



CPO'S PLAN FOR BALL—Planning committee for the CPO's 11th annual Military Ball to be held tomorrow night meet with ball chairman Chief Carl Spragle (third from left).

Left to right are Chiefs Joe Jordan, George Bernard, Spragle, Harvey Breighner, George Fallin, and Raymond Wahoff. Ball starts at 8 o'clock tomorrow evening.

Party Planned to Hunt 1966 "Follies" Talent

"Fractured Follies '66," an evening of musical numbers, skits and dances presented by the Pink Ladies Auxiliary of the Ridgecrest Community Hospital, is in need of more talent from the community, and aims to discover it at a Talent Party Tuesday, February 15.

The Ladies invite everyone interested in lending their talents in the "Follies" second yearly production to come to the China Lake Community Center at 7:30 next Tuesday to meet the director, Alan Causey, enjoy a short entertainment, and get acquainted with the "Follies" program over refreshments.

The Pink Ladies produce "Fractured Follies," this year with the aid of Jerome Cargill Producing Company of New York, to help support the hospital. Emergency equipment for its operating room is the 1966 goal.

Over 100 valley people are expected to participate in this year's "Follies, in the Station Theater, February 18 and 19 at 8:30 p.m. Rehearsals will be held in the Community Light Opera and Theatre Association's rehearsal hall in the former hanger building of the old Ridgecrest Airport.

The Pink Ladies also plan a parade for tomorrow in Ridgecrest and China Lake to advertise the "Follies."

Tickets are on sale by the Pink Ladies, members of the cast, and ticket chairman, Mrs. Irwin Shull at Ext. 725592. Tickets will also be sold today and on Friday the 18th in front of the Commissary from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. They are \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for students and enlisted personnel.

Film Society Sets Memorable Fliks For Second Half of 1966 Season

The China Lake Film Society will open the second half of its 1965-66 season on Monday evening, February 14, with the first of a series of four showings.

The opener for 1966 is the British film "Richard III," a color presentation of one of William Shakespeare's great plays, starring Sir Laurence Olivier. Notable offerings to follow will be:

"Battle of the Sexes" by James Thurber, starring Peter Sellers, for March 14-15.

"Suddenly last Summer," starring Elizabeth Taylor and Kathryn Hepburn, for April 11-12.

A trio of short humorous subjects—"The True Story of the Civil War," "Crime Control" by Robert Benchley and "The Case of the Mukkinese Battle Horn" by Peter Sellers,

for May 9-10.

Half-season tickets are available at the China Lake Community Center door the night of the "Richard III" performance for \$3. Price for service personnel is \$2.50.

Alkali Angels Issue Invitation To All Model Plane Buffs

The Alkali Angels of China Lake, working model airplane builders and flyers, have invited all interested civilian and military people to their New Members Night, set for Thursday, February 17, at the NOTS Hobby Shop located behind the Station Restaurant.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

SHOWBOAT

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11
Music Parents Club Presents
Student's Version of Puccini's "LA BOHEME"
4 p.m.
Students thru College 50 cents
Adults \$1.00

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11
"GYPSY" (143 Min.)
Natalie Wood, Rosalind Russell
7 p.m.
(Drama/Music in Color) The rollicking story of a mother's determination to make her daughter a stage star. And she does—as Natalie portrays the famed Gypsy Rose Lee, Queen of the strippers! All the triumph, heartbreaks and laughs that go on behind the scenes of burlesque. A not to be missed classic for adults.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12
—MATINEE—
"ROBINSON CRUSOE ON MARS" (110 Min.)
Paul Mantel
1 p.m.
SHORT: "No Ifs, Ands, or Buts" (7 Min.)
"Gunfighters No. 11" (16 Min.)
—EVENING—
"THE HILL" (123 Min.)
Sean Connery, Harry Andrews
7 p.m.
(Drama) Brutally dramatic account of attempts to rehabilitate British soldiers at an isolated desert prison camp. Sean's departure from 007 role has him as a determined recalcitrant opposed by a brutal Sgt. Major. It's grim. (Adult.)

SUNDAY-MONDAY FEBRUARY 13-14
"THE COLLECTOR" (119 Min.)
Terence Stamp, Samantha Eggar
7 p.m.
(Drama in Color) This possible academy award contender tells of a young lonely bank clerk who kidnaps a most beautiful girl and imprisons her in the hopes that she will eventually fall in love with him. Intriguing, suspenseful. (Adult.)

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15-16
"LORD JIM" (143 Min.)
Peter O'Toole, James Mason, Curt Jurgens
7 p.m.
(Adventure in Color) Another possible academy award contender! Misfortune causes the cancellation of a ship's officer's papers and he takes charge of a junk loaded with explosives aimed for a far-eastern revolt. The story of a man of ideals in a land full of cutthroats where anything goes! Fascinating sets. (Adults, youth, mature children.)

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17
"A RAGE TO LIVE" (101 Min.)
Suzanne Pleshette, Bradford Dillman, Ben Gazzara
7 p.m.
(Drama) Wealthy widow's daughter has an irresistible love for men that causes problems before and after marriage. John O'Hara's unorthodox novel. (Adult.)
SHORT: "Shocking Pink" (A Pink Panther) (7 Min.)

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 18
"FRACTURED FOLLIES"
8 p.m.
(Live Variety Show) A 100 member cast of local talent will present 24 numbers in a two-hour comedy-variety show. The benefit show is being sponsored by the Pink Ladies.

EMPIRE STATE SIZE
The air-conditioning capacity of the Navy's newest attack aircraft carriers would be sufficient to accommodate four buildings the size of the Empire State Building.



GATHERING TOGETHER to sign the director's book at a recent "Meet the Director" party for "Fractured Follies '66" are (l-r) Mrs. Steven Little, Mrs. Grant C. Pinney and Mr. and Mrs. Grant R. Pinney (signing book).

At Acey-Ducey Club Fri. and Sat.



BILLY DARK brings his versatile five-piece Knight Riders band to the Acey Ducey Club tonight and tomorrow night for dancing from 9 p.m. 'til 1:30 a.m. Their current recordings are "Lonesome Since She Said Good-bye" and "The Lobo South of the Border."

HEART MONTH
February has been proclaimed American Heart Month by President Johnson. In his proclamation the President said, "I urge everyone to enlist in this vital work that will enable us to reach the goal of healthy hearts for all."

Memory is what tells a man his wedding anniversary was yesterday.

From _____ PLACE STAMP HERE
TO _____

CPO Annual Military Ball Saturday Eve

Jimmie Whetmore To Furnish Music For Gala Evening



JILL LAMBERT ... will sing at CPO Club

The Chief Petty Officers Club has been a bee-hive of activity this week as decorating, food, refreshment, and entertainment committees made final preparations for the 11th annual gala Military Ball tomorrow night.

Lavish decorations, matchless cuisine, and the best in entertainment, which has been the hallmark of past Military Balls, will prevail again.

"We have the best in bands," ball chairman Chief Carl Spragle emphasized. "We've secured Jimmie Whetmore and his 13-piece band. He is noted for his versatility. He can swing-out with the strong beat of the latest tunes or the sweet rhythms of the 30's."

He's bringing Jill Lambert, a show stopper vocalist. She can belt out a hot number or sing a ballad with equal ease."

Festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour, dinner will be served from 7 to 8:30 p.m., with dancing to follow from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Capt. and Mrs. John I. Hardy will head the honored guest list which will include the Station's top Navy, Marine, Air Force, and Army officers, and their wives.

A special salute will be rendered the 90 active duty chiefs and the 135 retired chiefs during the evening.

This is the second annual Military Ball to be held in the new club structure. Like the Egyptian Phoenix, the new 6900-square-foot Club rose on the site of the original Club which was gutted by fire on Oct. 19, 1962.

Disaster Control Test Run Today

A practice assembly of the Disaster Control Teams will be conducted by the Station today at approximately 2 p.m., according to Cdr. F. R. Walsh, the Station's Disaster Control Officer.

The assembly will be signaled by five groups of five blasts each on the Station whistle (25 blasts in all). No action is required of Station residents and employees who are not members of the Disaster Control Organization, Cdr. Walsh explicitly pointed out.

This session is to last for 12 weeks, with each age group meeting once a week. Meeting

ROCKETEER FROM UNDER THE SEA TO THE STARS
Vol. XXI, No. 6 Naval Ordnance Test Station, China Lake, California Fri., Feb. 11, 1966

XV-5A VTOL Aircraft and V/STOL Cargo Plane Demonstrations Told In Text and Photos On Pages 4, 5

Jet Levitates Over Golf Course, Monsterized Auto Roams NAF



FIREBEETLE INTRIGUES—VAdm. Paul D. Stroop, USN (Ret.), Capt. John I. Hardy, ComNOTS, Lt. (jg) G. E. Thalken, and Maj. Robert O. Shimp, USAF, are intrigued as they watch maneuvers of the Ryan "Fire-

beetle" car on closed circuit TV during demonstration over terrain at NAF. Inventor-builder Lee Dinapoli operates remote control unit. Car can be used as a ground surveillance vehicle or to probe mined areas.

Also, 4-Engined Cargo V/STOL 'Measured' Here

By JOHN R. McCABE and ELEANOR MANOS

Thursday, February 3, was a big day at NOTS for testing and demonstration of advanced design and performance vehicles — on land and in the air — but Buck Rogers, thoroughly upstaged by defense engineers years ago, was nowhere to be seen.

Two vertical take-off and landing aircraft — one a jet test vehicle and the other a four-engine cargo prop craft — plus a remotely controlled automobile called "Firebeetle" of open-ended application performed here for Command, Station scientists and curious China Lakers.

The purposes of these vehicles will fulfill long-standing problems encountered by pilots and weapons developers for a long time. Both the XV-5A test craft, taking off and landing from the golf course driving range in "erosion" testing, and the XC-142A tilt-wing cargo craft, having its infrared "signature" recorded at NAF, are bids to relieve aircraft commanders of the need for sprawling, costly runway facilities.

By contrast, the "Firebeetle" car, covered with a metal shell and operated with the aid of a TV camera mounted in front, has been recently designed by

(Continued on Page 4)

Gymnastics For Youngsters Will Start Tomorrow

China Lake youngsters from age five up will have the opportunity to learn the skills and grace of gymnastics in Station Gymnasium classes to begin tomorrow, February 12, taught by Maylo Pickett, Barbara Frederick and Dick Burge.

Boys and girls of the community are invited to register for the spring session at the gym from 10 a.m. to noon. Mrs. Frederick points out that the children should be in good physical condition, and says that shoes and leotards can be ordered at the time of registration.

This session is to last for 12 weeks, with each age group meeting once a week. Meeting

days are to be given at registration time.

Classification tryouts for experienced students will also be held tomorrow from 10 a.m. to noon. Students trying out are urged to be at the gym by 10.

Mrs. Frederick also invites all adults who have had tumbling or other gymnastics training, who are interested in assisting the classes, to contact her at FR 5-2758. She informs that lack of assistants might make cancellation of the boys' section of the session necessary. She adds that assistants need not perform the movements they are teaching, themselves.

In order to provide for incidental expenses such as train-

Engineers' Week To Be Observed

The Station and seven professional engineering groups are making plans to host engineering societies from Trona, Bishop, Lancaster, Edwards Air Force Base, and Monolith, here on Wednesday, Feb. 23, with a tour and banquet in observance of National Engineers' Week.

Principal speaker at the banquet which begins at 8:30 p.m. will be Dr. Alfred C. Ingersoll, A tour of the American Potash and Chemical Plant from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. is scheduled on Wednesday prior to the banquet.

Now is the time for all good Reservations for the tour and the banquet should be made with A.T. (Temp) Robinson, Ext. 9531 before Feb. 15.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE Answer to Previous Puzzle
ACROSS
1-Short sleep
4-Bucket
8-Drink slowly
11-Girl's name
12-Ireland
13-Retail
15-Container
17-Beam
19-Greek letter
20-Number
21-Crowd
22-Man's nickname
23-Toward the sheltered side
25-Rodent
26-Mound
27-Crimson
28-Dance step
29-Man's nickname
30-Paid notice
31-Ties
33-A state (abbr.)
35-Farm animal
36-Period of time
37-Chart
38-Heavenly body
40-Exit
41-Partner
42-Cut
43-Distress signal
44-Footlike part
45-Babylonian deity
46-Ventilate
47-Conjunction
50-Delicate
52-Mountain lake
54-Guido's high note
55-Sodium chloride
56-The caama
57-Excavate
DOWN
1-Penpoint
2-Girl's name
3-Separated
4-Point of hammer
5-Be ill
6-Prefix: not
7-European dormouse
8-The heavens
9-That is (abbr.)
10-Pertaining to punishment
14-Haul
16-Female ruff
18-Hebrew month
21-Experts
22-Pronoun
23-Macaw
24-Conducted
25-Ethiopian title
26-Possesses
28-Animal's foot
29-Nahoor sheep
31-Preposition
32-Before
33-Ship channel
34-Simian
35-Cry of crow
37-Pulverized
38-Lean-to
39-Rips
40-Chief artery
41-Encountered
43-Spanish for "yes"
44-Evergreen tree
46-Carpenter's tool
47-Bitter vetch
48-Man's name
49-Tattered
51-Cooled lava
53-Conjunction

NOTS Pasadena

VIRGINIA E. LIBBY — EXT. 638

Product Engineering Notes Awards

Kegler's Korner

By Ray Hanson

While the AstroNOTS enjoy a four-game lead after 19 weeks of play in the NOTS Wednesday night bowling league, the league itself shows no sign of crystallization as far as the standings are concerned.

Five games separate the first four teams. The leaders have won 49 and lost 27, with the Quiet Five (45-31) second and the Sphinks and the NOTSings (44-32) tied for third. Only a complete ding-a-ling would bet on the outcome. (Let's see now . . . 8 to 5 on the AstroNOTS, 7 to 6 on the Quiet Five. . . how do the longshots look?)

High scores for the 19th week are as follows: team series, AstroNOTS, 2946; team game, Hunees, 1024; men's series, Rich Uhrich, 664; women's game, Maxine Talbot, 246.



20-YEAR PINS—Mary Hendrickson and J. H. Jennison receive lapel pins and letters of congratulations on reaching the mark of 20 years at NOTS. They received both NOTS and Federal pins from (l-r) Capt. G. H. Lowe, OinC, and D. J. Wilcox, Head of UOD. Mary is a Mechanical Engineering Technician, and Jennison heads the Product Engineering Division.



QSI's — Thorkel H. Jensen and Guy A Millard (l-r) receive Quality Step Increases. Jensen heads the Publications and Photo Branch, has been with NOTS since 1959. Millard heads the Electronics section of the Development Branch. He has been with NOTS eight years, has a total of 26 years federal service.



PATENT AWARDS — Recipients of Patent Awards (l-r) are Ernest N. Oeland and Gerrit DeVries, both of the Material and Mechanical Engineering Branch. For Oeland, it was an additional patent award for a "Fail-Safe Device for Porting Stored Rocket Motors." DeVries' patent award is entitled "Underwater Molten Salt Heat Storage Boiler." He also received a Superior Accomplishment Award.

X-RAY UNIT

A Mobile X-Ray Unit will be on station during February 21-24, according to Virginia Olson, Pasadena Nurse.

All hands are urged to plan to have the annual chest x-ray. Watch next week's Rocketeer for complete schedule of times.



SEALAB PICTORIAL—Astronaut-Aquonaut Scott Carpenter during December visit at NOTS Pasadena appears pleased with the SEALAB II pictorial album presented by Pasadena Film Branch members March Tatom and Lee Hansen. (See awards story on Tatom and Hansen.)

Tatom and Hansen Receive Awards, Filmmakers' Accomplishments Cited

Pasadena Film Branch members March Tatom and Lee Hansen add another award to an already long list. March has recently been awarded a Quality Step Increase while Lee received a Sustained Superior Performance award.

Both were members of the Branch team which in June of 1965 was honored with the coveted "Cindy" award — the "Oscar" of industrial films, for their work on a Station recruiting film, "The Challenging World of Undersea Technology." March did the script on that film and Lee the direction.

The current awards were presented by K. H. Robinson, Head, Technical Information Department, at ceremonies in Pasadena.

March, a Motion Picture Script Writer, has been with NOTS 10 years. She researches and writes scripts for motion picture productions, assists contract writers, and aids in the evaluation of their scripts.

Lee has been with NOTS two years, as a Motion Picture Producer-Director. In addition to the Cindy Award, Lee's honors include the 1961 Peabody Award for the TV series "Expedition," 1961 Special Award Underwater Film Festival, 1954 "Emmy" award for the TV Series "I Search for Adventure," and other competition awards for national and international film groups.

PW Man Honored at 30-Year Mark



LCDR. T. L. LONEGAN, Assistant Public Works Officer, looks on as Fy L. Sherrill, Driver in the Transportation Branch, is congratulated by Capt. G. H. Lowe, OinC, Pasadena, on reaching a 30-year milestone in federal service. Previous to his 15 years with NOTS, Sherrill worked at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard for 5 years. He was with the Armed Services during 1935-1941 and 1942-1945. He is originally from Columbia, Tennessee. He and his wife, Bertha Lee, presently reside in Los Angeles.

Museum Friends Invite All To Tea On Valentine Day

The Friends of the Museum are offering a "Friendship Tea" at the home of Mrs. J. I. Hardy Monday afternoon, Valentine's Day, in the hope of interesting more people in service to the Maturango Museum.

The tea has been set for 3 to 5 p.m. at the Hardy's home, 1 Enterprise Rd., according to Shirley Schneider, Museum secretary. She says that Friends president Marcia Donnon "is convinced that the Valley contains hundreds of individuals who would be more interested if they knew more about the organization."

The Friends of the Museum aid its activities by maintaining a calendar of hostesses, providing fund-raising activities and supplying helpers for Museum social events.

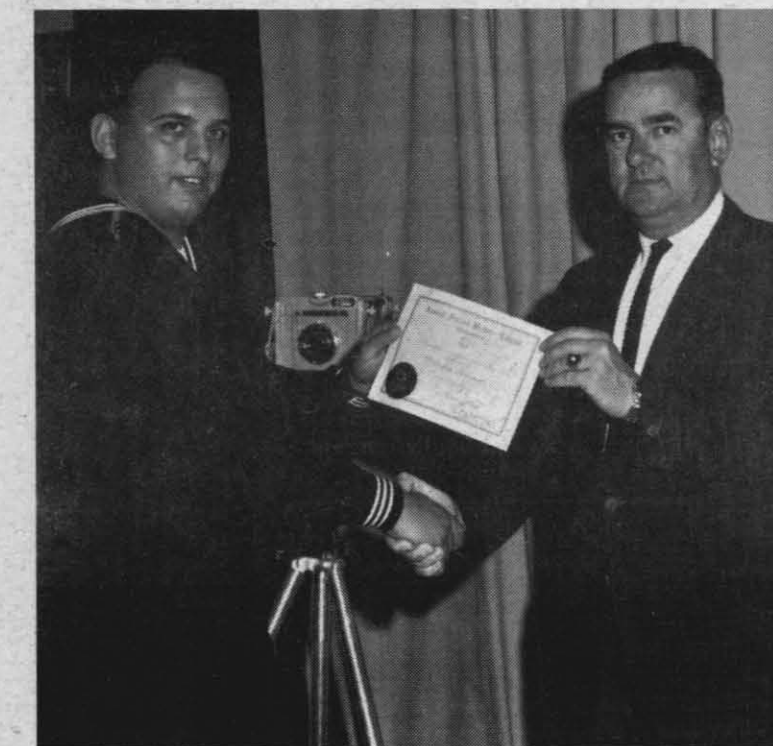


READY TO GO—William J. Grimsley, GMM2, ships over for six more years, with sea duty coming up. Lt. Phil Miller of Range Div.'s Radar Br., Code 30, presents the papers. A specialist in test and assembly of Tartar, Terrier and standard missiles, Grimsley leaves NOTS today for Naval School of Command at Mare Island and additional training in Terrier for assignment to USS Fox, a guided missile frigate. First class rating exams were part of his crowded last week's schedule here. A navyman since July, 1956, he has made his home at 328 Robalo with his wife, Minnie.

Silver Anchor Awards



BEST WRITER-COLUMNIST—"Pop" Lofinck, left, receives Silver Anchor Award certificate from J. T. Bibby, Public Information Officer, for his Desert Philosopher column. Lofinck was judged the best writer-columnist for 1964.



BEST PHOTOGRAPHER—Bryce T. Cacek, PH3, receives Silver Anchor Award certificate from J. T. Bibby, Public Information Officer. Cacek was cited for the best photographic work in the calendar year of 1964.

MEET YOUR COUNCILMAN

This is the ninth in a series offered by the Rocketeer to better acquaint residents with China Lake Community Council precinct representatives.

are natives of Montana, and now make their home at 52-B Sellers Circle. The Rosellini family includes Bonnie, 14, Mike and Kathy, both 12, and Mary Jean, 10.

Newly elected to the China Lake Community Council, from Precinct 8 last November, Chief Personnelman E. P. Rosellini has become deeply involved in his community's activities and resource development since his arrival at NOTS in January, 1964.

Eugene Rosellini's community service ranges from membership on the Credit Committee of the NOTS Federal Credit Union to work on the Steering Committee of the NOTS All-Faith Chapel to membership in the local American Legion. He was formerly secretary of the CPO Open Mess.

Both he and his wife June



Eugene P. Rosellini, CPN



CPO WIVES CLUB OFFICERS—New slate of officers installed last Friday (front row, l-r) are "Dutch" Ayers, membership chairman; Dorothy Stands, publicity chairman; Dorothy Beach, president; Betty Menges,

hospitality chairman; Mary Beatty, treasurer. Back row (l-r) Chaplain Mark E. Fite, installing officer; Gloria Ashcroft, vice president; Doris Breighner, entertainment chairman. The meeting took place at CPO Club.



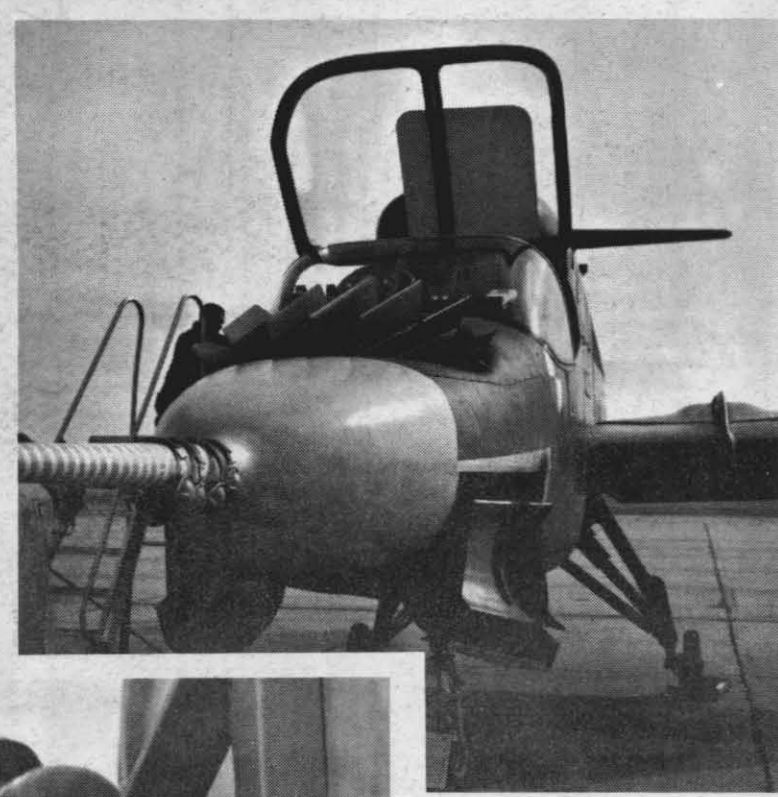
20-YEAR NOTS AND FS PINS—Six Research Dept. employees pose with supervisors following presentation of service pins. Front row (l-r) are Dr. Gilbert Plain, 20-year Federal Service pin; John Pearson, Head, Detonation Physics Group; husband and wife team of Rades Parish and Hazel Parish, NOTS and

Federal Service 20-year pins; Dr. Ronald Henry, Acting Head, Chemistry Div. Back row (l-r) Wallace Allan, NOTS 20-year pin; Terrance Roan, NOTS and Federal Service 20-year pins; Duane Pearl, NOTS 20-year pin; William Burson, Federal Service 20-year pin. NOTS 20-year pin was first given in 1965.

In Air and On Ground--Exciting New Vehicles Visit NOTS



TANDEM COCKPIT OF XV-5A. View shows open louvers of nose fan, used in vertical flight and hovering. Craft flew in from Edwards AFB, refueled at NAF between tests on golf course driving range.



BUSINESSLIKE CONFIGURATION, suggesting fighter-bomber, belies announced application of XV-5A as deep-penetration rescue vehicle for Army.



WING FAN OF XV-5A is checked out at NAF. One in each wing and one in nose, fans are free-rotating, powered by deflected jet exhaust. Semicircular vanes close as craft converts to horizontal flight.

SERVICING XV-5A took place at NAF between tests over driving range. Jet-powered V/STOL plane took off from hard runway in conventional style. Landing gear on this model is non-retractable.



XV-5A Soars Over Turf

(Continued from Page 1)

Ryan Aircraft Co. with the idea of providing range commanders with a mobile, dis- guisable ground target.

The XV-5A is designed for the Army by Ryan, and the XC-142A, now in initial stages of an 18-month operational evaluation test at Edwards Air Force Base, is a tri-service project by a Vought-Hiller-Ryan team. The XV-5A has been proposed as a deep-penetration rescue vehicle.

The XV-5A, employing lift fans in its nose and each wing, hovered, took off and landed on the NOTS driving range, on which a typical tented Army command post had been erected. Its lift characteristics and fan effects on the grassy surface were compared with those of an accompanying H-21 "banana" type helicopter, while an HU-1 helicopter and a T-37 jet flew chase.

It arrived at NOTS at 9 a.m. Thursday, February 3, and was tested through 3 p.m., when it returned to Edwards. The XC-142A cargo plane was flown into NAF for only a brief time that afternoon for infrared measurement.

The "Firebeetle" car is the creation of Ryan's Lee Dinapoli, and is described as an omni-directional ground target for surface to surface or air to surface gunnery. Operated from a remote control console,

it can take evasive action, disguised as one or another type of enemy vehicle. Possible applications of the concept, according to Ryan, are as a target, for ground surveillance or to probe mined areas. It is built around a Chevrolet Corvair chassis and engine, and is presently capable of about 25 miles per hour, though speed might be increased up to 40.

The XV-5A and XC-142A vertical/short take off and landing aircraft (V/STOL) were measured by ground based radiometric equipment at China Lake on February 3 by members of the Systems Development's Infrared Countermeasures Group (Code 3008).

Code 3008, under the leadership of Ephraim Regelson, is conducting a joint program with the U. S. Army Aviation Material Laboratories, Ft. Eustis, Virginia, to evaluate the infrared signatures of V/STOL aircraft. This program encompasses other V/STOL systems such as the XC-142 tilt-wing aircraft. It was measured during the afternoon of February 3 at the Naval Air Facility.

These two tests are but a portion of the joint NOTS-Army project. Mr. Jerry Reed, project engineer for this program, stated that, "The overall program is directed towards the support of Army research on infrared countermeasure devices. Infrared measurements



RISING FROM TURF of NOTS golf course driving range, XV-5A shows capabilities in rugged or unprepared terrain. Effect of downblast from fans in wings and nose was here measured against that of H-21 helicopter. Site was provided with typical Army command post tents for the tests.

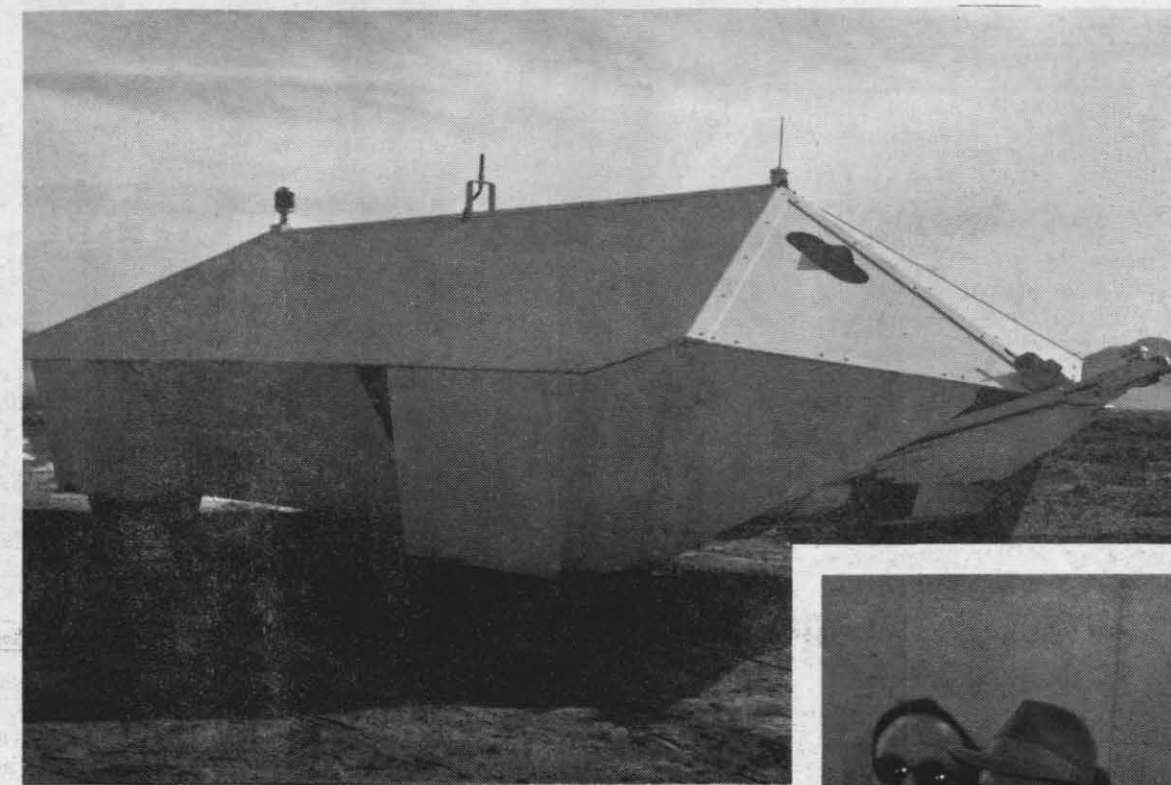
Firebeetle Negotiates Sand

are only the beginning of the IR countermeasures design chain."

Both aircraft, which were measured by Code 3008, have unique propulsion and stability and control systems. These aircraft concepts may be the basis for a new series of tactical vehicles for the U. S. Army. As such, the Army is concerned with their potential vulnerability to anti-aircraft weapons which use infrared homing systems.

The XC-142 is a 37,000-pound aircraft capable of transporting

personnel and materiel into and out of short unprepared landing sites. It incorporates the tilt-wing, deflected slipstream concept to achieve V/STOL operation. The airplane is powered by four General Electric T64-GE-1 turboshaft engines with an interconnected drive system. The aircraft maximum speed at sea level is 355 knots. The XC-142 which was used during the test is based at Edwards Air Force Base, California, and was furnished by the Tri-Service Project Office.



FIREBEEBLE HEADS OUT for demonstration of its remote-controlled maneuverability in NAF's Exclusion Area. Top speed of this model is about 25 MPH, but improvement could add 15 MPH or so to vehicle.



NOT A MOBILE PILLBOX—This is back end of remote-controlled Firebeetle. Concept could provide variety of moving targets for range commanders, among other applications. Television camera is mounted on front end.



WHAT FIREBEEBLE SEES through its fixed lens is pictured on monitor screen for benefit of operator-builder Lee Dinapoli at his control console.



STUDY IN CONCENTRATION — Capt. J. I. Hardy, ComNOTS, shows difficulty of maneuvering jouncing Firebeetle over rough ground—from seat in front of TV monitor. Standing around him are (l-r) VAdm. Paul D. Strop (ret.), Lee Dinapoli of Ryan Aircraft, and Dr. William B. McLean, NOTS Technical Director.



NEGOTIATING TERRAIN of NAF Exclusion Area was hard job for Firebeetle, even under control of its maker, Lee Dinapoli of Ryan.

Photos by
JERRY WILLIAMS, PH1
ROBERT HANCOCK, PH2
and JERRY WILLEY, PHAN