



PRACTICING UP — Honing their culinary skills in preparation for the upcoming barbecue and swim party for the local Naval Sea Cadet Corps are Michael Follis, Bill McEwan, and Judy Follis. The festivities, set for Aug. 4 at 6 p.m. at the CPO Club, are open to the public. Reservations must be made by July 29. For more information, telephone 446-5488. — Photo by PHAN Greg Hogan

Civilians can earn college units by taking DANTES examination

For the first time, civilians are eligible to take DANTES examinations to earn college credit for knowledge gained on the job or independently.

For many years, only active duty service members were eligible to take the tests, but now military dependents and Department of Defense civilians may take any of the more than 50 standardized tests on subjects ranging from applied technologies to languages and social sciences.

DANTES — Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support — developed the tests and last year signed a contract with Education Testing Service (ETS) of Princeton, N.J., that allows ETS to market the tests to colleges and universities. This allows the local Navy campus offices or base education offices to offer the DANTES subject standardized tests.

"Although many of the DANTES tests cover knowledge required to obtain a technical or trade certificate or diploma," said Alice Gerb, ETS Program Director, "they also are applicable to associate and

23rd annual photo contest announced by Naval Institute

The 23rd annual Naval and Maritime Photo Contest has been announced by its sponsor, the U.S. Naval Institute. Awards of \$100 each will be given to the top ten photographs selected by the Naval Institute, and winning photos will be published in a 1985 issue of the Institute's monthly magazine, "Proceedings."

The contest deadline is Dec. 31, 1984. The photo(s) must pertain to naval or maritime subjects but do not have to have been taken during 1984. Entries must be either black and white prints, color prints or color transparencies. Additional information and contest rules may be obtained by contacting: Naval and Maritime Photo Contest, U.S. Naval Institute, Annapolis, MD 21402, or by calling (301) 268-6110.

Drawing at Auto Center

The Navy Exchange has announced that the Automotive Center, located at the Center gas station, will give away a Sharp black and white 12" portable television set during a drawing scheduled for Aug. 16. Entry blanks are available at the Automotive Center and interested persons can fill the blanks out and drop them in a box set aside for entrants.

Forethought, caution ensure that travelers have happy vacation

"Be paranoid. Think suspicious," is advice that might prove to be life-saving or property-saving for travelers both in this country and abroad according to security experts.

This doesn't mean that a traveler should be so concerned with safety and security that he or she doesn't enjoy a journey, but it does mean that some sensible precautions can cut the chance of becoming a victim of theft, violence or terrorism.

For instance, a traveler who announces loudly that he or she is a stranger either by speech or inappropriate attire, is very apt to become a victim, especially when in a foreign country. Just as members of the military or other government employees are advised not to publicize plans where they will be or to keep to such a regular schedule that they could become victims of terrorism, announcing loudly what plans are set for the following day alerts thieves that a hotel room will be empty and property untended.

To prevent loss of property, travelers should not carry excess or unnecessary baggage, should have the hotel lock items of particular value in the hotel safe (either in this country or aboard), and should be sure that the door to a hotel room is locked at all times. Equally, the room door should not be opened to anyone without proper identification.

Luggage should not be left untended, even for a minute — either in this country or abroad. And women who carry handbags should not dangle them from long straps, but should be sure to keep a firm grip on the bags. Men would do well to use a money belt or an ankle wallet rather than keeping a wallet in a back pocket where it can easily be removed by a deft pickpocket.

Farewell party set for Capt. Jerry Lee at COM on Tuesday

Anyone who plans to attend a farewell party for Capt. Jerry Lee, NWC Director of Supply, is asked to telephone the Program Coordinator's Office at NWC ext. 2634 to ensure that a name tag will be ready.

The party will be held at the Commissioned Officers' mess on Tuesday evening. A social hour will begin the evening at 6 o'clock, followed by presentations at 7. Capt. Sockty Vaught, head of the Support Directorate, will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Guests attending will be asked for \$4 each to defray the costs of hors d'oeuvres, with the money collected at the door.

Aviation enthusiasts meet

All aviation enthusiasts are invited to attend a meeting of the Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 446, that will be held on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Kern County Library, 131 E. Las Flores Ave., Ridgecrest.



Weekend Roundup

Tonight the Chief Petty Officers' Mess will host Wayne Paisano and the Roadrunners from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. for the dancing and listening pleasure of CPOM patrons.

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This evening the Enlisted mess will serve a seafood plate as the dinner special from 6 until 9 p.m. Following dinner, Steve Miles will play disco music from 9 p.m. until 1:30 a.m.

Tomorrow night the dinner special at the EM will be steak and shrimp, which will be served from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

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Tonight and tomorrow will be the final performances of "The Saloonkeeper's Daughter," presented by the China Lake Players. This fine melodrama treats playgoers to a chance to hiss the villain, cheer the hero, and sigh with the heroine.

Curtain time is 8:15 p.m. for both performances and tickets must be picked up at least a half hour prior to showtime.

Reservations can be arranged by telephoning the Music Man, 375-4001. Ticket prices are \$3.50 for general admission and \$2.50 for children under the age of 12, enlisted military, and senior citizens.

Personal safety also dictates some cautions besides opening a hotel door too readily. For instance, car doors should be kept locked if the traveler parks the car. Preferably, cars should be parked near street lights where they will be illuminated at night; police also advise looking into the back seat of any car before sliding in behind the wheel to be sure someone hasn't broken in and is hiding in the back.

Strolling the streets of a strange city at night alone isn't judicious, either, whether in this country or abroad. Once dark falls, staying where street lights are adequate is smart, as well as walking on the street side of a sidewalk away from darkened alleyways or other spots where someone bent on mischief could be lurking.

When traveling abroad, well-prepared travelers memorize phrases such as how to ask for a policeman — and also learn how to use the telephone system of the foreign country as quickly as possible so they call for assistance if needed. (Carrying the right kind and denomination of coin to make an emergency phone call is also essential.)

Other advance preparation includes listing the serial numbers of cameras or other valuables, and the numbers on traveler's checks and keeping several copies of these numbers stashed in a variety of places so that if any piece of luggage is stolen, the items can still be tracked.

Traveler's checks or credit cards are better for making purchases than carrying large sums of money. Once money changes hands (even if that change is affected by a theft), it becomes virtually untraceable.

Forethought and care can assure that a vacation or business trip will be memorable for pleasure rather than for pain or loss.

MOVIES

(G) ALL AGES ADMITTED
 General Audiences
 (PG) ALL AGES ADMITTED
 Parental Guidance Suggested
 (R) RESTRICTED
 Under 17 requires accompanying
 Parent or Adult Guardian

Day	Time	Movie	Rating
FRIDAY	7:00 p.m.	"TIME BANDITS"	PG
SATURDAY	7:00 p.m.	"INDEPENDENCE"	PG
SUNDAY	7:00 p.m.	"THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY"	PG
MONDAY	7:00 p.m.	"FIVE DAYS ONE SUMMER"	PG
TUESDAY	2 p.m.	"ALICE IN WONDERLAND"	G
WEDNESDAY	7:00 p.m.	"THE WICKED LADY"	PG
THURSDAY	2 p.m.	"SUPERMAN II"	PG

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1984—No. 1020

From: _____

To: _____

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



TID enters computer age to provide best service for all Center customers

The computer age has arrived at the Technical Information Department.

During the past two years, TID has taken a giant step into the electronic age so that it can continue to provide its customers with the kind of service that those customers need, in a timely fashion and at a reasonable cost.

To ensure that TID's acquisition of new technology proceeded in an orderly fashion and that the technology chosen would be most suitable to meet the requirements of the department and its customers, Steve Sanders, head of TID, with the cooperation of Lou Giegerich, Director of Computing Technology, established the Information Systems Analysis Office under Marco Monsalve.

A study group was named within the department to look at how customers saw TID, what customers felt their present and future needs might be, and, also, how the communication professionals within the department saw these needs.

Monsalve and his group, made up of Linda Roush, Don Thorpe and Linda Dittmeier, examined the new technology available both in the marketplace and in use by TID's customers at NWC to see what hardware and software combinations could best serve TID customers and potential customers.

A strategic plan was developed to provide for orderly acquisition of equipment and transition to automated procedures so that customers would not be inconvenienced while this was being installed and TID personnel learned how to use it.

One facet of this plan included the crea-

tion of a text processing coordinator position. This position was filled by Mrs. Dittmeier, a writer-editor with automation credentials, who has been responsible for assisting personnel throughout the department as well as user codes in how to make the best use of their new equipment.

Another innovative aspect of this plan was the formation of a Department Computing and Technology Committee to ensure that department technology users at all levels were represented in the decision-making process for the acquisition and use of new technology.

The transition to the new technology, in fact, has been so orderly that many TID customers aren't even aware of the dramatic changes that have already taken place.

For instance, the distribution operation has been automated. Mailing lists are now stored in a computer that prints labels for whichever list is to be used. The labels are affixed to the documents mechanically, and then these get on their way to the recipients without all the time-consuming and labor-intensive operation of the past.

In another case, two of TID's most frequent publications, the Current Technical Events Memorandum (CTE), produced by Cliff Lawson, and the NWC Announcements, edited by Steve Wiley, are now both produced on computerized text editors. The turnaround time on both publications is faster, initial errors more easily corrected, and the cost is lower because less labor is involved.

Customers who use the skills of TID's graphics professionals for presentation art



CONCENTRATION — Stephanie Fojt, an employee in TID's Composition Branch, looks at material displayed on the Compugraphics equipment. Much of the material now received by TID for editing can be transmitted to the Composition Branch for typesetting without having to be rekeyed. — Photo by PHAN Rebecca Gill

(vu-graphs, for instance) are well aware that the Genigraphics equipment has been vital in turning out the exciting artwork made by June Deatherage's group.

Those who wish to use the skills of TID's writers and editors in both the Writing Branch and the Editing Branch can communicate with these individuals directly and electronically provided that they themselves have access to either the Ethernet or to equipment compatible with the VAX computer.

John Dunker, who heads the Writing Branch, says that about 95 of all the original writing done in his branch is now done on the computer.

Scientists, engineers, administrators and

others who use the skills of the Editing Branch, headed by Jane Casey, can electronically transmit their documents directly to the editors through either the Ethernet or through VAX-compatible equipment.

The editors edit these documents on their Digital DECs, or Xerox Stars, and then, depending on the final quality required (whether letter quality or print quality) can either print them out directly or can transmit the document to the Compugraphics equipment or the Xerox Laser printer in the Composition Branch, where the material is typeset without having to be rekeyed. Not only does this mean that time and costs are saved, but also it reduces the chance for any errors being introduced due to miskeying once the document has passed the scrutiny of the editors.

The Field Service Branches of TID are also switching to the use of computers. Field Branch 2, headed by Russ Bushnell and located in Michelson Laboratory, and Field Branch 4, headed by Jim Koch and located at the airfield, will be involved in an experiment to provide Genigraphics quality at field locations by using Genigraphics-enhanced IBM PC computers capable of networking with user facilities. Field Branches 1 and 5 are currently using Xerox Stars in their publication efforts, while Phyllis Dane of Field Branch 4 has become a near expert in the use of VAX terminals for editorial purposes.

And, still in the planning stage because of the massiveness of the switch, is

Only those with 'A' on pass permitted at Armitage Airfield

With NWC's enhanced security program, the gates providing access to Armitage Airfield will be guarded around the clock, seven days a week.

This change in the security program is permanent and will go into effect Monday morning.

Everyone passing through the Lauritson Rd. and Sandquist Rd. gates leading to the Airfield will be required to display a badge with an "A" designation.

All persons are asked to ready their passes for the gate guard to expedite traffic flow.

SEAWARS now being installed on Fleet aircraft

The first 155 SEAWARS kits have been installed on aircraft on the USS Enterprise, where they will serve to help protect the lives of naval aviators.

SEAWARS — which stands for Seawater Activated Release Systems — automatically releases an aviator from the shroud lines of his parachute within two seconds after

he drops into the ocean after a bailout. The system takes over only if the aviator has not already released both lines from his parachute manually by this time.

The tiny electronics package is attuned to the electrical conductivity of sea water. When it senses that it is in sea water, a cartridge is fired to actuate a piston and



SAFETY FACTOR — The small cylinder beside the buckle holding the shroud lines for the parachute ensures that the Naval aviator will not become entangled with his chute in case he is unable to manually release it upon hitting sea water. SEAWARS, which automatically makes such a release, is expected to save the lives of from four to seven aviators a year.

automatically disconnect the harness buckles. The device does not respond to any wetting other than seawater; it can be drenched with rain or salt spray safely, according to a large number of tests, and will release only when it is in the ocean.

Each year from four to seven Navy or Marine Corps aviators drown because they become entangled with their parachutes or shroud lines after successful ejection from a malfunctioning aircraft and descent into the ocean, or because they are unconscious or injured otherwise and unable to affect a manual release.

Research on various systems to prevent such accidental deaths began in 1969. The successful device developed has a no-failure record during developmental tests conducted by Center personnel (with 22 live jumps made by Navy test parachutists from the Aerosystems Department). The operational evaluation conducted on the aircraft carrier USS Midway also was an unqualified success.

A production contract was signed with Conax Corporation of Buffalo, N.Y., on June 2, 1983, the OPEVAL was completed on Sept. 15, the Authority for Purchase was approved on Nov. 27, and the final contract was signed on Dec. 1.

Progress on production was accelerated so that the devices could get into the Fleet as quickly as possible, with the USS Enterprise being selected as the first ship to receive SEAWARS.

(Continued on Page 3)



Disease affecting only trout hits 2 Sierra hatcheries

"Whirling disease," also known as "black tail," has been diagnosed in fingerling rainbow and brook trout at Mt. Whitney fish hatchery, and both fingerlings and larger trout at the Black Rock fish hatchery in the Owens Valley. So far, no signs of the disease have been seen in fish at either the Fish Springs or Hot Creek hatcheries.

While trout are affected, the disease does not infect humans, nor will infected trout cause any problems to humans who eat these trout. Cooking destroys the spore, and so does smoking the fish.

The disease is transmitted to young trout as a spore from tubifex worms; this spore settles in the cartilage of the fingerling's head, and affects the nerves of the fish so that it will whirl and spin when startled. Other manifestations of the disease are discoloration of the tail from the dorsal fin back, as well as spinal abnormalities.

No trout are being moved from either hatchery until Department of Fish and Game biologists have had the opportunity to determine whether all the brood stock is affected, and where the infection developed. At that time, all affected trout at both hatcheries will be destroyed.

DFG officials emphasize that the only threat to humans with regard to whirling disease is that there will not be the number of trout available to plant that would have been present had diseased fish not had to be destroyed. The spore does not have any effect on humans and is killed by heat used in cooking or smoking.

Fishing tip of week

A sharp fish hook catches a lot more fish than a dull one. Anglers who spend a few minutes honing their hooks are much more apt to return home with a limit of fish than those who don't.

Variety of sports available to military personnel

Military personnel at the Naval Weapons Center have the opportunity to participate in athletic activities that are offered solely for their enjoyment. The most popular of these are the Commander's Cup program and competing in Southern Pacific Sport Conference team and individual events.

Other popular programs include a summer military slowpitch softball league and participation on varsity-level teams in softball, basketball, and flag football that includes competition at other military bases.

For the exceptional military athletes, there is the opportunity to advance from local programs and be nominated for selection to various Navy training camps and possibly to an "all Navy" team that competes in interservice or international events.

Commander's Cup Program

The Military Athletic Committee, which is composed of active duty military personnel, meets monthly to organize events that are a part of the Commander's Cup Program.

The military population on Center is divided into three groups, namely, "Blue," for all personnel assigned to the Aircraft Department (Code 61); "Gold," for all military men and women who are assigned to codes other than 61; and "VX-5," for all personnel attached to Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five.

Commander's Cup events include team sports (basketball, softball, flag football), individual sports (track, golf and tennis), and special-interest sports, such as horseshoes and rifle-pistol marksmanship.

China Lake All-Stars take Little League crown

In what was a tough, well-played ball game, the China Lake All-Stars, managed by Jerry Mather, defeated the Ridgecrest All-Stars, guided by Tommy Mather, in the Area 1 Little League finals July 19, by a score of 3 runs to 2.

To earn their way to the final contest, the two teams had to outlast determined squads from Searles Valley and Kern River Valley during earlier play of the All-Star tournament.

In game one between Searles Valley and the China Lake All-Stars, China Lake routed the other team 20 runs to 1. By means of a 6-run first inning China Lake easily cruised through the game, belting out 17 hits, with three home runs (one of which was an in-the-park homer due to throwing errors by Searles Valley's outfield). Marc Bartholic was the winning pitcher, while Jason Greer was replaced after one inning.

On the same night, game two featured a match-up between the representatives from Kern River Valley and Ridgecrest. The Ridgecrest All-Stars defeated the out-of-town visitors by a score of 7 to 1. Searles Valley later beat the Kern Valley team in game three to knock them out of the tourney.

In the first fight between the Ridgecrest



TIE RUNNER—Shawn Hamilton, first baseman for the China Lake All-Stars, reaches for a throw as an unidentified Ridgecrest All-Star player streaks to safety on a tie called by the umpire. —Photo by PHAN Greg Hogan

and China Lake teams, pitchers Brian Andrews (Ridgecrest), and Brian Gustavson (China Lake), lasted the distance in a squeaker that fell in favor of the China Lake squad by a deceptive score of 3 runs to 0. Ridgecrest twice could have pulled the game out after having loaded the bases, but, thanks to a very steady arm from Gustavson, the China Lake team was able to hold them off.

This win over the Ridgecrest team set China Lake up as the team to beat, but they first had to get past an equally determined Searles Valley team who were looking to be a spoiler in the tourney competition. In game five, that expectation fell short as Ridgecrest sank the Searles team by outstripping an early lead to go ahead in the bottom of the second inning for an eventual score of 7 runs to 2.

With the victory by Ridgecrest in the fifth game, a rematch was now set up between a hungry Ridgecrest team and the squad from China Lake in what would turn out to a fine game of nerve and ability.

Game six was fast paced as Ridgecrest's Andrews struck out 12 China Lake batters, walked one, and allowed only three hits, while his opponent, Mike Shahan, fanned two, walked two, and allowed seven hits.

With this kind of pitching, the game-

winning difference depended on defense and aggressive base running. After leaving the first inning with no score by either team, Ridgecrest came up with a score on what was a less-than-standard play.

After walking Mike Kennedy and letting Bobby Lewis and Aaron Celestine bunt safely to load the bases, Shahan balked against Jacob Albers to allow Kennedy to trot home for a run.

The situation was pretty tense as Ridgecrest was now set with the bases loaded and only one out. With Danny Mather up to bat, a Shahan pitch was plopped into the China Lake infield for what became a slick double play to retire a totally astounded Ridgecrest team.

China Lake then evened the score at one-all with excellent base running by Jeff Steiber as he took advantage of two throwing errors committed by the Ridgecrest's outfield and turned a simple single into a triple. Steiber then stole home after Bill Northcutt, catcher for Ridgecrest, dropped a pitch and couldn't recover in time to beat Steiber as he zoomed home.

Ridgecrest's last score came early in the top of the third inning when Tom Caves advanced on sacrifice hits by Tony Truesdal and Andrews and a single by Mike Kennedy.

Not to be left behind, China Lake's Bartholic walked to lead off the bottom of the third inning and then promptly advanced to second, third, and then home on dropped pitches again made by the catcher. This made the scoring even at two runs each.

It wasn't until the bottom of the fourth inning that China Lake put their final run across the plate. The icing was done by Jeff Steiber who reached second base on a solid double and then took third base on a sacrifice bunt by Shawn Hamilton. With Steiber posed on third, the catcher, Northcutt, lost another pitch from Andrews that allowed Steiber to race home for the winning run.

From there the fifth inning was a tense one for the China Lake team as their defensive skill was put to the test. The leadoff batter for Ridgecrest, Caves, boomed a Shahan pitch for a single. Then, following a flyout by Truesdale, Andrews nailed a pitch to center field for a double, but Caves never made it to third as the center fielder, Robbie Begin, fired the ball to the third baseman, Gustavson, for the tag on Caves.

The inning wasn't over though, as Andrews was still a scoring threat. This almost proved true as the next batter, Mike Kennedy, popped a single to right field. Taking full advantage of the chance, Andrews didn't hold up at third and began to race home. Steiber, in right field, scooped up Kennedy's single and launched an AIM-9 towards home plate. With Andrews bearing down on him, Rusty Waugh, the catcher, snagged the throw and coolly tagged Andrews out at home plate to end what could have been a disaster of an inning for China Lake.

The bottom of the fifth was a breeze for Ridgecrest because pitcher Andrews fanned the other side down in succession.

As the China Lake players took the field again to start the top of the sixth inning, they knew they had to hold onto a slim, one-run lead for three more outs to clinch a

(Continued on Page 7)

Cottontail season now open; hunters should be cautious

Cottontail season has begun again; the limit for hunters is five. There is no limit on jackrabbits, however.

Because of concern over bubonic plague-carrying fleas as well as ticks that can carry Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Department of Fish and Game wardens suggest that hunters field-strip the carcasses of the animals as soon as they are shot.

Wardens also suggest that hunters use rubber gloves while skinning and gutting the animals, and carry water to wash the carcass promptly.

The Skipper sez



All China Lakers, including military personnel, civilian employees, and their dependents are invited to submit questions to this column. Such queries must be in good taste and pertain to matters of interest to a large segment of the China Lake community. Answers to these questions are directly from Capt. K. A. Dickerson. Please call NWC ext. 2727 with your question and state whether you are a military member, civilian employee or dependent. No other identification is necessary. Since only three or four questions can be answered in the Rocketeer each week, anyone who would like to ensure getting an answer to a question may leave name and address for a direct contact, but this is not required otherwise. There is no intent that this column be used to subvert normal, established chain-of-command channels.

QUESTION

Military — I have a question concerning the Dispensary or the hospital. I was wondering why it's impossible to get hold of a doctor when you go in there, and once you do get hold of somebody who is possibly a doctor, they can't prescribe any medication. Also several times we went to the Emergency Room in the evening and my wife suffered verbal abuse from them because she woke up one of them or something. Now we have a sick child that they can't take care of and we suffer verbal abuse from one of the so-called "doctors" over there. I'd like to understand, why is this happening? Also, when my wife is on prescribed medicine, which she has to take for the remainder of her life, they don't even carry it at the Dispensary and they won't order it for her. I can't understand why we can't have a little better medical facilities here for people that have to have medicine or have to have attention quite often. They always want to send you to San Diego or Long Beach and that's a six-month wait. It's just getting a little bit aggravating. Thank you, sir.

ANSWER

The Authorized Medical Officer billets at the Branch Medical Clinic consist of three physicians, two Physician's Assistants, and one civilian Occupational Health Nurse Practitioner. (She treats Civil Service employees only and does not stand the duty in the clinic.) The Physician's Assistants and Nurse Practitioner are restricted by regulation from prescribing certain classes of medications, except in life-threatening cases. During those times when a Physician's Assistant has the duty, a physician is assigned as backup. Thus, if a patient presents to the Emergency Treatment Room who has a condition or illness that the Physician's Assistant is not credentialed to treat, i.e. severe chest pain, severe injury to an extremity or extremely high fever, the Physician's Assistant will call the back-up physician for assistance or, if the patient's condition warrants, the patient will be sent to Ridgecrest Community Hospital. Remember, we are classified as an ambulatory (outpatient) clinic, not a major medical center, and our resources are limited.

The attitude of all the medical officers is generally excellent. All of them are very much aware of the fact that they are in a service-oriented business and they treat their patients with compassion and understanding. However, if patients have complaints about any aspect of the care provided, they should make their complaints formally to the Patient Contact Representative before they leave the clinic or the first working day after the incident occurs and a thorough investigation into the incident will be made and, when deemed appropriate, corrective action will be taken.

As far as the medications available at the clinic are concerned, the pharmacy stocks only those drugs which are on our formulary. The formulary for this medical clinic is written and approved by the Naval Hospital, Long Beach. The funds available for medical support are extremely short; therefore, the Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Long Beach has directed that among the cost-containment actions to be taken will be a reduction in the drugs available on the formulary. We will carry all the standard prescription medications with the exception of certain narcotics and chemotherapeutic drugs.

The size of the facility and type of medical services available at NWC, China Lake are considered adequate to meet the primary mission of the Navy Medical Department. For those who require the services of a medical specialist, appointments at one of the major military hospitals in the Southwest Region are usually available within a reasonable time frame. Routine appointments for certain medical specialties, most notably orthopedics and otolaryngology (ENT), are in very limited supply at all military hospitals, especially for dependents. However, in emergency situations, the clinic has not failed to receive an immediate appointment for active duty patients.

If one does not desire to utilize the military treatment facilities in this area, an alternative source of medical care is the cost-sharing program called CHAMPUS-US. For more information on this program, call the Health Benefits Advisor, 939-2911 extension 245, or come into the clinic for a personal consultation.

The staff at the Medical Clinic is ready to serve all eligible beneficiaries to the maximum extent possible. I realize that we cannot please all the patients all the time; however, that is our goal. If the care rendered at this clinic is not perceived by the patient as optimum, the complaint should be made to the proper individual so the problem can be promptly resolved.



VIVID DESCRIPTION — Dillard Bullard, head of the Weapons Department, describes the action of the Advanced Common Intercept Missile Demonstration to Congressman William Thomas (I.). Congressman Thomas received briefings on a number of Center programs during his recent visit to China Lake.



LIFESAVING DEVICE — Dan Long, program manager for SEAWARS, demonstrates to PR3 Greg Rutland, how the device works to release parachute shrouds when it is immersed in sea water. A fully assembled SEAWARS is on the side of the strap over Petty Officer Rutland's shoulder, and an unassembled SEAWARS lies on the table in its protective plastic covering. —Photo by PHAN Greg Hogan

SEAWARS in Fleet. . .

(Continued from page 1)

The second ship to be outfitted will be an aircraft carrier on the east coast, and outfitting will continue until, by August 1986, all Navy aircraft selected for SEAWARS will have received the devices.

A wide range of organizations have contributed to the success of this device, from contractors who made unsolicited proposals to work on developing a sea water-actuated release, to various Navy laboratories that also worked on testing SEAWARS. Sponsor for the whole program has been AIR-531 in the Naval Air Systems Command.

At NWC, designated lead laboratory, the main thrust of the work has been under the

CHAMPUS claims to require registration in DEERS in future

A reminder: Members of military families risk having their CHAMPUS claims rejected beginning this month, if they aren't listed in the Defense Department's DEERS computers.

As of July 16, CHAMPUS claims are being denied for all service family members (including survivors of deceased active or retired military personnel) and military retirees in a number of states if they don't show up in the DEERS data banks.

By the end of the year, this policy will be in effect in all states.

Active duty service members and their families can check on their DEERS enrollment, or get the enrollment process going, by contacting the military personnel office at the nearest base of their service (retirees and their families, and survivors, can check at the nearest base of any service).

Beginning Oct. 1, military hospitals and clinics will also use DEERS to verify the eligibility of dependents to receive non-emergency care from those facilities.

DEERS will only be used to verify eligibility for routine care and for CHAMPUS benefits. No one will be refused access to emergency care in a military facility.

For those who aren't familiar with DEERS — it's the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, a nationwide, computerized data bank that will contain information on everyone who's eligible for military health benefits, including CHAMPUS.

Anyone who has not enrolled should do so promptly at the Personnel Support Detachment office; the NRCM branch clinic can check to determine that the information is up to date but cannot enroll anyone.

Aerosystems Program Office, which is currently headed by Dan Long. This office is located in the Aerosystems Department.

Among the many Aerosystems Department personnel who contributed their efforts to make SEAWARS a success were those who first tried out the device in live jumps into the ocean — the test parachutists, headed by PRCM Bob Hudson, who dropped into the Pacific Ocean to see if SEAWARS functioned as it should.

Other departments at NWC that have made heavy contributions were the Engineering Department and the Technical Information Department.

Engineering Department personnel handled quality assurance, reliability, safety, maintainability, and integrated logistic support for SEAWARS. TID put together a "Failsafe" program used by Tiger Teams for briefing pilots and maintenance personnel about SEAWARS.

As each aircraft carrier is outfitted, the Tiger team (composed of military personnel) will come aboard with the briefing package to be sure that everyone who needs to know how to use or maintain SEAWARS has the appropriate information.

Thank to the skills of all those who helped develop and test SEAWARS, the lives of Naval aviators will be better protected.

Lift at Center pool now operational for handicapped users

Now in operation at the indoor pool is a pool lift for use in assisting handicapped individuals get into and out of the water.

Lifeguards have been fully trained in its operation and will make the lift available during lap swim, open swim and classes such as aqua aerobics.

Anyone wishing to use the lift should inform the lifeguard, who will set it up and help with its operation. The lift mechanism is extremely simple to operate since flipping the lever lowers the seat into the water and reversing the switch raises the seat.

Anyone who has questions can get further information by telephoning NWC ext. 2334.

Looking For Equipment?

Call the **Equipment Locator Service**
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Summer accidents caused by careless use of lawn mowers

More than 68,000 persons using lawn mowers each year end up in the emergency room of their local hospital for treatment, with most injuries caused by power mowers.

Since the blades of power mowers whirl at speeds of 200 miles per hour, they can easily cut off toes or fingers, and can hurl rocks, cans, or other objects lying on the lawn up to 50 feet away.

When purchasing a lawn mower, be certain that it contains a rear guard to prevent hands or feet from coming in contact with the rotating blade.

Once a lawn mower has been selected, the Kern County Health Department has these recommendations to assist in avoiding injury.

Read the owner's manual and pay attention to its recommendations before using the mower.

Those operating power lawn mowers should wear sturdy shoes, and should see that the machine is always turned off with either the spark plug disconnected, or the cord unplugged for an electric mower, before the mower is unclogged or adjusted. After doing this, a person should wait at least half a minute to be sure the blades have stopped rotating before reaching into the machine.

Push—don't pull—a hand mower, and when using an electric mower, be very careful not to run over the cord or tangle it in the blades. Start mowing the grass nearest to the electrical outlet and

gradually move away from it.

Never mow a wet lawn as it increases the risk of slipping and coming into contact with the rotating blade. Also, the wet grass may clog the blades and tempt people into trying to clear the machine out without first turning it off.

A gasoline-powered motor also should not be refueled while the engine is hot, and should never be refueled indoors where unseen vapors may be ignited by a spark.

It is of little value to purchase a power mower with all of the essential safety features if it is not properly maintained. All loose or broken parts, especially the blade, should routinely be tightened or replaced. Gasoline should be kept in a well-ventilated area (away from children and living quarters) in tightly-capped safety cans. Getting expert servicing regularly can prevent injury and save money.

TID computers. . .

(Continued from Page 1)

automating the Technical Library and subsidiary libraries in the Library Division.

Since the work of the scientists and engineers on the Center requires outstanding library facilities to meet research and development responsibilities, establishing an Integrated Library System (ILS) that will best meet these needs into the next century is essential.

The system, as planned by Mrs. Roush, Alice Pastorious and Char-Lou Dinger, the ILS Project staff working with the Library Division management and staff, will not only enhance user access to all the library's materials but also will avoid the duplication of records that noncomputerized systems require.

Aim of the ILS project is to acquire a turnkey system — one that consists of off-the-shelf and proven hardware and software — that can be phased into the library's operations in such a way as not to impact library users adversely.

Capital Investment Program funds have been authorized by the Center's Corporate Planning Board, and an Acquisitions Requirements Package (also known as an RFP) is being prepared so that vendors will be able to bid on the system. Conversion to the new ILS is expected to begin next year, with the initial stage completed by April 1986, and all the Center's libraries (such as the Specification Library) included by the turn of the century.

The ILS as envisioned currently means that any scientist, engineer, or other user who has access to a terminal can examine the library card catalogue to determine if the materials required are there, can actually call up to the screen some of the more commonly used materials (such as tables of contents), and can carry on a large portion of business with the Technical Library without having to leave his or her office — and at all hours that the researcher may want to work.

Final details on the ILS and the precise stages through which it will be implemented will be reported as they are settled when the system is installed by the successful vendor.



CEREMONY BETWEEN THE STACKS —TID's scientific periodicals, formerly housed in B-83 of Michelson Laboratory, have found a new home in Lauritsen Laboratory. The Research Service Center, a collection of scientific and technical references, was moved to a new location to better serve the largest concentration of mathematicians, chemists, and physicists who use these materials. Margaret O'Drobinak, Information Services Branch Head, looks on with Joe Burge, Library Division Head (both of TID), while Dr. Ed Royce, Research Department Head, ceremoniously cuts the ribbon. Along with journals dating back as far as 1867 are the Gmelin and Beilstein series. A photo copier is provided in the Research Service Center so reference materials need never leave the room. An additional relocation from B-83, the Specification Library, is now housed in Rm. 10 of Dorm 2, the building directly behind Military Administration on the north side of Blandy Ave. across from the Enlisted Mess.

Environmental Branch in charge of hazardous waste program

Fulfilling the Center's mission of providing modern weaponry to the Fleet requires the use of many substances — from petroleum products to acids to other toxic chemicals — that could be defined as hazardous; charged with managing the hazardous materials and the wastes that result is John Salter from the Environmental Branch of the Public Works Department.

He, backed up by Tom Campbell (who handles water quality), Bob Moore (pest control), and their branch head, Tom Dodson, implement NAVWPNCENINST 6240.6, "Hazardous Material/Waste Management Program." They are on call 24 hours a day when spills occur, and Salter is on call also to consult with any Center group or individual having a question or a potential problem in dealing with hazardous materials or hazardous waste.

Wastes from hazardous materials are handled in two ways; they are either carefully stored at the hazardous waste facility located north of Michelson Laboratory until a sufficient amount has accumulated for them to be removed to a hazardous waste site, or they drain, if sufficiently dilute, into the industrial waste pond at the intersection of North Knox and North Lauritsen Roads.

A contractor, Chemical Waste Management, Inc., removes the stored wastes from the storage site whenever enough have accumulated to make the trip worthwhile; these wastes are taken to their Class One Site located in the Kettleman Hills near Coalinga. (The same contractor also provides hazardous waste disposal services for CalTrans, among other customers.)

The wastes that flow into the pond come mainly from Michelson Laboratory, and include such highly diluted chemicals as

those from the Photography Laboratory and from the Public Works Department. The waste materials in the pond are tested regularly to ensure that these have not become a danger to either people or the environment.

When spills occur — and these will occur despite precautions — Salter is called upon to decide what cleanup measures need to be taken because he is the most familiar with the resources available on the Center. The Fire Division, Code 242, has additional personnel and resources committed to emergency response program.

The overwhelming majority of the spills are minor, resulting from bottles being broken or drums leaking. Understandably, many of the spills happen during transport of materials. In many cases, the containers leak inside trucks bringing hazardous materials to the Center, and the spill or leak is discovered when the drivers open the trucks to unload the contents on arrival, or they find that containers have broken en route.

So far, Salter notes, no injuries have been sustained on cleanups or on spill response, and no permanent environmental damage has yet been identified. One reason for such a good record is that Salter and those with whom he works approach any hazardous material with both care and knowledgeability.

They maintain a large library of trade publications, manuals and material safety data sheets provided by companies for their chemicals as well as manuals provided by the Department of Transportation and check out the hazardous substance before working with it. In addition, when called for, they suit up with self-contained breathing apparatus, rubber boots, protective clothing and rubber gloves before handling extremely hazardous (or possibly hazardous) materials.

What resources are called upon to handle hazardous spills depend both on safety and on accomplishing the mission of the Center. The materials that needed to be cleaned up after the fire in Michelson Laboratory (Spring 1984) were handled at night so that hazards would be minimized for those working in the laboratory without having to affect the Center's mission by shutting down the whole laboratory.

Anyone who has a question about hazardous material or waste should call John Salter at 3411, ext. 377, or NWC ext. 3836. In case of a spill, the Fire Division must be notified first and they will notify Salter. The close and skilled cooperation between the Environmental Branch and Fire Division ensure maximum protection for the Center's personnel and assets.

Code 612's Cdr. Erickson offers practical advice to Navy personnel

Coming up through the ranks has given one of the division heads on board a bird's eye view of what it's really like to be young and enlisted, and an honest understanding of the kinds of situations that these people can encounter on the job and in life.

For the past 32 years, Cdr. Dick Erickson, head of the Aircraft Support Division in the NWC Aircraft Department, has been gathering knowledge about life in the Navy and passing it onto those under his supervision.

Cdr. Erickson began his Navy career upon enlisting in 1952 and served as an aviation electronics technician. In 1965, after reaching the rank of chief petty officer, he applied and was accepted for the Limited Duty Officer (LDO) program. He has been using his knowledge of the Navy to help others ever since.

Much of the aid he gives comes from his immense practical knowledge of selection board procedures and detailing experience.

Cdr. Erickson was given insight into how the selection process works during what he considers his most valuable tour of duty. In 1973, he was the first officer from the Pacific Coast to serve on an E-8/9 selection board.

In the mid-1970s, while assigned as the LDO detailer in Washington, D.C., he again sat on an E-8/9 selection board. Later, while assigned to the NAS Lemoore area, he participated in the selection process for Chief Warrant Officers, LDO lieutenant, and CWO/LDO continuation.

He took advantage of these opportunities to learn what really counts in an evaluation, if someone wants to be advanced.

When he returned to the Pacific Coast, he began training his officers, using their individual service records as examples, so they could complete an effective service

evaluation. Soon after, West Coast personnel indirectly began reaping the benefits of Cdr. Erickson's knowledge, and are still doing so today.

Knowing what it takes to "make it," he doesn't want his personnel to be turned down or overlooked when they are before a selection board. If he thinks they are not ready, and that the chance of promotion is slim, he encourages them to wait and become involved in activities, personal and professional, that will aid them in their quest for advancement.

He wants to get rid of the "frustrated sailor," and let all have a chance to excel. Help is given in defining and establishing goals, and then it is up to the sailor to begin striving for these goals. Cdr. Erickson's philosophy is to "give the responsibility to the sailor."

Since his arrival on Center in February of this year, Cdr. Erickson has met with approximately half of the Navy personnel in Code 612. He began with the chief petty officers and is currently working with the 2nd class petty officers.

Cdr. Erickson meets individually with those under his supervision and reviews their service records with them. The record review is conducted as though he was on a selection board for advancement, and Cdr. Erickson discusses the good and the bad points of the record with the person.

He also tells them whether or not he believes they will be selected for advancement and why or why not this will happen. If the person wishes to advance, Cdr. Erickson offers his support and guidance by telling him what is necessary to accomplish this goal.

Of the people he assists he says, "If they see the Navy as a career, they should not be content to be an average performer." In order to elevate them to "above average"

standing, Cdr. Erickson encourages them to become involved in the community and in education, both of which are regarded highly by the selection boards.

Following the meeting, and if the sailor is motivated, Cdr. Erickson has realistic expectations for selection of applicants from



Cdr. Dick Erickson

his command who are seriously career-minded Navy people.

Since February, four people with whom he has spoken have applied for the Warrant Officer and Limited Duty Officer programs. Many more may, but the full impact of what Cdr. Erickson's individual at-

tention has accomplished will not be evident until next year some time.

One of the visible results of the work Cdr. Erickson has done is evident in the person of CW02 Gary Spriggs. As a chief petty officer stationed on the USS Ranger in 1979, he attended a presentation given by Cdr. Erickson on advancement, and later applied for entry into the Warrant Officer program. He was accepted, and is now the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Officer (Code 6122), in the Aircraft Department here at China Lake.

Upon discovering that Cdr. Erickson was to be stationed at China Lake, CW02 Spriggs' reaction was positive. He pointed out that Cdr. Erickson is familiar with both the managerial and technical aspects of maintenance, and he was looking forward to having a superior officer with this rare quality.

One of Cdr. Erickson's other projects, designed to develop a better understanding of the entire command and the decisions he makes, is to rotate his first class petty officers so they may gain experience in other areas and have the opportunity to see how these sections relate to their home shops.

In addition to this, Cdr. Erickson often has chiefs and officers spend the entire day with him. They are given the chance to "see what I see every day. It helps them to understand the decisions I make," he says. He went on to say that these decisions are made in relation to the entire command, not just in the favor of maintenance. When supervisors understand this, they take it back to their shops and spread it to the rest of the personnel.

Hopefully what this will do is spread understanding of what is taking place, and with that will come support for the decisions, which in turn raises moral and establishes pride, Cdr. Erickson added.

LCdr. John Cullinan, assistant maintenance officer, Aircraft Support Division, says that the management in the division is trying to bring about a positive attitude. This became clear when Cdr. Erickson decided that his chiefs and officers would run the maintenance, and he would be responsible for "the people, the paper, and the big problems."

Allowing personnel to have aspirations and to achieve them is the primary goal of the department. "If you never have a dream, you'll never have a dream come true. We want to help fulfill those dreams. We show personnel how to take a 'potential sleepy hollow' and turn it to their advantage," LCdr. Cullinan says.

In the immediate area, it is pointed out that there is a community college, many community organizations, sports, and other activities in which to take part. Personnel are encouraged to involve themselves by setting goals — including personal, professional, and educational goals.

As Cdr. Erickson says, "Busy people get things done. People who don't have anything to do, don't have time to do anything."

— by Patty Vick

Week-long class in soldering technology slated in late Aug.

The Soldering Technology Branch, Code 3681, has announced a soldering technology class that will meet the week of Aug. 27 through 31.

This 40-hour class is designed to certify Naval Weapons Center employees to categories F or G of the Navy Soldering Specification WS-6536D.

Seating is limited within the class and reservations are required. Individuals interested in participating in this 5-day class can reserve their place by phoning NWC ext. 2720 or ext. 2678.

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threatened the economic future of both Medicare and MediCal, and major changes can be expected in both of these programs.

Hospitals in the future will be paid on the basis of flat fees for treating diagnostically related groups (DRGs); 468 illnesses have been lumped into these groups and a hospital is reimbursed on the basis of estimated cost assigned to each. The implications of this change are that health care has become a commodity and that hospitals must look at the economics of medical treatment.

This change will involve tremendous moral decisions for hospital boards because they will need to look at whether a hospital can afford to offer some types of care, or whether other options are available.

Many services that hospitals offer do not pay for themselves; in large communities

Dr. R. C. W. Jones receives Bjorklund Award

The prestigious R. W. Bjorklund Award for community and management innovation was presented to Dr. R. C. W. Jones, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ridgecrest Community Hospital, on July 19 for his efforts to improve the quality of medical care in the Indian Wells Valley.

This award, presented annually by the East Kern County Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, honors a manager in either the public sector or in a community-based organization that exemplifies an imaginative, risk-taking approach to alteration and improvement of the management process.

Bill Eichenberg, president of ASPA, noted in making the presentation of the plaque and certificate comprising the award that Dr. Jones was nominated for his aggressive, positive approach in facing problems.

During his service on the hospital's board, he has pushed for 24-hour emergency room services, tightened standards of quality control, and established the role of the hospital in the community as proactive and not reactive.

Dr. Jones expressed his appreciation for the award, saying that he has made a persistent effort to expand the thinking of members of the board of directors with regard to the multitudinous problems facing hospitals today. He then expressed some of his perceptions of medical care and these problems.

Even though a hospital may be "not for profit," Dr. Jones said, it must still clear the costs of care and make an additional amount that will permit replacement of equipment and adoption of new technology.

The thrust of medical treatment during the 1960s and 1970s, he said, was that if better medical care could be provided to a patient, it should be, with the costs passed on to the patient (which often meant either the federal government or private medical insurance). This resulted in such steep rises in medical costs that by 1982 10 percent of the gross national product was being expended on medical care.

Such a steep rise in medical costs has

with several hospitals, these might elect to cut such services as long as at least one local hospital makes the service available to patients.

Hospitals are also going to need to consider alternate sources of income, such as philanthropy (the Ridgecrest Hospital Foundation, for example, has been established recently to seek philanthropic monies). And frills—like television sets in hospital rooms—will also vanish. For hospitals to continue to survive, Dr. Jones said, they must either increase their income by an average 50 percent or cut their expenditures by an average of 32 percent.

He said that it would have to be up to the public to decide on the quality of the medical care that it was willing to finance because cost had to be increasingly considered as a factor in treatment.

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PRESTIGIOUS AWARD — Dr. R. C. W. Jones accepts ASPA's Bjorklund Award for community and management innovation from Bill Eichenberg, ASPA president. The award was presented during a luncheon held at the Commissioned Officers' Mess on July 19. —Photo by PH3 Rick Moore

MIKE'S LAB by Bill Erwin

