

HALMI Robert



GOING UP 5,000 feet in a free-flying balloon, Bob Halmi settles on precarious perch to photograph balloonist Donald Piccard.

## OH, FOR THE LIFE OF A PHOTOGRAPHER

*Want to become a professional photographer? Would you get blown up with dynamite, stay in a burning house, dangle in mid-air from a plane? Robert Halmi, an athletic cameraman from Hungary, has. He'll do anything at all for an exciting picture story*



UNSHAVEN Halmi in swamp muck.



FROZEN Halmi on an Alaskan glacier.

◀ SOLEMN Halmi as a beauty-contest judge.

\*See\* 1955 March

(continued)





**DOWN BELOW** the surface of the earth, Halmi follows an expedition trying to plumb the depth of Kentucky's "bottomless" Crystal Cave.

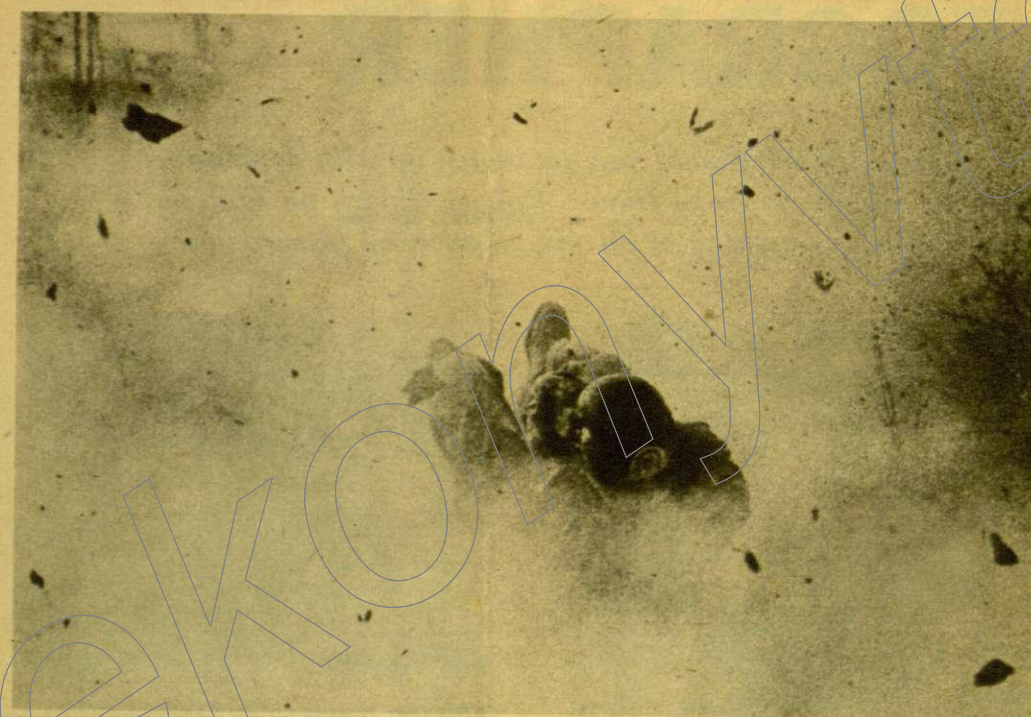
**PHOTOGRAPHER'S LIFE** (continued)

## HALMI'S UPS AND DOWNS

**B**ob Halmi, whose three-and-a-half years in the U. S. have been spent in photographing adventure and action stories that frequently land him in harrowing situations, claims he was born in a darkroom. His father, a portrait photographer in Budapest, Hungary, trained his son to follow the same trade. Halmi found studio photography too tame, but fended off boredom by winning prizes in swimming, fencing, skiing, soccer and ice hockey.

Studio and sports ended abruptly with World War II. Clapped into a concentration camp for being a Jew, Halmi escaped after eighteen months. At war's end, the Reds took over Hungary, and Halmi went to jail for working with U. S. newsmen. He escaped a year later—and kept going till he reached the United States.

Do his sometimes dangerous assignments ever make him nervous or afraid? "The only thing that makes me nervous," says Halmi, "is being shut up in an office; I like to move around in the open. I'm not afraid of anything anymore. The scaredness was beaten out of me in jail."



**BLOWN UP** by sticks of dynamite, Bob Halmi crashes back down to earth. Though stunned, he kept taking pictures the whole time to record a stunt-man's experience.



**ON TOP** of a glacier, Halmi prepares to join the camp of an Alaskan ice expedition. He stayed on the glacier three weeks.



**DANGLING** high in the air from a rope attached to a helicopter, Halmi photographs a bird's-eye view of New York's skyscrapers.

**UNDERWATER** off Mexico's Caribbean coast with an aqualung and sealed camera, Halmi photographs native shark hunters.



**CLIMBING** into a jet plane, Halmi goes aloft with the jet-acrobat team of the Denver Air National Guard for a stunt-flying stint.



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