hopefully, those prop makers who have not responded to my inquiries will do so soon, and any others who would like to be included in future lists should also write to me. Because of the limited space in our newsletter, if enough replies are received I will compile a small but detailed catalog of prop makers that will be made available to all IJA members. Please send all information to:
DENNIS SOLDATI, 97-40 62nd Drive, Apt 10H, Rego Park, New York 11374

PHILIPPE PETIT BIBLIOGRAPHY

D. NEW YORK TIMES INDEX (continued from page 2)

duct and criminal trespass; Manhattan Dist Atty Richard H Kuh agrees to drop charges in exchange for free aerial performance in a city park for children; Petit says he made over 200 trips to trade center bldgs to plot his walk; illus.

August 11 sec. IV p. 18 illus of French high-wire artist Philippe Petit walking tightrope between twin towers of World Trade Center, NYC.

August 13 p. 41 Philippe Petit, Frenchman who last wk walked tightrope between towers of World Trade Center, will seek permission from NYS and Canadian authorities to make similar crossing of Niagara Falls.

August 27 p. 72 Aerialist Philippe Petit, who recently walked tightrope between twin bldgs of World Trade Center (NYC), to perform similar stunt over Great Falls in Paterson, NJ, on Labor Day, according to Mayor Lawrence F Kramer.

August 28 p. 35 Philippe Petit, French high-wire artist who was arrested Aug 7 after he walked tightrope between towers of World Trade Center, NYC, will pay his debt Aug 28 by walking tightrope over Belvedere Lake in Central Park; charges of trespass and disorderly conduct against Petit were dismissed after Petit made deal that he would stage walk in park.

August 29 p. 35 Thunderstorm on Aug 28 causes postponement of high-wire show in Central Pk by Philippe Petit, aerialist of World Trade Center fame.

August 30 p. 58 Philippe Petit, French aerialist who performed unauthorized tightrope act at World Trade Center, on Aug 29 walks across wire above Belvedere Lake in Central Pk in front of large crowd; performance was consequence of sentencing by Dist Atty Richard H Kuh for Petit's walk at Trade Center requiring him to put on show for children of NY; Pks Comr Edwin L Weisl Jr was consulted and lake site was chosen; illus.

September 1 sec. IV p. 6 Aerialist Philippe Petit's walk across Central Pk's Belvedere Lake noted; was sentenced to walk as punishment for his unauthorized walk between World Trade Center towers.

September 3 p. 39 French aerialist Philippe Petit on Sept 2 walks across 300-ft wire stretched across Great Falls of Passaic River, Paterson, NJ, while 300 people watch; illus.

September 4 p. 88 Philippe Petit, who walked tightrope over Great Falls of Passaic River, is cleared of charges of disorderly conduct and criminal trespass for his walk between towers of World Trade Center.

September 13 p. 34 Students at Polytechnic Inst of NY will present their 1st annual Sir Isaac Newton Award for Defying Gravity to French Aerialist Philippe Petit.

(PHILIPPE PETIT BIBLIOGRAPHY to be continued)

Editor's Notebook / Philippe Petit Injured

January 7th IJA member Philippe Petit was injured in a fall that precluded his opening with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in St. Petersburg, Florida. He apparently slipped while descending a slanted wire after rehearsing his high wire act. He was able to grab the wire with one hand, but let go when he got a rope burn. He then fell 25 to 30 feet where he landed on his side on a concrete floor and rolled over on his stomach, pounding the floor with his fists and shouting, "I can't believe it. I can't believe it. I don't ever fall." He was conscious as he was taken from the arena to Bayfront Medical Center for exploratory surgery. He had suffered a collapsed right lung and fractures of the ribs and wrist.

Readers may recall that last January this editor fell 20 feet to a wooden floor while rigging a trapeze. One of the repercussions of that fall was that the *IJA Newsletter* was delayed—and has, since that time, been behind schedule. Current (Volume 27) newsletters will be issued concurrently with late (Volume 26) newsletters until the deficiency is made up—first priority, however, will be on keeping current issues current in 1975.

As for Philippe, I'm sure all fellow IJAers join Judy and me in wishing for his complete and speedy recovery. Should you wish to express yourself more directly and personally: Philippe Petit, c/o Bayfront Medical Center, 701 Sixth Street, South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701