

# Heads, Moons Get 'Rush' Job

BY SEL YACKLEY

Whether browsing thru the Chicago Science museum or studying National Aeronautics and Space administration's plans to land a man on the moon, one is likely to run into the works of Richard Rush, sculptor.

Among his most welcome scientific creations is a plastic model of a human head so realistic the eyelids can be lifted for tests for glaucoma.

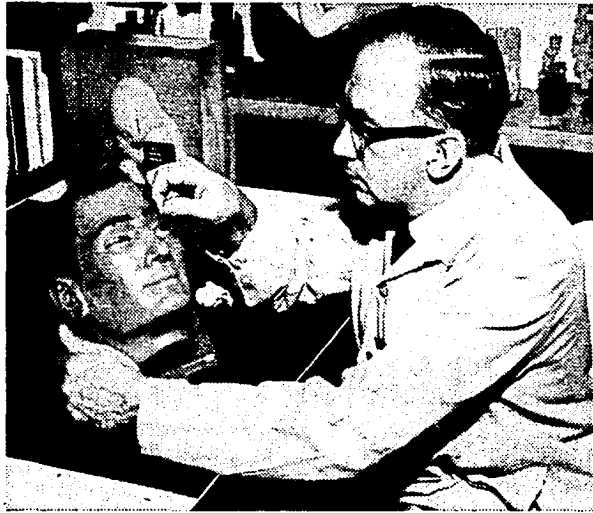
## Makes Moon Replicas

The Richard Rush studio has made several replicas of the moon, and manned and unmanned satellites for the space administration. The studio has made giant-size human cells and molecules for medical centers and laboratories thruout the country, and hundreds of objects for exhibits and museums including Cantigny War Memorial museum of the 1st division, near Wheaton.

"Since 1939, I have been helping clients visualize—in dimension form—their plans, projects, products and goals," Rush said.

At 168 N. Clinton st. nearly 40 employes, including designers, artists, and carpenters, work on these reproductions.

Rush said, "We use wood, plastics, metals, clay—every sculptural and modeling material available. We carry projects thru from request to layout, design engineering, model-



[TRIBUNE Staff Photo]

**EXACTING WORK**—Richard Rush of Rush studio, 168 N. Clinton st., moves the eyes in a plastic human head. Medical students use the sculpture to learn how to test for glaucoma, an eye disease.

ing or sculpturing, mold-making, casting, texturing, and finishing."

## No Other Firm Like It

He added: "No other firm of this type or versatility exists in the nation."

Everything the studio produces must be accurate to the last detail. Rush said the people who are in charge of lighting the First National bank, now under construction, wanted to find out how good their plans were, so the studio built a one-

inch scale model of the bank to exact specifications.

Rush produced three-dimensional displays, called "diaramas," at Cantigny museum. These diaramas show historical and military scenes with human figures, battlefields, and weapons.

The museum was established in 1960 in memory of the late editor and publisher of THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, Col. Robert R. McCormick. It is located on his 480-acre estate, called

Cantigny, 31 miles west of Chicago. Col. McCormick commanded the 1st battalion of the division's 5th field artillery including its famous battery D in the battle of Cantigny, France, in 1918.

The museum tells the story of American military men from the Revolutionary war to the atomic age thru the animated and realistic battle diaramas created by Rush.

## Family of Artists

Artistic talent apparently is hereditary in the Rush family. William Rush, 1756-1833, the first native American sculptor, was an ancestor of Richard Rush. The native Chicagoan said, "I had two aunts who taught art, and my father, an engineer, was very much interested in it. So I have been exposed to art all my life."

Rush's formal training was at the Art institute and the Illinois Institute of Technology. His oldest daughter now is studying at the Art institute, and his eldest son is at the Academy of Fine Arts. He has two younger children. The Rush family lives in Glen Ellyn.

The 50-year-old sculptor, who heads the studio and handles the business end of it, said, "Nowadays, the only things I do personally are the Christmas cards I send to friends." The cards are three-dimensional figures made of cut glass, wood, metal, or the combination of all.