



ADMIRAL VISITS NWC CORONA — RAdm. F. Michaelis (second-left), Commander, Carrier Division Nine, is briefed on a sophisticated research project involving missile development at Naval Weapons Center Corona Laboratories by Floyd Maxwell (l) Branch Head in the Missiles Systems Department. To the right of Admiral Michaelis is a member of his staff, Cdr. A. W. Waller; A. C. Louie (front) Electronics Engineer and Dr. F. S. Atchison (background) Laboratory Director at NWC Corona.

Traveling Troupe To Offer 'Gleep' For IWV Children

"The Wonderment of Gleep," an original children's fantasy, will be presented Thursday, April 25, at 3:30 p.m. at the Center Theatre by the White Oaks Theatre Touring Repertory Company. The production is to be sponsored by the American Association of University Women.

The play follows the adventures of a brother and sister, Billie June and Willobee, and their silent friend, Gleep, as they search for hidden pirate treasure. Through Gleep, Billie June and Willobee discover that true friendship is the most important treasure.

Performing throughout California, one of the main objectives of this company is to increase appreciation of live performances. In addition to the touring group, White Oaks maintains a repertory company in Carmel Valley that offers advanced training in voice, dance, and drama to its performers.

Tickets for "The Wonderment of Gleep" will be available at the Gift Mart and the China Lake elementary schools as well as at the box office the afternoon of the performance.

FRA President Resigns

Recently elevated to the post of president of the Fleet Reserve Association Branch 95 was Floyd B. Goldy. Mrs. George Stands accepted, at the same time, the presidency of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Reserve Branch.

The change was due to the resignation of Robert F. Jackson and his wife Beatrice. The Jacksons were serving as a team in the capacities of president of the two organizations. Their resignation was due to poor health.

SHOWBOAT

FRIDAY APRIL 12

"BIRSERK" (95 Min.)
Joan Crawford, Ty Hardin, Diana Dors
7:30 P.M.
(Mystery Drama) Murder in a small traveling circus. Ty replaces a high wire walker where daggers substitute for the safety net. Even Scotland Yard is hard put to find the killer in this exciting who-dunnit. Is it pretty Diana? (Adult.)
Shorts: "Pink Fingers" (Pink Panther, 7 Min.) "Precision" (10 Min.)

SATURDAY APRIL 13

MATINEE
"TARZAN AND THE JUNGLE BOY" (91 Min.)
Mike Henry, Rofer Johnson
1:00 P.M.
(Adventure) A new, colorful exciting Tarzan adventure. (Adult, Youth, Children.)
Short: "Fun at the Zoo" (18 Min.)

EVENING

"TROUBLE WITH ANGELS" (112 Min.)
Rosalind Russell
7:30 P.M.
Shorts: "Magoo's Glorious 4th" (7 Min.) "Manhunt" No. 7 (13 Min.)

SUNDAY-MONDAY APRIL 14-15

"THE BIGGEST BUNDLE OF THEM ALL" (112 Min.)
Raquel Welch, Robert Wagner
7:30 P.M.

(Comedy) Naples sets the scene for a group of funny down-and-outers to bungle a kidnapping. They not only DON'T learn their lesson, but they plan a five million dollar platinum heist. It's FUN galore! (Adult, Mature Youth.)
Short: "Fiesta Fiasco" (7 Min.)

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY APRIL 16-17

"THE AMBUSHERS" (102 Min.)
Dean Martin, Santa Berge, Janice Rule
7:30 P.M.

(Spy Adventure) Agent Matt Helm swings into action against men, machines and gorgeous gals as he seeks a downed U.S. flying saucer somewhere in Mexico. The typical Helm story is loaded with spies and suspense aplenty. (Adult.)
Short: "I Remember Nudnik" (7 Min.)

THURSDAY-FRIDAY APRIL 18-19

"NEVADA SMITH" (130 Min.)
Steve McQueen, Karl Malden, Suzanne Pleshette
7:30 P.M.

(Super Western) With a horse, a rifle and \$8,000, Nevada sets out to find the killers of his parents. His chance meeting with a traveling gunsmith shortens the trail of vengeance. Not for the squeamish—it's a rough tale. (Adult.)

The first Polaris - firing nuclear submarine, USS George Washington (SSB(N)-598), was launched June 9, 1959, and commissioned December 30, 1959.

Miss Kern County Urges IWV Girls To Enter Pageant

Wendy Sorensen, Miss Kern County, took time out this week from her busy schedule of attending pageants and civic functions throughout the County and her school studies to urge girls of this area to enter the local Miss Ridgecrest-China Lake Pageant.

"It will open an entirely new vista for the girls," said Miss Sorensen, winner of last year's pageant. "I know it did for me. Even if one doesn't win, the experience one gains in confidence, poise, and the ability to meet people is immeasurable.

"Most girls are reluctant to enter the contest because they believe only raving beauties have a chance," she commented. "This isn't the case. Personality, intellect and poise are factors that strictly outweigh beauty.

"Even though talent counts for 50 per cent of the scoring, most of the winners are not necessarily outstanding singers, dancers, actresses, and so on, it's their personality that shines through," she added.

Candidates for the Miss Ridgecrest - China Lake Pageant are being accepted through Sunday, says Dick Hitt, pageant coordinator. Application forms may be obtained from Gene Richardson, manager of the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, phone 375-8331.

Desert Dancers To Present Folk Dance Exhibition

The Desert Dancers of China Lake will present a folk dance exhibition at Murray School on Saturday, April 20. Starting at 8 a.m., the elaborately costumed dancers will show dances from several countries.

Joining the Desert Dancers in the exhibition will be the Footflingers, a teen-age folk dance group from Valley Acres in the southern San Joaquin Valley. They will stay overnight here, after the performance, and visit the Indian Wells Valley on Sunday.

Visitors to the exhibition from outside the Center may obtain gate passes at the Security pass desk Saturday morning, April 20.



SUPPORT YOUR TV BOOSTER FUND BOX 5443 CHINA LAKE, CALIF.



BOY SCOUTS HONORED — Members of Boy Scout Troop 35, sponsored by Local Lodge 442, International Association of Machinists, recently received honors for their accomplishments and were awarded the badges they have earned. Scoutmaster Jim Fath (far left) is shown here with the boys. Norman Werback congratulates Phillip

Capps as Bill Spragle (back) looks on. Other Scouts are (from left) Jerry Smith, Eddy Hillebrand, Randy Brown, Berry Bowles, Bobby Francis, Pat Mitchell, John Cornett, Leroy Albers, and Keith Green. The 20-year veteran troop was also presented a new set of flags, a 50-star American and a new troop flag.

From _____
TO _____
STAMP

Social Security Rep. At Community Center Wednesday, April 17

All China Lakers with questions about Social Security provisions may contact a representative from the Administration here next Wednesday, April 17.

He will be at the Community Center from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., and is available for consultation.

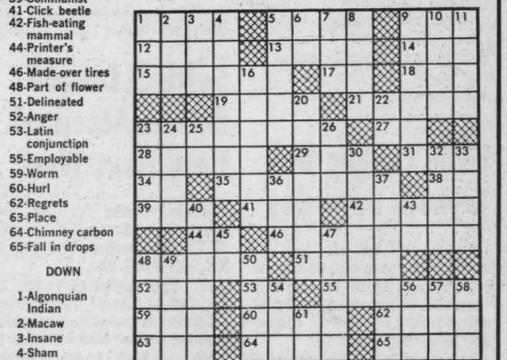
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ACROSS
1-Coarse hominy
5-Trinket
9-Fondle
12-Sandarac tree
13-Exchange mark
14-Guido's high note
15-Military students
17-A state (abbr.)
18-Tattered cloth
19-Around duration of
21-Showers
23-Was present
27-Note of scale
28-Person of diabolical wickedness
29-Afternoon party
31-Obstruct
34-Part of "to be"
35-Protects
38-Parent (collog.)
39-Communist
41-Click beetle
42-Fish-eating mammal
44-Printer's measure
46-Made-over tires
48-Part of flower
51-Delineated
52-Anger
53-Latin conjunction
55-Employable
59-Worm
60-Hurl
62-Regrets
63-Place
64-Chimney carbon
65-Fall in drops

DOWN
1-Algonquian Indian
2-Macaw
3-Insane
4-Sham

43-Symbol for tantalum
45-Parent (collog.)
47-Confidence
48-Baker's products
49-Gaelic
50-Allows
54-Also
56-Prickly envelope of a fruit
57-Hawaiian wreath
58-Extrasensory perception (abbr.)
61-Conjunction



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Wildflower Festival Planned to Mark Desert Spring



Vol. XXII, No. 15 Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California Fri., Apr. 12, 1968



BEAUTIES OF THE DESERT—China Lake's Wendy Sorensen, crowned Miss Kern County of 1968 a month ago in Bakersfield, shows Rene and John Clauzel, children of Cdr. Jean S. Clauzel, how close to home the desert's new glory of wildflowers can be found. Perfectly arranged by nature, many varieties

will be re-arranged by the ladies of WACOM and others for the 1968 Wildflower Festival here April 27 and 28. Wendy, whose desire is to become a professional singer, will enter the Miss California Pageant, to take place this June in Santa Cruz. She is a senior at Burroughs High School.

Annual Event Set for April 27-28, Expected to Fill Community Center

Some of everything beautiful and growing the desert has to offer in the spring will fill the Community Center April 27 and 28, when the 1968 Wildflower Festival opens. Ladies of China Lake and Ridgecrest are in the process of planning arrangements and classes of not only wildflowers, but also minerals, rocks and crystals from the surrounding desert.

The main social hall will be filled with wildflower bouquets ranging from the size of a teacup to one which will fill the Community Center stage, as local residents bring to this single location the variety of splendor which can be seen throughout the desert.

"Although the Wildflower Festival is sponsored by WACOM, we consider it a community event," said Mrs. M. R. Etheridge, general chairman of the event. "Therefore, anyone who would like to help out is invited to do so — the more, the merrier!"

Help especially will be needed by the flower receiving and clean-up committee, headed by Mrs. Frank Knemeyer. Volunteers may contact Mrs. Knemeyer at Ext. 73404.

In addition, a large number of cookies, cakes and pies will be needed, to be served in the festival's tea room. Mrs. Herbert T. Lotee, tea room chairman, may be reached at 375-8723 by women willing to donate home-baked items for the show.

Bounty Year Reported

Mrs. Etheridge reports that the local area is enjoying one of the finest wildflower displays in many years. The festival is an annual community venture, sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of the Commissioned Officers' Mess, and will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. April 27 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 28.

In addition to massed dis-

plays of wildflowers, individual specimens will be placed in the Joshua Room, identified with their common and botanical names. Mrs. Robert Berry, in charge of this part of the festival, estimates that there are 500 kinds of wildflowers in the area. About 120 have been displayed at past shows, and she hopes the total will be raised this year.

Visitors who would like to rest as they tour displays, filling the whole Community Center, are invited to stop at the tea room, located in the Side-winder Room. Here, a variety of refreshments will be available at nominal cost. Mrs. Herbert T. Lotee is chairman of this operation.

Paintings, photographs and slides of wildflowers and the desert area will supplement the live flowers at the festival. Specimens of minerals, rocks and crystals from the surrounding desert and hills also will be on view.

Mrs. David Chapman, flower collecting chairman, last week met with nearly 50 helpers who will scour the countryside for flowers on April 26 and the morning of April 27. Pickers received instructions on the special care with which wildflowers must be collected if they are to last throughout the two-day festival. Permits have been obtained for collection of the plants, which are protected by law.

Anyone who discovers an especially fine display of flowers is requested to let Mrs. Chapman know, so the area can be scouted for unusual varieties. She may be contacted at NWC Ext. 723324.

Mrs. Frank Knemeyer and her committee are in charge of receiving and caring for the flowers until they can be arranged by Mrs. D. T. McAllister and her crew of helpers.

TV Booster Fund Drive Kicks Off With Good Start

The initial response by residents of the twin communities of China Lake and Ridgecrest to the \$50,000 TV Booster Fund Drive in offers of volunteer help and donations that are averaging about \$13 per person are most pleasing, reports Robert K. McKnight, chairman of the Booster Committee.

One of the most generous offers of volunteer help has come from men of the Center's Fire Division. Off-duty firemen have volunteered to visit homes on the Center in behalf of the TV Booster Fund Drive. They will visit at the homes between 5 and 9 p.m. starting April 15 and continuing through May 10, McKnight said.

To accommodate this generous offer, the Fund Drive has been extended through May 10. "We encourage a courteous reception for these volunteers who are donating their (Continued on Page 3)



HONORED FOR INVENTIONS — Scientists at Naval Weapons Center Corona Laboratories who recently received awards for their inventions are: Back row (l), M. P. Nordseth, V. E. Hildebrand, P. A. Love, C. Orton, H. M. Joseph, E. J. Davis, and J. Y. K. Chang. Center row (l), J. F. McKelvey, G. R.

Lanning, W. R. Magorian, Dr. R. E. Panzer, C. R. Parkerson, and G. H. Moore. Front row (l), Capt. R. L. Wessel, Commanding Officer, NWC Corona Labs, Dr. R. L. Conger, J. O. Dick, G. E. Ryno, R. L. Higuera, J. G. Hoffman, and Commander R. E. Forbis, NWC Corona Labs, Executive Officer.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

The Shattering Personality Of Jesus Christ

By Senior Chaplain Paul Romantum



In the book "Creed or Chaos," the author Dorothy L. Sayers gives a remarkable description of Jesus Christ. This description is shared here during Holy Week to enable us to see the Lord in another perspective.

"GENTLE JESUS, MEEK AND MILD"

"The people who hanged Christ, never, to do them justice, accused him of being a dove — on the contrary: they thought him too dynamic to be safe. It has been left for later generations to muffle up that shattering personality and surround him with an atmosphere of tedium.

"We have very efficiently pared the claws of the Lion of Judah, certified him meek and mild, and recommended him as a fitting household pet for pale curates and pious old ladies. To those who knew him, however, he in no way suggested a milk and water person; they objected to him as a dangerous firebrand.

PORTRAIT OF A FIREBRAND

"True, he was tender to the unfortunate, patient with honest inquirers, and humble before heaven; but he insulted respectable clergymen by calling them hypocrites; he referred to King Herod as 'that fox'; he went to parties in disreputable company and was looked upon as a 'gluttonous man and a wine bibber, a friend of publicans and sinners.'

He assaulted indignant tradesmen and threw them and their belongings out of the temple; he cured diseases by any means that came handy with a shocking casualness of other people's pigs and property; he showed no proper deference for wealth or social position; when confronted by neat dialectical traps, he displayed a paradoxical humor that affronted serious minded people, and he retorted by asking disagreeably searching questions that could not be answered by rule of thumb.

"He was emphatically not a dull man in his human lifetime."

SPECIAL SERVICES HOLIDAY HOURS

A schedule for facilities of Special Services over the Easter holidays was announced this week by director O. A. "Gabe" Imer.

The China Lake Youth Center remained open from 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 10 p.m. yesterday, and will be open from 3 p.m. today.

The Center Library will be closed Easter Sunday, April 14, and the Ceramics Hobby Shop will be closed all day today. Both the gymnasium and the Auto Hobby Shop will be closed Easter Sunday.

The swimming pool at the Gym will be closed Easter Sunday, but open from 1 to 9 p.m. through Saturday, April 13.

Chief Lewis Now Attending Course In Brooklyn, N.Y.

SHC Alford E. Lewis, Naval Weapons Center, is attending the Navy Exchange Management Course in Brooklyn, N.Y. The six-week course is conducted by the Navy Ship's Store Office, which is headquarters for the worldwide operations of the Navy Resale System.

Exchange operations, customer services, retail principles, fundamentals of business management, budgets, store layout, stock control and customer motivation are some of the subjects covered in depth in these classes.

Chief Lewis is expected to resume his normal duties at the Center upon his graduation from the management course on April 19.

PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Present Center employees are encouraged to apply for the positions listed below. Applications should be accompanied by an up-to-date Form 58. The fact that positions are advertised here does not preclude the use of other means to fill these vacancies.

The positions described here are effective from April 12 to April 19, 1968.

Physicist or Mathematician, GS-13, Code 4535 - As Head of the Analysis Branch of the Quality Assurance Division, the incumbent will be responsible for guiding the branch in the mathematical services for computing and reduction data in the analysis and resolution of engineering problems. File application for the above with Jan Bixler, Bldg. 34, Rm. 24, Phone 72723.

Supervisory Supply Clerk, GS-2040-9 (one vacancy), Code 2575 - This position is Head, Receipt Control Branch, Control Division, Supply Department. The incumbent is responsible for all the receipt control functions for the Center. The responsibilities include the administration of contracts following award and execution, issue of change orders and amendments, and the issue of termination notices when appropriate. Incumbent establishes and maintains the contract, requisition and order files; prepares and distributes rejection notices, inspection reports and invoices covering receipt of material; certifies and forwards contractors' invoices for payment; processes procurement and receipt documents; maintains contact and follow-up as necessary and furnishes information relative to unmatched vouchers and summarized invoices. Must have knowledge of, and experience with, Defense Contract Administration procedures.

File applications for above with Vicki Mead, Bldg. 34, Rm. 28, phone 72218. Laborer (Heavy), JD No. 155-1, Code 704 - Performs any one or a combination of a large variety of unskilled or low skilled tasks requiring predominantly physical exertion of a heavy or arduous type.

File applications with Don Childers, Code 657, Rm. 32, Phone 71393.

Mechanical Engineer, GS-830-11 or 12, PD No. 555061-1, Code 5524 - The position is that of Mechanical Engineer in the Electro-mechanical Division, Engineering Department. The incumbent is responsible for the design and/or production engineering redesign, test, documentation, and evaluation of mechanical components and/or assemblies which improve the productivity ease of usage, conservation of essential materials, and improves the performance and the reliability of miniature inertial systems of advanced guided missiles. The incumbent must have a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.

File application for above with Pat Gaunt, Bldg. 34, Rm. 34, Phone 71471.

Electronic Engineer (Instrumentation), GS-855-11 or 12, PD No. 755066, Code 5533 - This position is that of Senior Project Engineer, in the Telemetry Branch, Product Design Division of the Engineering Department. The incumbent's general assignment is the design, development, testing, evaluation, documentation and monitoring of procurement of telemetry units for this center. The spectrum of duties entailed by this assignment ranges from original design to production liaison with the manufacturer.

File application for above with Pat Gaunt, Bldg. 34, Rm. 34, Phone 71471.

ATTEND SERVICES DURING Holy Week

All Faith Chapel

PROTESTANT SCHEDULE

April 12—12 Noon.....UNION GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES, Main Chapel

April 14—5:30 a.m.....Sunrise Services on Chapel Lawn 6:00-7:30 a.m.....Easter Breakfast served in East Wing Tickets—75¢ for Adults, 50¢ for Children 6-12, and 25¢ for Children under 6. 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.....Easter Sunday Worship Services

CATHOLIC SCHEDULE

April 12—Good Friday.....Solemn Services 2:30 p.m.

April 13—Holy Saturday.....Easter Vigil Services 11:15 p.m. MIDNIGHT MASS 12:00.

April 14—Easter Sunday Masses 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

JEWISH SCHEDULE

April 12—Community Seder for Passover.....East Wing of All Faith Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

April 13—Sabbath School.....East Wing, 9-12 a.m.



MANPOWER CHIEF VISITS, LISTENS — Robert H. Willey, Director of Civilian Manpower Management for the Navy, listens to Joe Lechner (r), president of the IWW Metal Trades Council, on his recent visit from Washington, D.C. Willey conferred with Center and Personnel Dept. leaders while here, toured the community, and was briefed on the Center's Long-Term Training and Community Development programs. He was hosted at a luncheon by the American Society for Public Administration at the Officers' Club.

LSD Film Popular During Showings In Corona Areas

The Navy's popular hard-hitting film on LSD is being widely viewed in the Corona area.

The training film, produced by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, has been shown four times to employees at Naval Weapons Center Corona Laboratories, and twice more at evening showings for employees and their families. Last of these is scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. in the NWC Corona auditorium.

The film is being loaned to the Corona Unified School District for a full week April 22-26, to give every student in the Junior and Senior high schools a chance to see the excellent production.

Many youth groups, church groups, civic clubs, and others are being booked for loan of the film. Being a non-profit, public service offer of the Navy, the only restriction is that it be shown without admission charge.

Arrangements for showing in other cities — Pomona, Riverside, and Ontario also are being made.

Rental Trailers, Boats and Motors Become Available

The Special Services Office announced this week that boats and camping trailers are now available for rent by Center employees in the Lake Isabella area.

The house trailers, which sleep from two to six people, will be furnished with cooking utensils, dishes, silverware, stove and ice box.

Between Monday and Thursday, a surcharge of \$6.00 per day will be required, plus a \$10.00 cleaning deposit. The trailers may also be rented for the entire weekend, Friday through Sunday, for \$22.50. Weekly rates will be \$40.00 for any seven-day period.

Fourteen-foot aluminum boats with 10 to 16½ horsepower motors will also be available for rent. Rental fee for the boats will be \$8.00 per day.

The boats and trailers will be available at Conner's Trailer Rentals, located 5 miles west of the Kernville turn-off on Highway 178. Trailers will be moved to a location of your choice in the Lake Isabella area. Individuals must make their own reservations by writing or calling Raymond Conner, Lake Isabella - Mt. Mesa, P.O. Box 214, phone 714-379-2755. Center employees may pick up discount cards at the Special Services office, 76 Bard St., China Lake.

Bickford Given Achievement Award For Outstanding Job in Bolivia



SPECIAL AWARD FOR BICKFORD — Capt. R. L. Wessel (l), Commanding Officer, NWC Corona Laboratories chats with Fred K. Bickford, electronics engineer at the laboratories about the presentation of a \$400 Achievement Award earned by Bickford for establishing and operating an eclipse expedition site in Tarija, Bolivia.

A special award was made to Fred K. Bickford at the Naval Weapons Center Corona Laboratories for an unusual and outstanding job.

The \$400 Achievement Award was presented to him for establishing and operating an eclipse expedition site in Tarija, Bolivia.

With the help of a student assistant, Bickford who is an electronics engineer in the Electromagnetic Ranging and Detection Techniques Branch at the Laboratory, handled the entire job. They transported the equipment into the site, made local arrangements, set up and operated the complicated equipment.

Bickford assumed the responsibility for establishing an oblique sounder receiving system at Tarija, Bolivia for the eclipse expedition. This assignment was a particularly challenging task in that Bickford with only the help of a junior physicist from Illinois Institute of Technology Research Institute, had to establish and operate a field site involving highly sophisticated and complex electronic gear without

recourse to normal support efforts.

He had full responsibility on arriving in Bolivia for establishing those contacts necessary to arrange for equipment transportation from LaPaz to Tarija, a distance of approximately 500 miles, over very primitive roads, the establishment of contact with local authorities to acquire permission for site selection, the negotiation with land owners for site installation, the hiring of local laborers, arranging for site protection from the local Army and Air Force, and maintaining public relations which entailed tours and presentations to innumerable visitors during the weeks centered about the eclipse.

In the midst of all this, over 300 hours of operating time were logged, mostly in groups of 36 hours of continuous operation.

During this period of time, neither the Laboratory nor the site in Brazil was able to establish contact with Bickford at the Bolivian site. Consequently, he was forced to conduct the entire operation essentially in the blind with only the general guidance provided prior to departure from Corona.

There were many uncertainties involved in the site establishment, but all technical objectives were achieved.

The full significance of the accomplishment could not be fully appreciated until the acquired data had been processed and interpreted. The analysis and interpretation in this case were subject to a long time delay as the development of a complex computer program first had to be completed. The full value of the scientific effort has now come to fruition.

Public Works Offers Tips on Keeping Cool

Air-conditioning season is just around the corner, says the Public Works Department. Here are some handy tips on getting the most comfort out of your evaporative coolers:

Turn your cooler on before it gets too hot. If you feel hot there is a chance you may not be able to get the rooms cooled down to comfortable temperature in time.

Open one window in each room for pressure relief. How much to open the window depends on a lot of factors. But a good way to judge whether or not you are getting sufficient circulation is to tape a small strip of tissue on the edge of the window. As long as the strip flutters toward the outside, you have good air circulation. If your tissue strip is being drawn back into the room, close the window just enough to allow the air pressure to point it back to the outside.

Keep outside doors closed. And draw drapes or close shades on window areas exposed to direct sunlight.

Keep furniture or any obstructions away from cooler diffusers. You may find you can adjust the vanes of your diffuser to blow the cooled air where you want it.

Outside the house you can help your cooler's efficiency by keeping shrubbery a way from cooler intakes and by cutting irrigation near the intake to a minimum.

Sultry days pose a special

problem with evaporative cooling equipment. Since the cooling is a result of water action in contact with hot dry air: hot moist air does not cool readily by this process.

When those thunder showers are hanging over the Sierras, reduce the heat load as much as you can. Turn coolers on early in the day. Be sure you have a good circulation in the rooms and keep drapes drawn. It is a good idea, too, on muggy days to avoid baking or using clothes dryers as much as possible. The less moist heat you generate inside the house, the better chance you have of keeping cool with an evaporative cooler.

If you have a cooler equipped with bleed lines running into the yard avoid constricting the outflow and be sure to report any stoppage of the water flow to Public Works trouble desk, Ext. 7177.

Desert evaporative cooling is almost as old a system as man's occupancy of the deserts of the world. Historians say the early Persians laid pads of felt over their tents then saturated them with water. And there is some evidence the Egyptians used a crude form of evaporative cooling as early as 2500 B.C.

Public Works Department is getting air-coolers in the housing areas ready for summer now. Expected completion of the work is early April.

Photochemistry Is Meet Topic

Dr. Peter Yates of the University of Toronto will discuss "Aspects of Organic Photochemistry" at the April 15 meeting of the Mojave Section of the American Chemical Society.

The effects of ultraviolet radiation upon organic compounds has been investigated, and the structures and reaction products formed by it will be described. The significance of these findings will be related to current theoretical concepts.

A dinner and social period will be held at 7 p.m., before

GEBA Payments Called on 2 of 3 Deaths of Lakers

No assessment will be levied due to the death of Basil W. Privitt, a former employee of the Public Works Electric Shop and GEBA - CLMAS member.

GEBA Secretary-Treasurer Joseph M. Becker, also announced that assessment No. 146 and 74 is due for the death of member Harvey L. Cabe, former Code 40 employee, and that assessment No. 147-75 is due for the death of member Gordon M. Bredstrand of the Michelson Laboratory Machine Shop.

Basil Privitt died March 21, Harvey Cabe on March 24 and Gordon Bredstrand on March 27, all at the Ridgcrest Community Hospital. Payments of \$2.40 may be mailed to Joseph M. Becker at 77-B Renshaw, China Lake.

The 8 p.m. meeting. Visitors are welcome at either part of the event.

Dr. Yates, who was born in England and did his undergraduate work at the University of London, is well known in this country. He received his doctorate at Yale, did post-doctoral work at Harvard, and served as an instructor at both Yale and Harvard. He is now Professor of Chemistry at the University of Toronto where he has served since 1960. He is Chairman of the Organic Chemistry Division of the Chemical Institute of Canada and has been a member of the editorial board of "Organic Synthesis" since 1962.

His primary interests deal with structural and synthetic organic chemistry dealing with aliphatic diazo compounds, heterocyclic compounds, as well as photochemical and natural products.

Apprentice Grads Planning Reunion

A reunion of all people who went through the Naval Weapons Center Apprentice Program is being planned.

A total of 222 notices were sent out. Any person not receiving a notice should contact Marie Beale at Ext. 72686 in the Training Building.

It is also requested that persons having received notices but who have not returned them, do so by April 15. The notice asks if the former trainee would attend the reunion or not. This information is necessary for adequate planning.

The Rocketeer

Official Weekly Publication U.S. Naval Weapons Center China Lake, California

Capt. M. R. Etheridge, USN NWC Commander

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DEADLINES: News Stories.....Tuesday, 4:30 p.m. Photographs.....Tuesday, 11:30 p.m.

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Phone.....71354, 71655, 72082



DIVINE SERVICES

Protestant—(All Faith Chapel)—Morning Worship—8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School—9:30 a.m., Chapel Annex 1, 2, 3, 4 (Dorms 5, 6, 7, 8) located opposite Center Restaurant.

Roman Catholic (All Faith Chapel)—Holy Mass—7, 9:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. Sunday.

Daily Mass—11:30 a.m. in Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

Confessions—7 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday.

NWC Jewish Services (East Wing All Faith Chapel)—8 p.m. every first and third Friday.

Sabbath School—10 a.m. to noon, every first and third Saturday.

Unitarian Fellowship—(Chapel Annex, 95 King Ave.)—Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

THE LOCKER ROOM

A Case of the Hard Sell

By ED RANCK



For the last few years, the city of Los Angeles has been described by many as being the sports capital of the world.

For those who don't quite believe it, consider the fact that the area is the home of USC and UCLA, two centers of knowledge that aren't exactly unknown in the world of college athletics.

In professional sports the Dodgers are now the richest team in baseball because of their move to the Coast. When the Lakers arrived in town a few years ago the franchise was on the verge of going bankrupt; now the owner drives a Rolls and there is every indication that he isn't subsisting on baloney sandwiches.

Professional soccer and the American Basketball Association, however, haven't fared so well. There probably aren't enough expatriates from the Balkans to fill the stands at the soccer games as yet, but the game is a legitimately good one, and given enough time it should survive.

HOCKEY: RED-HOT TEAM VS. RED-HOT PUBLICITY

With all this in mind, it is interesting to consider the predicament confronting the Los Angeles Kings.

The Kings seem to have everything going for them. They have a winner, and the type of team that sports fans usually clutch lovingly to their collective bosoms. The Kings were consigned to the basement of the NHL by most hockey experts prior to the start of the season, but they are currently in the thick of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

They play in the Forum at Inglewood, which has to rank as one of the country's best indoor sports arenas. They are engaged in a sport which many consider to be the most enjoyable spectator sport in the world.

During the past few days the Kings played a pair of play-off games before hometown audiences that barely filled half the stadium. This is a phenomenon that is unheard of in most cities involved in the Stanley Cup competition.

One theory as to why the NHL has enjoyed marginal success in LA is that the game itself is hard to understand. The fact is that hockey is probably the simplest of all major sports to comprehend.

The possibility does exist that the Kings are the victims of the oversell. Since last summer the public has been continuously reminded of the fact that the Kings were to be the most exciting team in the world's most exciting sport.

Many fans are under the impression that hockey scores are determined by the pints of blood spilled and the number of sutures taken. In this respect the Kings, who rely on speed rather than brutality, may be less than the fans had expected.

The home of the Kings, the Forum, is a fine stadium. However it does fall a bit short of being the "eighth wonder of the world," as has been suggested. Take away the wall-to-wall carpeting and the Forum is still a fine sports arena, but not the "world's most beautiful sports theatre," as advertised.

The point is that the Kings may be a victim of their own front office bally-hoo. The tendency to oversell the team and the stadium may have led most people to think that if all the advertising was necessary, there must be something wrong.

Who knows? With all the advertising gimmicks being employed, a lot of people may have thought that the Kings were really the Oakland Athletics in disguise.

Junior League 76'ers are Champs



JUNIOR LEAGUE 76ers TRIUMPH — In the 10-14 year age group Junior League of basketball, the 76ers are the '67-68 season champs, followed by the Bruins, the Lakers and the Trojans.

Pair Rolls 700's, Ladies Top 1,000 Mark for IWB First

China Lake's growing 700 club nearly had a pair of new members last week.

Bowling in the Desert Handicap League, Ken Dalpiaz and Craig Rae both fell a few pins short of the magic number, as the China Lake winter bowling season entered the final month of competition.

Things cooled down a bit in the Premier League as the Woodard Cosmetics team put the 1967-68 championship on ice.

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game in the National Roll-Offs. It was the first time in the history of the Ridgecrest-China Lake Bowling Association that a women's team had ever broken the 1000 mark.

Team members and their series totals included Doty Duncan, 527; Lee Fox, 592; Doris Bayack, 585; Erma Erickson, 562, and Patty Maxwell, 562. The team finished with a 2828 team series.

In the Mixed Foursome, Fred Dalpiaz led the way with 222-204-205 for a 631 series. Ernest Greblowski also broke the 200 mark with a 202. Patty Maxwell led the ladies with 210-507.

Betty Kirwin rolled 220-545 to lead the China Lake Women's Handicap League. Peggy Bell had second high series with 500.

Doty Duncan rolled a 221 Sunday to pace a team of local ladies to a 1035 scratch

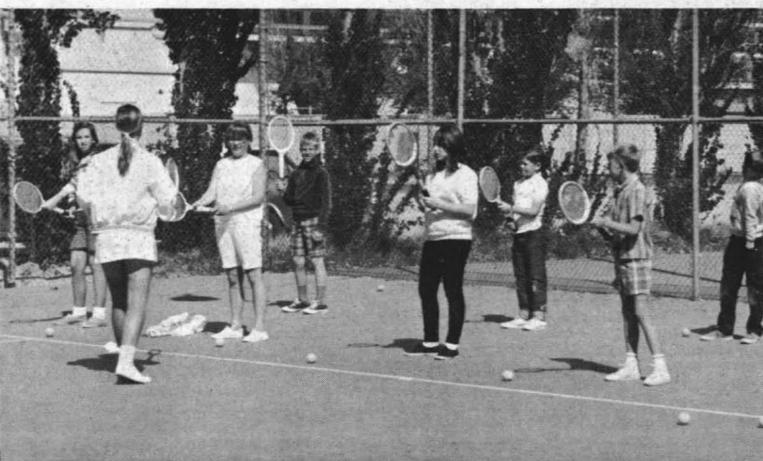
broke the 200 mark, hitting a 201.

Premier Standings table with columns for team name, W, L, and scores.

China Lake Hosts Volleyball Meet At Gym, Saturday

China Lake will host the 1968 Mojave Desert Volleyball Tournament tomorrow at the Center gymnasium.

Seven teams, including Edwards, George, Norton and Nellis AFB's; MCB 29 Palms; MCSC Barstow, and China Lake will compete in the round robin tournament, which begins at 10 a.m.



YOUNG LAKERS LEARN TENNIS — Joan Leipnik teaches young China Lakers the fundamentals of tennis at the Center courts.

Hobby Exhibition By Ceramic Club Set for Apr. 15-16

The Desert Ceramic Club will present its annual hobby exhibition on Monday, April 15 from 3 to 7 p.m. and Tuesday, April 16, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Community Center.

The public is invited to visit the show. There is no admission charge.

Club members known also as "Mud Hens and Mud Roosters" are entering their finest pieces in competition for trophies and ribbons to be awarded by three competent judges outstanding in the ceramics field.

The following demonstrations by four members of the club have been scheduled throughout Tuesday: Bisq-Wax Stains by Lula Mae Pangle from 10 to 11 a.m.; Brush Stroke by Jean Nelson from 1 to 3 p.m.; Clay Building by Kathie Pratt from 3 to 4 p.m.; Hand-Carving on Greenware by Marie Loper from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The drawings for door prizes which include a ceramic chess set, a "Burros" mascot donkey bank, coffee set, candle holder and a nativity set will be made on Tuesday at the conclusion of the show.



Forty Years Work Earns Employee Navy Recognition

Forty years of satisfactory Federal service was recognized when Frank J. Jahemiak was given a Secretary of the Navy Award at the Naval Weapons Center Corona Laboratories' Awards Ceremony.

The Certificate, signed by Paul R. Ignatius, Secretary of the Navy read, "In grateful recognition and appreciation of your faithful service to the Navy and to the Government of the United States; I take great pleasure in presenting this Award of Service."

Retired in 1946

Jahemiak retired in 1946 after 26 years in the Army Horse Cavalry. He came to work for the Bureau of Standards Laboratory as a guard in 1951, and retired as Chief of the Guards at the NWC Corona Laboratories last fall.

He and Mrs. Jahemiak live at 2974 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.



BUILDERS DEPART FOR GULFPORT — Their job is to help 700 other Reserve Seabees reactivate a naval station there—and to get invaluable training in such skills as timber towers and bridges, pile driving, poleline construction, well drilling, pontoon

assembly, steel tanks and towers, water purification and asphalt paving. The 37 men of the local Reserve Construction Battalion Div. 1-2, led by LCdr. Carlton E. Hamel, S.C., USNR-R, were flown from Los Angeles to Gulfport.

TV Booster Fund Drive Kicks Off With Good Start

(Continued from Page 1)

own time to this community benefit," urged McKnight.

Each volunteer will carry authorized credentials signed by officials of the China Lake Community Council and the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce for verification by the householder, he noted.

McKnight urged that now is the time to forward contributions to the TV Booster Fund, Box 5443, China Lake, or to Box 771, Ridgecrest. "With a personal contribution by each job-holder in the area, we will meet our goal," McKnight said.

The \$50,000 fund, set by the China Lake Community Council and the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, joint sponsors of the drive, will be used to purchase new equipment to improve both color and black and white television reception in the area.

The fund drive has a personal endorsement of Capt. M. R. Etheridge, NWC Commander, and Mayor Ken Smith of Ridgecrest. Both reiterated that a Valley-wide response is needed to achieve the fund goal.

Chairman McKnight reemphasized that the community response to the fund drive has been heart warming in many respects. He pointed out that two individual \$10 contributions came at different times from one person on a limited budget, who promises additional contributions when the budget will allow.

He noted that the Technical Information Department's Recreation Committee which has disbanded, authorized its president Al Copeland to turn over the balance of its treasury to the TV Booster Fund.

Volunteer man-hours donated to the support of the drive has been phenomenal, McKnight reports. He noted that over 400 man-hours by individuals were contributed in folding and stapling of flyers for the drive.

Scouts Deliver Flyers

Boy Scout Troops, under the leadership of Dick Hape, distributed over 1,920 flyers to each home in Ridgecrest. Judson Smith and Denny Klein delivered and posted fund drive window posters to each business firm in Ridgecrest.

The posters were silk-screened by art students of Murray Junior High and Burroughs High School. Many individuals, the John Leverettes and the Gabe Imers, among others on the Center and in Ridgecrest donated their talents in the design and execution of the posters.

Boost Provided For Retirees

The Civil Service Commission has announced an automatic cost of living increase in annuities to retired Federal employees and their survivors.

The 3.9 per cent increase is effective on May 1, 1968, and will be reflected in checks issued June 1, 1968. Current Federal employees who retire on or before April 30, 1968, will also be eligible to receive the increase.

Phone Service Up-Date Work Underway Here

China Lakers who have recently experienced unusual telephone troubles at Center extensions either at their shops and offices or in their homes have been asked to "bear with us" by the Communication Office, while new and improved telephone equipment is installed.

A lengthy central office modernization project is in progress, which can and has occasionally interfered with normal telephone service, according to Lt. I. R. Moore, Communication Officer.

"Upon completion of the job we can expect to experience better quality service with far fewer central office equipment malfunctions," she reports. The work involves replacing old equipment with new, better quality and more adjustable equipment.

The project is expected to be completed in mid-June.

Interview Gives Insight Into Teenage Narcotics Picture

BY MILT SHEELY

Rocketeer: How much of a narcotics problem exists in the China Lake-Ridgecrest area?

Chief Cummins: According to records available there are reflected for a two-year period, April 1966 through March 1968, the following narcotic cases: In March 1967, the sale of substance in lieu of marijuana, one military and one civil service dependent over 18 years old. For June 1967, the possession and/or sale of narcotics included five military, two Center employees, one military dependent and one civilian contractor. In November, a juvenile was picked up by Security Police for the use of a narcotic. For the possession of a restricted drug, a juvenile (military dependent) was apprehended by the Security Police. During the same month, two juveniles, both dependents of civil service employees, and another juvenile, a military dependent, were picked up for the use of narcotics by Security Police.

In March 1968, there were three cases involving personnel at the Center. One military dependent was apprehended for possession of marijuana and two military personnel were involved in possession of narcotics and narcotic paraphernalia.

It is important here to point out to the reader, that there were no cases reported prior to March, 1967.

A breakdown of this statistical information reveals that there were a total of seven cases involving 19 people of which 14 were adults and five were juveniles. Age and sex of juvenile offenders were: one 17-year-old (female); two 16-year-olds (male) and two 15-year-olds (male).

Ages and sex of adult offenders included two 24-year-olds (males); two 22-year-olds (males); one 21-year-old (male); four 20-year-olds (males); three 19-year-olds (males); one 18-year-old (male), and one unknown (female).

I think this is a low record for the amount of people we have on Center and for all the talk we have been hearing here recently.

Rocketeer: Actually, then, you would refute the rumor that China Lake - Ridgecrest area produces the largest number of narcotics users per capita in this part of the United States? You feel there is no basis for such a rumor? Would this be your observation?

Chief Cummins: The problem is here, but we haven't been invaded like we may have been if we were located near a larger city. Over a two year period only 14 people have been involved in some form of narcotics arrests. I feel that we're not hurting and believe the rumor is idle and vicious talk.

Rocketeer: Chief Whaley, how do you feel about this area

we're discussing now as far as statistics are concerned?

Chief Whaley: This is not a local problem. The only way we can truthfully say, statistically, is there a problem is by our arrest record. People don't run around bragging that they are narcotics users. It is, therefore, impossible to say how many people are narcotics users. There is no such thing as this statistic we're being referred to.

The enforcement effort in this area, Naval Weapons Center Security Police and Office of Naval Intelligence; Ridgecrest Police Department and the Kern County Sheriff's Office, work together very closely. We have developed a system of intelligence, and of exchanging information. We also rely on the Bakersfield Sheriffs Narcotics Squad to assist in making arrests in this area. I don't believe we have any greater problem here than in other areas the same size and in a similar geographical location.

The arrest records and felony arrests are increasing rapidly. Throughout the State of California last year there was a 19.1 per cent increase. Two counties, San Diego and San Francisco, reported respective rate increases of 24.6 per cent in San Diego and 27.4 per cent in San Francisco. In San Diego, drug law arrests more than doubled in 1967, and in San Francisco, they were up 90 per cent, while arrest burglar rates were almost 40 per cent higher and auto theft rates rose 30 per cent. This indicates to me it is a universal problem. We don't have any more of a problem here than anywhere else.

Rocketeer: Commander Byrd, do you have anything to add to what has been discussed so far from the Command level

What are the true facts relating to the use of dangerous narcotics such as marijuana, heroin and LSD? What are some of the consequences to be expected when one is foolish enough to explore the unknown vastness of the subconscious by experimentation with this dangerous commodity? What are some of the close-to-home problems the authorities and parents are having to face today when their children become involved with the use of drugs as an escape from their responsibilities and societal?

A Rocketeer staff writer made arrangements to personally interview law enforcement officials and attempted to get their views on the problem as it pertains to the China Lake-Ridgecrest areas and Kern County.

Interviewed were Chief of Police V. A. Cummins, Naval

here at Naval Weapons Center?

Commander Byrd: If you're going to introduce this subject to the population, and you obviously are, it is incumbent upon you to define the problem. Does the problem exist? If we have one case of narcotics use, I think it does exist. Or is there a drug problem only if we compare favorably to the rate of occurrence or incidence rate, say in a comparable community? The definition of "problem" has a real meaning here and I think it should be defined. I think some of what has been said is certainly we have what might be generally referred to as a narcotics problem locally. By narcotics, we mean amphetamines, LSD, marijuana, etc. I don't believe we have had any incidents involving the use of heroin. And that is meaningful for this reason. It's often said one of the real reasons marijuana poses a problem is this is the natural stepping stone to the use of a more devastating drug. To me it's evident we don't have a real serious problem . . . but we do have a problem.

Chief Whaley: In the four years I have been in Ridgecrest, we have had one case of heroin. The man's record revealed he had a history in the use and sale of heroin in Los Angeles before coming to this area on a work assignment. It wasn't a local thing; he brought it with him.

Rocketeer: Sheriff Glennon, what problems are you concerned with when there is evidence of a person using a narcotic?

Sheriff Glennon: As Commander Byrd pointed out there is definitely a marijuana problem in this area. All three law en-

Naval Weapons Center Security Department; Commander H. E. Byrd, NWC Legal Officer; Chief of Police George Whaley of Ridgecrest, and Sheriff's Investigator, Don Glennon, Kern County.

The interview may seem to many of our readers to be slanted toward the opinions, experience and first-hand observations of these law enforcement officials. This is how it should be. We realize there are other important personages to be interviewed about this threatening problem to our youngsters and we hope in the near future to give you a sampling of their comments and observations.

This is what the staff writer found out during the interview and presents to you for whatever assistance you may find it to be in helping you understand the seriousness of narcotics as it may apply to every parent.

forcement departments involved are well aware of this and we expend all efforts which are possible so far as law enforcement is concerned.

Rocketeer: How do people, both youngsters and adults, manage to get possession of a narcotic? Is it smuggled into this area? Is it produced here? Is it peddled by outsiders coming here to make their living off this type of product? How does it manage to get here in the first place?

Sheriff Glennon: The only way I can answer that without going into things we are doing is to say, it's brought into this area by means of modern transportation. This we know.

Chief Cummins: I know what we should do about the narcotics problem as far as teenagers are concerned. If parents would mind their own kids and leave other people's business alone and other kids alone and cooperate with the law enforcement agencies, we would be well on the way to entirely eliminating the problem altogether. With a two-way exchange of communication, we would be in a position to help the parents solve a few of their problems pertaining to the handling of their youngsters. I feel without the parents help, we are in trouble. I'm not going to babysit these kids living on the Center and the parents should know this. If they don't know where their kids are, what they are doing, then, I say, we're really in trouble. We have tried to enforce the law on the Center and if parents don't want the law enforced, they had better find ways to change it. Without the parents help, and their cooperation, the police are crippled as far as juveniles are concerned.

Rocketeer: Chief Whaley, what do you consider as the prime responsibility of parents in this area?

Chief Whaley: We continually try to bring home to parents and businessmen a need for their help if we are going to do an acceptable job; we cannot do it by ourselves. We, of all people, must work within the framework of the law because when our police department becomes anything else but a lawfully operated organization, we then have something similar to a gastapo, which nobody wants, I'm sure. Parents have to accept their parental responsibilities; they have to know where their children are . . . at all times; they have to know who they are associating with, and they have to know what they are doing. I think this is a part of our society which has broken down to a certain extent in the recent past. Referring to statistics we note that in 1967, throughout the State of California felony drug law violations increased 68.9 per cent. The

misdeemeanor drug law violations increased 70.1 per cent. Juvenile delinquency rates or juvenile drug law violations increased 183.4 per cent over 1966. It, therefore, appears to me that this is not just a problem in Ridgecrest and China Lake. It's a universal problem. There has been a lot of publicity given to the use of drugs, the amphetamine's, barbiturates, LSD, marijuana, etc., and I think the publicity, at times, may have worked to our disadvantage by making enough young people curious to try and see if the drug did what the publicity said it would do for them.

Sheriff Glennon: For the year 1966, in Kern County, there was a total of 46,247 felony and misdemeanor arrests. This was out of a total population of some 330,000 people. Narcotics arrests were 40. In 1967 there were 44,765 felony and misdemeanor arrests or a less amount than in previous years, and a total of 104 narcotics arrests or almost three times as many as the previous year. So far, this year for the first quarter, there have been 68 narcotics arrests in Kern County.

This indicates there is a growing problem. It's a moral and social problem stemming from the family and the family not knowing what's going on or instilling good old-fashioned ideals in their kids.

Rocketeer: What are the consequences a youngster can expect when using a narcotic? Why do they do it?

Sheriff Glennon: A narcotic tends to degenerate the user one way or another. With marijuana, it's usually started as an experiment. When you talk to some of the kids who are involved they rationalize that marijuana isn't bad because they've heard some people say it's not as harmful as cigarettes or alcohol. One of the things I heard a Narcotics Officer explain to a juvenile to prove how degenerate a narcotic is, was when some of our were children we may have drunk beer, which was illegal, but we didn't drink it before we went to school in the morning or through our lunch breaks. This is how degenerate it might get now — kids might stop on the way to school in some family's home and smoke a little pot or during their lunch breaks head out behind the school and smoke the stuff.

Rocketeer: Is there a possibility that smoking marijuana (pot) will lead to experimentation with heroin or other dangerous drugs?

Sheriff Glennon: Definitely. This has been proven time and time again. Marijuana is the only narcotic that's outlawed in every country in the world.

Rocketeer: How does this affect the physiological makeup

of an individual — his daily performance? Does it dull his memory, his thinking capacity or his physical movements?

Sheriff Glennon: Yes. It has the same inherent effect as alcohol would have.

Rocketeer: Would it tend to lead an individual toward being a little bolder toward society, trying to do things he has never thought of trying before?

Sheriff Glennon: It takes away the use of a man's will . . . the will he would have if he wasn't under the influence of a narcotic. He's not rational. He can't make judgements the way he would if he hadn't come under this influence.

Rocketeer: What affects are narcotics, primarily marijuana, having on school children in the China Lake - Ridgecrest area? Do we have outside sources trying to influence these youngsters? What is being done to prevent these persons from becoming an influential source on our youngsters?

Chief Cummins: We're doing everything we can to keep anybody from influencing our school children. We're working together and certainly we're trying to combat it. We are doing everything possible to keep them from smoking pot. I feel sure all law enforcement officers are working on this problem. But the problem itself reverts back to the home. I think if I had a kid in school I'd know if he was smoking marijuana or making grades.

Rocketeer: Can our youngsters purchase marijuana? Where do they get it and how do you find out if there is an available source for their purchase?

Chief Cummins: If I knew where they got the marijuana, I'd arrest the people selling it. I've heard rumors that marijuana was being grown here. I recently had a rumor that an individual was growing marijuana in his front yard. When we completed our investigation, it was found he had nothing growing in his front yard, not even grass. All he had was sand and rocks.

Sheriff Glennon: The biggest area of citizen participation and cooperation would be for them to let us know of any law violations dealing with marijuana. They can be assured when they do this, the law enforcement agencies will take every possible action to check it out from beginning to end. We make it a point to check out every complaint of every rumor about narcotics occurring in Kern County.

Commander Byrd: I would like to comment on the remarks made by Sheriff Glennon. I



LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS INTERVIEWED — A first in a series of interviews with law enforcement officials having first-hand knowledge on the narcotics problem is carried on here by a Rocketeer staff writer (l) with Commander H.

E. Byrd, Naval Weapons Center Legal Officer; Chief of Police V. A. Cummins, NWC Security Department; Sheriff's Investigator Don Glennon, Kern County, and Chief of Police George Whaley of Ridgecrest. —Photo by PH1 Gary D. Bird

think the public should recognize we have an adequate, excellent law enforcement machinery locally even though we're a community in the Valley of less than 25,000 people. We have what amounts to five agencies concerned with law enforcement as it relates to narcotics: Sheriff's Office; Ridgecrest City Police; Security Police; ONI, and the State of California. I'm not a part of that law enforcement, but I constantly see the results of their action and see effective cooperation which certainly is necessary insofar as the narcotics problem is concerned, because it is not localized — it is transitory. If it exists here in China Lake, the problem has roots in the City of Ridgecrest, in all probability, the County of Kern and the State of California. I'm merely saying we have the machinery here to deal with the problem if we can get it out in the open and there I think we bring into focus the assistance which can be rendered by the adults in the Valley, who, after all, are the ones really concerned and the people we're trying to reach. I submit there are in this Valley today parents who know or have a fear of knowing a child of theirs has used marijuana, amphetamines, LSD, etc., because in 99 cases out of 100 a discerning parent will be the first to know if their child is under the influence of a narcotic.

In some cases that same parent will not turn around and go to the law enforcement officials or get the child to a medical facility to determine what has caused this distinct appearance and demeanor in their child. In practically every case if we were to meet our children when they came home at night and knew where they had been, etc., it would only be a matter of time before that parent would be able to tell if his child is involved in the use of drugs.

But if he, the parent, is going to tie this up in his bosom for fear the Joneses might talk about him; if he's concerned with his own image rather than the welfare of the child; and he is, if he fails to surrender the information to the police, then he is hampering, directly, law enforcement, and has no right, in a sense, to talk about the problem in the Valley or how it concerns him if there was an opportunity for him to do something about it and he

failed to act wisely. To a great extent, the problem here, or for that matter anywhere, is never going to be controlled as well as it could be if there was this uninhibited cooperation on the part of the public with law enforcement agencies. But like any wrong it's difficult for law enforcement officials, without assistance, to do anything about it. For every child or minor using it here in the Valley, if in fact it is being used, a parent or parents know or they have a strong suspicion it is being used.

We talk about the rumor. I'd like to think the question of a rumor is again the adult population in the Valley. I've seen this; I've had persons come to me and inquire about the narcotic problem. What about this 50 per cent of high school students using it? These rumors, while they may not be born by the adults in the Valley, are nurtured, perpetuated and we should all search our conscience with respect to passing on such comments or making inquiries in front of our children. Every time a story is told, either something is added or something is detracted. And for us to come here and have to contend with a rumor to the effect we are one of the most narcotic-ridden communities in the State of California is totally asinine; it is totally irresponsible. At an occasional meeting people will ask a question such as this: "Is it true that 50 per cent of students at Burroughs High School smoke marijuana? My kids came home and told me that." That parent is irresponsible. He didn't examine the child; exhaust of him information, otherwise he would have learned that his child was merely repeating a rumor. That child, his child or for that matter, any child is hardly in a position to know whether or not marijuana is being smoked at the high school. Some people are interested in this problem and resort to rumors because they are, in a sense, vultures; they are curious; they know their child is not involved, but they're snooping and they're really concerned with what the kid down the street is doing.

Unfortunately, there's just too many irresponsible comments made, ominous curiosity motivates many. Many questions, which in a sense amount to stories and rumors, have created a fear and concern on

the part of all persons in the Valley. We're only adding to the problem and increasing its dimensions in our own mind by irresponsible questions and comments as to the problem in the Valley. There have been cases where parents have intentionally covered up an occurrence — a use of a narcotic or drug by a minor child. That same parent is now vitally concerned with the problem, but he missed a wonderful opportunity to capitalize an attempt to remove the problem simply by protecting his own image and forgetting momentarily the welfare, the long-range welfare of his son.

When we talk of law enforcement, we've got to bring in the civilian population and we cannot sit back and simply relax in the belief that no matter what is happening outside, if it's against the law, the law enforcement machinery is designed to take care of it. It can if we get the utmost cooperation from the public. And if the public is concerned about this, and they are, then they have a corresponding duty to assist in the problem.

Sheriff Glennon: If we have one narcotic user, we have a problem we should be concerned about. I think this interview was conducted mainly to find out if we knew if there was any basis to the ridiculous rumor that China Lake - Ridgecrest area was one of the top narcotic centers in the State. We have answered that. We have no information there is any kind of rating anywhere. The biggest problem is people complaining about other people's kids, when actually it's not other people's kids, like Chief Cummins said, it's their own children. If a parent can establish a rapport with his children; if the child feels free to talk to the parent, then whatever problem exists is going to be non-existent as far as the individual's parents and family are concerned.

Rocketeer: Chief Cummins, would you like to make a concluding comment?

Chief Cummins: Our judge furnished me a list of drug arrests in California for 1967. In the first half of the year throughout Kern County, there were only 19 arrests and 14 of these were for marijuana. I think the figures will establish the fact this is only a rumor.

Chief Whaley: There is no statistic indicating the number of people using any kind of stimulants or narcotics or hallucinatory drugs we have been talking about. We can only quote statistics from our police records. These are the only people we know about when we finally get convictions to prove that they were using or were involved in the sale or transportation of a narcotic. If we can stop this problem at its source, it will make the problem of controlling it here a whole lot easier. We doubt very much that a great supply is locally produced.

Commander Byrd: As has been indicated here we can only speak from a standpoint of statistics. Certainly the public should not be deluded into thinking that simply because we had, say 11 arrests in 1967, there have only been 11 cases or incidence of use. There obviously, in all probability, are others. As has been remarked, we can't tell with any specificity what the extent of the problem is here. We know it is not rampant; we know persons have had difficulty in attempting to purchase marijuana locally, and undercover agents who were out to try and make a buy, but who found it was not available. We know at times it is available because it has been observed. Persons have been apprehended; have been caught with it. But there is no way to measure the full depth of the problem. We've got to be constantly alert and can only request assistance from the public and the more assistance we receive the greater chances of our success.

I think we need to suggest to parents, since this subject is so universal from the standpoint of concern today, they should know the effects of marijuana — the physiological and psychological effects — and they should give their views and explain them objectively to their children. They should discover the view of the child. What does he think of the person who uses marijuana, etc? In other words, education . . . it saves us in any predicament. It behooves the parents to alert themselves about the effects of marijuana, LSD, and what have you, and get across to the child the true picture. When we speak of educating the child, children, minors, we think of the parent . . . it's their responsibility.