



BILL BAKER (in photo at left), head of the Procurement Division, explains to Capt. T. R. Hendershot, SC, USN, Director of Supply, a technical point on one of the more than 200 active procurement contracts administered by the NWC Supply Department.



telephone a request to TELMART by calling ext. 3571 and, in most cases, the material will be delivered to any location on the Center within 8 hours. Lyal D. Viers (in photo at right), a data processing specialist, and LCdr. F. R. Castillo, SC, USN, head of the Planning and Administrative Division, are seen discussing a recently devised customer status report. This is a computer-programmed document that assist Center customers in determining the status of requisitions submitted to the Supply Department.



Supply Corps Observes 178th Anniversary

The 178th anniversary of the founding of the Navy Supply Corps was observed locally by a party that was held last Friday at the China Lake golf course clubhouse. Nearly 100 persons attended the affair—a no-host cocktail party at which hors d'oeuvres were served.

The Supply Corps had its origin in the British and American Merchant Marine of colonial times when the purser or "super cargo" directed the business operations of a ship. These gentlemen were both merchants and bankers and were the personal representatives of the vessel's owner. Only those men highly skilled in the arts of trade and finance could qualify for such positions.

Officers of the U. S. Navy Supply Corps call themselves the "Businessmen of the Navy." They lead a more hazardous kind of existence than the usual businessman. In wartime, each has his battle station on board ship.

The "Businessmen of the Navy" must know buying and procurement; have knowledge of market trends; value of goods; standardization of materials; the perishable and obsolescent factors; all logistics of supply, including how long it will take to get the desired material from the nearest base, together with how much will be needed until a fresh supply can be obtained.

Also, they must know about packaging, stevedoring, palletizing, transportation of all types, and storage. They must know accounting, bookkeeping, fiscal matters and pay procedures. Further, they must be a personnel expert because they will be called upon to command all colors and creeds, all rates and ranks of both military and civilian.

In 1775, the Continental Congress authorized the building, fitting and provisioning of 13 vessels to be managed by its Naval Committee. During the period of the Continental Congress and the Revolutionary days, the responsibilities of the Corps did not change, but management changed from committees and boards to a "Single Agent or Marine" which position was held by Robert Morris, the "Financier of the Revolution," until the Continental Congress went out of existence in 1784.

Depredations on American shipping by the Barbary State pirates soon after the adoption of the Constitution in 1789 prompted Congress to implement its authority to "provide and maintain a Navy."



HIGHLIGHT OF the Navy Supply Corps anniversary party was a cake-cutting ceremony at which Capt. T. R. Hendershot, NWC Director of Supply (2nd from left) officiated. He was helped by Joe Garrett (at left), the Supply Department employee with the longest tenure at China Lake; CWO2 James Elder, who was in charge of arrangements for the party, and Dora McCrumb, the newest employee in the Supply Department.

President George Washington signed the first Naval Armament Act on March 27, 1794, for construction of ships. This act was important to Supply Corps history because these ships were directed to carry a purser or warrant officer grade appointed by the President. The purser's responsibilities included meeting the "victualizing" requirements of his ship, selling the men articles of clothing, known as "slops," and keeping an accurate account of wages of the crew who were not paid with money but with certificates countersigned by the

captain of the ship. The purser also had to purchase all articles for use in the various departments of the ship.

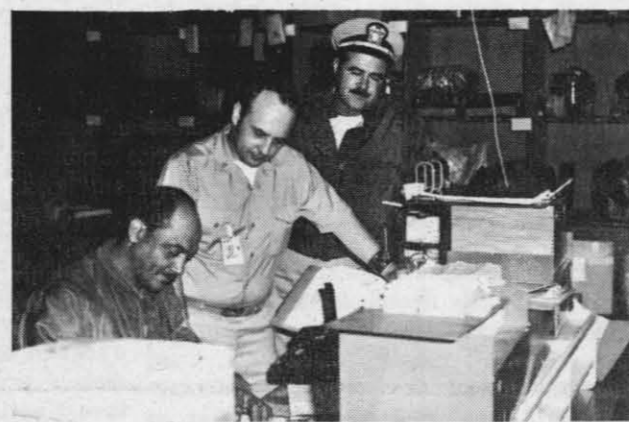
Feb. 23, 1795, is the date celebrated as the birthday of the Supply Corps. It was on this date that the office of the first "Purveyor of Public Supplies" was created.

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Photos by PHAN Jerry Sizemore



CDR. R. B. NYGAARD, SC, USN, Deputy Director of Supply (in photo at left), and Mrs. Ellen LaFortune, a supervisory management analyst, look over management charts which depict the posture of the Supply Department. The role of CWO-3 "Mike" Moore (far right in center photo) is that of aviation support for NWC, NAF and VX-5. This involves 60 aircraft of 27 configurations and 22 different engine types. Warrant Officer Moore is shown

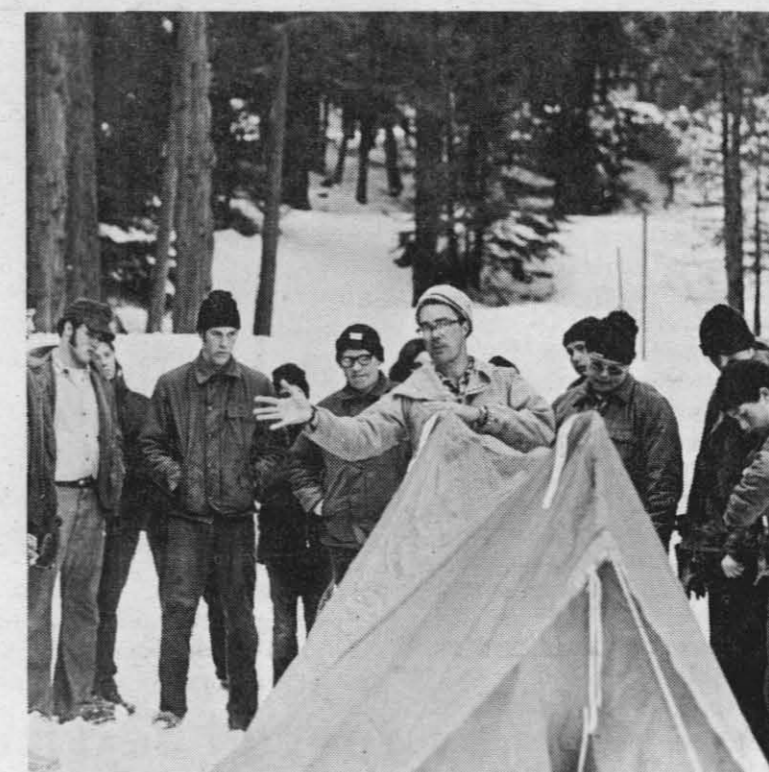


discussing details concerning an A7E aircraft with AKCS Ronald Cadari and AK1 Will Levy. Mrs. Margaret Grisham and Phil Good (in photo at right), two inventory management specialists, review the stock record of one of the more than 10,000 line items carried in the stock by the Supply Department of Naval Weapons Center. Last Friday was the 178th anniversary of the founding of the Navy Supply Corps.



Cold Weather Survival Training Held

Desert Youth Enjoy Co-Ed Snow Outing



COLD WEATHER TRAINING — Frank Buffum, of the China Lake Mountain Rescue Group, was a busy man during the two-day cold weather training session held last weekend by the Sea Cadets of VX-5 and members of Senior Girl Scout Troop 170. In these photos he is shown (clockwise, above) giving instruction on the proper way to pitch and insulate a tent, dig a snow cave and explaining the difference between cross-country skis and downhill skis. Buffum was only one of several lecturers and instructors who took part in the exercise, which was held at Camp Yenis Hante in the Greenhorn Mountains. The youngsters were treated to talks on communications, signalling, and first aid as well as tips on survival in "snow" country. According to Henry Serna, Jr., who planned and organized the outing, a good time was had by all. Mrs. Charlene Spencer, leader of the Girl Scout Troop, stated the girls gained a "great deal of useful knowledge." —Photos by Henry Serna, Jr.



Sea Cadets, Girl Scouts Journey To Greenhorns

A group of VX-5 Sea Cadets and members of Senior Girl Scout Troop 170 — a total of 40 in all — spent last weekend taking part in a cold weather training exercise at Camp Yenis Hante, in the Greenhorn Mountains.

According to Henry Serna, Jr., training officer for the Sea Cadet squadron, temperatures at the camp ranged from freezing to 5 deg. above zero, considered ideal weather for the purpose of the visit.

An excellent group of lecturers and instructors put the coeducational group through a series of exercises and demonstrations, designed to prepare them for the rigors of living in cold weather. LCdr. Carl Richno, NWC's Communications Officer, who acts as the liaison officer for the Sea Cadets, lectured on communications, and Frank Buffum, a member of the China Lake Mountain Rescue Group, talked to the group about shelters, survival techniques and other subjects. Cdr. George Burdick, who is the Commanding Officer of the Sea Cadets, also presented demonstrations to the group.

An igloo and a snow cave were built, although no one slept overnight in the emergency structures. Norm Firtig, a Navy corpsman, gave an outstanding talk on first aid. Other topics covered included navigation and signalling, snowshoe travel, and cross-country skiing.

Mrs. Charlene Spencer, leader of Troop 170, stated that the Girl Scouts thoroughly enjoyed the trip and "learned a great deal about snow survival."

Story Smokes Out Confession By Flag Thief

If you take an American flag because you feel the owner does not respect the flag by flying it at night, are you still a thief?

"Yes," said A. J. Spencer, a retired U.S. Navy chief, who discovered that an American flag he had been flying at half-mast in honor of the deaths of former Presidents L. B. Johnson and Harry S. Truman, was stolen on Feb. 15. The theft took place at Spencer's residence, 306-A McIntire St., on the Center.

"No," said the thief who, in a letter addressed to this newspaper, signed himself (herself?) "No Candidate for the Meanest Thief at China Lake" after reading a story about the disappearance of Spencer's flag that was published in the Feb. 23 issue of the ROCKETEER.

"I took the flag, not for the art (sic) of stealing other people's property, but because it was out in the dark," the letter stated. "It had always been my understanding that when the flag is flown at night, it should have a black ribbon and a light on it, which this had not," the self-confessed thief continued.

"I believe people should be given a citation for leaving the flag up after sundown," the confessor of the flag asserted.

"Whoever wrote that letter and took my flag came right up on my porch and stole something that didn't belong to them," said an irate Spencer, when informed of the letter. "I admit the flag was flying at night, but I had attended a meeting and got home from it quite late. It was, however, flying at half-mast," Spencer added.

Film Slated About Mountains Of Chilean Andes

A 30-minute color film, "Skies of the Andes," will be shown at the March meeting of the China Lake Astronomical Society, which is to be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the group's clubhouse, 401-A McIntire St., China Lake.

High in the Andes Mountains of Chile there are three new major astronomical observatories. At Cerro Tololo a group of U.S. universities is constructing a 158-inch diameter telescope.

In the northern part of Chile, a European group is building another big observatory, and Chile and Russia are constructing still another observatory in the south.

The government of Chile made the movie, "Skies of the Andes," because of rumors that the domes were American rocket launchers. The selection of the site for observatory construction by U.S. universities and molding the huge 158-inch mirror are all shown.

The film also shows Chile's magnificent mountains. The public is invited to attend.

Social Security Man To Visit China Lake

A representative of the Social Security office in Lancaster will pay another in his regular series of monthly visits to China Lake next Wednesday, March 7.

Persons wishing to obtain a Social Security number or apply for Social Security benefits can do so at the Community Center between 8:30 and 11 a.m.

United Fund Annual Dinner Set March 7

An opportunity for officials of the Indian Wells Valley United Fund to express appreciation and present awards to groups and individuals whose efforts contributed to the success of the 1973 campaign is coming up next Wednesday, March 7.

During a dinner program that will get under way at 7 p.m. at the Hideaway in Ridgecrest, Dave Henderson, campaign chairman, will present citations and plaques, following a review of the past year's accomplishments by Bill Danley, president of the local United Fund's board of directors.

Guest speaker of the evening will be Dr. Ellis W. Cline, executive

director of the Desert Counseling Clinic, whose topic will be "Opportunities for Mental Health Services in the Indian Wells Valley."

Among other business to be taken up at this, the annual meeting of the IWV United Fund, will be the election of officers who will serve for the coming year. Nominees are: Ray Miller, for president; Karen Ballenger, for 1st vice-president; Bill Danley, for 2nd vice-president; Karen Connolly, for secretary, and Judy Lind, for treasurer.

Additional nominations also will be accepted from the floor prior to voting on the slate of new officers.

There's still time today to make reservations for the prime rib dinner that will be served at a cost of \$5 per person by calling either Mrs. Connolly at 446-5272 or Mary Frederick at 446-6412.

More Shopping Time

On a trial basis, the Navy Exchange will be open until 7 p.m. every Thursday throughout the month of March, according to Lt. E. N. Smith, Navy Exchange Officer.

Response to the new hours will determine their continuance, Lt. Smith added.