

Speaker at AAUW meeting to discuss expansion at Trona

"How will the expansion of the Kerr-McGee Corp. plant in Trona affect Ridgecrest?" will be considered at the January meeting of the American Association of University Women.

The speaker will be Morgan Locke, manager of the Searles Lake operations, who will discuss this matter at the AAUW meeting on Tuesday evening at the Community Center.

The public is invited to this community service meeting, the business portion of which will start at 7:30. The general meeting, featuring Locke, will begin promptly at 8.

Beginners' class in folk dancing to begin on Feb. 4

Ten weeks of international folk dance instruction for beginners will start Wednesday, Feb. 4.

This class, sponsored by the Desert Dancers, will meet every Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Panamint Rm. of the Community Center.

"All you have to do is be able to walk," says instructor Bob Brown, who, for several years, has been a member of exhibition dance groups. He expects to progress from simple walking steps to a point where the neophyte can join the regular Thursday night sessions of the Desert Dancers.

Although partners are not required for folk dancing, couples joining the class together get a discount — the \$3 per person fee will be lowered to \$5 a couple.

For information about the class or Desert Dancers, call 377-4970 or 446-3297 during the evenings.

Watercolor expert to present program at Art Club meeting

A watercolor demonstration will be presented by Morris Shubin of Los Angeles, who will also be the featured speaker at Monday night's meeting of the Desert Art League.

The meeting, which will begin at 7:30 p.m., will be held at the Community Center.

Nationally known, Shubin was featured on the watercolor page of the August 1974 issue of American Artist. In addition, his paintings have been reproduced for Hallmark Cards, Buzza-Cardoza cards, and his work



Morris Shubin

can be found in permanent and private collections.

Shubin's work has been exhibited in universities, municipal galleries, travel exhibits and invitations, and in libraries in the United States and in Sweden. Among his awards are purchase awards at the California National Watercolor Society's 48th and 53rd annual events and the Watercolor U.S.A. competition in 1969 and 1970.



BEST ON STAGE THIS PAST SEASON — Proving that talent comes in all shapes and sizes, the Outstanding Acting Achievement Award winners got together for the camera following the Community Light Opera and Theatre Association's annual awards dinner last Saturday evening. Left to right are Sally Erickson, who gave a sensitive portrayal of Mrs. Frank in "Diary of Anne Frank;" Rick Howell, who had the difficult role of Judas in "Jesus Christ Superstar;" Fred Stahlman, honored for singing and cavorting his way through the role of Senex in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum;" and Elena Vitale, who gained her award for the second year in a row, this time for her moving portrayal of Anne Frank in "Diary of Anne Frank." Also honored was CLOTA director Florence Green, whose "Jesus Christ Superstar" was named best production of the year by a panel of local judges. Mrs. Green, who has directed four plays for CLOTA, has won a "Best of the Year" award for every one of these productions.

'Best of Year' awards presented during annual meeting of CLOTA

"Best of the Year" awards, a dinner, and dancing to the music of Take Five were highlights of the Community Light Opera and Theatre Association's annual meeting, held last Saturday evening at the Chief Petty Officers' Club.

The CLOTA judges, a panel of local theater-goers, were given the option this year of presenting many more awards for technical aspects of play-production than had ever been given before. Picking up on that option, the judges awarded plaques for 10 categories of excellence, including four awards for best performances in the season just past and a special award to a group of four dancers.

Carol Woodridge Honored

CLOTA's top award, given annually by the board of directors each year to a person that the board considers worthy of recognition for sustained effort over the years, was presented to Carol Woodridge, a long-term member of the organization who has willingly performed a wide variety of unglamorous chores and creative endeavors for CLOTA.

Awards for outstanding acting achievement went to Sally Erickson and Elena Vitale for their roles in "Diary of Anne Frank," to Fred Stahlman for his part in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," and to Rick Howell for his role in the rock opera, "Jesus Christ Superstar."

Winner of the best production of the year award was Florence Green, director of "Jesus Christ Superstar." Other awards for technical aspects of "Jesus Christ Superstar" went to Vernon Green, lighting effects; Jim Werle, technical direction; Russell Parker, musical direction; and Dori Morrione and Georgia Knutsen, choreography.

Set Designer Wins Award

Her three-level set design for "Diary of Anne Frank" won an award for June Deatherage, and Vivian Childers, a CLOTA mainstay, won a costume design award for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

A special award, suggested by the judges and given with the approval of the board of directors, went to a group that contributed substantially to the mood of "Jesus Christ Superstar" — the Tormentors who wove and writhed around Judas throughout his action in the play. This group of dancers included Cindy Cain, Rhonda Knutsen, Dori Morrione and Aaron Nicholson.

Also during CLOTA's annual meeting, new board members were elected, the sales campaign for the 1976 season formally got

under way, and the plays for the coming season were introduced.

Elected to serve on the new board were Mary McMullen, Leo Freis, Ken Austerman, Lloyd Bailey, Tina Knemeyer and Terry Payne. They will join present board members Liz Babcock, who was re-elected Saturday evening, Suzanne Koerschner and Eleanor Lotee. A bylaw revision meeting, to be held at the China Lake Community Center on Feb. 10, may result in the addition of one more member to this board.

Plays for the coming season will be "Sugar," directed by Gail Falkenberg; "1776," directed by Florence Green; and "Prisoner of Second Avenue," directed by Alan Kubik. Season tickets, which give the playgoer a substantial saving over the price of tickets sold at the door, may be purchased from Carol Woodridge, the membership chairman, or from members of the CLOTA board of directors.

This year, for the first time, student season tickets, available also to military enlisted personnel and senior citizens, will be offered.



CLOTA'S TOP AWARD — Receiving the Jane Bugay Memorial Award from Liz Babcock (right), CLOTA president, Carol Woodridge smiles her appreciation. This award, given for sustained and outstanding work for the community theater organization over a period of years, was earned by Mrs. Woodridge for a great variety of chores she willingly performed. These ranged from writing invitations and selling tickets to creating original choreography and serving as "the best curtain-puller in town."

SHOWBOAT

MOVIE RATINGS
The objective of the ratings is to inform parents about the suitability of movie content for viewing by their children.

- (G) - ALL AGES ADMITTED
General Audiences
 - (PG) - ALL AGES ADMITTED
Parental Guidance Suggested
 - (R) - RESTRICTED
Under 17 requires accompanying Parent or Adult Guardian
 - CS - Cinemascope
 - STD - Standard Movie Screen
 - Regular starting time—7:30 p.m.
- Program subject to change without notice—please check marquee.

FRI. 23 JAN.
"DON'T TURN THE OTHER CHEEK!" (96 Min.)
Elli Wallach, Lynn Redgrave
(Comedy Western) The story is about a dying miner who speaks of a map showing the location of buried gold. Part of the map is found on a mine manager, put to rest, and the other half is on Wallach's bottom. (PG)

SAT. 24 JAN.
"PAPER MOON" (103 Min.)
Ryan O'Neal, Tatum O'Neal
(Comedy) Set in Kansas in the 1930s, the story concerns a shrewd young southern orphan who becomes the willing confederate of a con man. She then sets out to out-con the con man. (PG)

SUN. & MON. 25-26 JAN.
"NASHVILLE" (161 Min.)
Elliott Gould, Karen Black
(Drama) Idealistic America during the 1970 Presidential campaign is the focal point of this film. Using Nashville, the country and western music capital, as the metaphorical setting of America at this time, the lives of 24 characters are portrayed through the use of a narrative technique. (R)

TUE. 27 JAN.
"THE WILD PARTY" (88 Min.)
James Coco, Raquel Welch
(Drama) The year is 1929 and silent-screen comedian Jolly Grimm (James Coco) has been losing his box office appeal since talking pictures have come in. Jolly decides to produce and star in a film, "Brother Jasper," using his own savings. He prepares to give a party following the premiere of his film, hoping that his guests (studio heads, Hollywood stars and prominent film critics) will like and want to sponsor his film. His aspirations are dissolved when, at the finale of his film, he wins some laughs but no bids for financial help. Although disappointed, the party goes on and indicates that the era of a pleasure-mad Hollywood is also passing with the transition to talking pictures. (R)

WED. 28 JAN.
"SHAFT IN AFRICA" (122 Min.)
Richard Roundtree, Frank Finlay
(Action Drama) A sinister, modern-day slave-trade centered in Ethiopia takes John Shaft, a private eye, to Africa and Europe to crack the deadly business. (R)

THURS. 29 JAN.
"TRINITY IS STILL MY NAME" (118 Min.)
Terence Hill, Bud Spencer
(Western) Two halfbrothers promise their dying father they will become successful bandits, but their hearts aren't in it and they turn out to be good guys. (PG)

FRI. 30 JAN.
"THE TERMINAL MAN" (105 Min.)
George Segal, Joan Hackett
(Suspense Drama) A man has a computer terminal inserted in his brain. When the operation goes awry, he becomes part Frankenstein monster — subject to violent, murderous blackouts — and seeks victims at random from both friends and strangers. (PG)

Dance set at Chaparral
The New Good Grief Band will provide music for a dance at the Chaparral Club tonight from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

Walt Schimke, the club manager, also reminds members that there is a steak night special every Thursday and on military pay days from 6 to 9:30 p.m.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1976 - 642 / N0410

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To: _____

PLACE
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At Ridgecrest CofC meeting

Impact of changing scene at NWC on community outlined

A talk outlining the historical precedent for many of the policies governing the residents of China Lake, coupled with an explanation of why some of these policies must now be reviewed and changed, was presented by Rear Admiral R. G. Freeman III, NWC Commander, at this past Monday's luncheon meeting of the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce.

"1976: The Changing Scene at the Naval Weapons Center and Its Impact on the Indian Wells Valley" was the title of the remarks presented by RADM. Freeman, following his introduction by Sam McMullen, the newly-installed president of the local businessmen's group.

The Skipper set the frame of reference for his presentation by taking a moment to convey his feelings of genuine excitement

For the complete text of Rear Admiral R. G. Freeman's talk that was presented at the Jan. 19 meeting of the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, ROCKETEER readers should refer to the special insert that accompanies this issue of the Naval Weapons Center newspaper.

about America's 200th anniversary and the confidence he has in this nation's ability "to solve today's problems, add to the heritage

of our country, and turn over to our heirs a nation that is strong, independent and progressing."

Referring to 1976 as a "hallmark year" that has aroused in American citizens a renewed sense of pride in their heritage, traditions and accomplishments, RADM. Freeman was applauded by his listeners as he expressed confidence that "in spite of what we hear from some, we will continue to carry on in the spirit of a tradition that now has two centuries of stamina, purpose and dedication instilled in it."

Turning next to the main theme of his address, the NWC Commander noted that the Center, being a military installation,

falls under the same guidelines, policies and regulations of other bases. Historically, however, he noted, there were many waivers of the directives in order that the Naval Ordnance Test Station (forerunner to NWC) could develop and survive.

"From 1945 through the mid-1960s, there was no great motivation to examine possible alternatives to the established method of doing things at China Lake," the speaker pointed out. This included the building of homes, schools and shopping facilities.

"This has all been changing rapidly since 1967 or '68," RADM. Freeman pointed out, (Continued on Page 3)



nwc rocketeer

Naval Weapons Center
China Lake
California

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Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award presented to Dr. William Haseltine

The Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the highest honorary award in the Navy civilian service which may be granted by the heads of activities, was presented Monday morning to Dr. William R. Haseltine, a senior research scientist in the NWC Research Department, during a ceremony in the NWC Commander's office.

The award was presented by Rear Admiral R. G. Freeman III in recognition of Dr. Haseltine's outstanding analytical and experimental work that has provided solutions to technical problems of the utmost importance and value to the Navy. His work, characterized by scientific excellence and extraordinary productivity, has qualified him as a recognized international authority in the fields of exterior ballistics, mechanics, mathematical physics, and applied mathematics.

Expert in Many Areas

The range of Dr. Haseltine's numerous and definitive investigations, publications and presentations has encompassed a wide spectrum of problems including theory and analysis of the dynamics and stability of various systems, including shells, rockets, missiles, and space vehicles; equations of motion of projectiles and of satellites; optimal programs for an ascending missile; applications of modern filtering theory to target-tracking systems; orthogonalization problems pertaining to rotating systems; damping effects in missile seeker systems; and nutation damping problems.

In addition to the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, Dr. Haseltine received a miniature replica of a Sidewinder AIM-9L in recognition of the work he has done on this missile. John Crossley acted for Allen Gates, head of the Sidewinder Program Office in the Engineering Department's Electromechanical Division, in making this presentation.

At China Lake Since 1946

Dr. Haseltine came to work for the Naval Weapons Center (formerly Naval Ordnance Test Station) in 1946 as a physicist in the Ballistics Division of what was then called the Science Department. In 1955 he was appointed head of the Ballistics Division — a position he held until the group dissolved in 1958.

During his career at the Naval Weapons Center, Dr. Haseltine has been commended many times for the outstanding work he has performed in the field of scientific research. He has been praised for the extraordinary job he does in the creative research phase of

his work. In addition to providing expert consulting service to many scientists on the Center, he also has been cited for the important contributions he's made to the scientific reputation of the Center.

In 1966 he received the L.T.E. Thompson Award. The citation read: "Dr. William R. Haseltine, through his theoretical and experimental research work at the Station, has become internationally recognized as one of the foremost authorities and one of the most prominent scientists in the fields of exterior ballistics, celestial mechanics, and mathematical physics."

Upon leaving the Center in the near future, Dr. Haseltine anticipates an enjoyable retirement in San Clemente where he and his wife, Jeanne, have a home. He hopes to do some sailing along the California coast.

Bluejacket of Year dinner postponed; now slated Feb. 7

The seventh annual Bluejacket of the Year awards dinner has been postponed to Saturday, Feb. 7, Mike Molner, president of the Indian Wells Valley Council, Navy League of the United States, announced earlier this week.

The postponement is due to a change in the schedule of the San Diego Navy Band which will play for the affair. Transportation difficulties prevented the band from being able to be at the Naval Weapons Center tomorrow as originally planned.

This event honors outstanding naval enlisted personnel who have been selected during 1975 as Bluejackets of the Month. A committee will choose the Bluejacket of the Year from the seven eligible candidates, basing its decision on military bearing, appearance, conduct, job performance, supervisor's recommendation and the answers to certain questions the committee asks the Navy men.

Although banquet tickets show the Jan. 24 date, they will be accepted on Feb. 7. Those wishing to buy tickets to attend the gala affair should contact a local Navy League member or Linda Grossman. Mrs. Grossman is employed in the Public Information Office of the Naval Weapons Center, phone 939-3511.

AN Debra Fairbanks chosen as NAF's first Sailor of Month

"You're kidding me," said AN Debra A. Fairbanks when told that she had been selected as the Naval Air Facility's first Sailor of the Month.

The Sailor of the Month is a supplemental award program paralleling the Bluejacket of the Month.

Since the Bluejacket who is selected is usually a 1st or 2nd class petty officer — because he or she has more responsibilities than lower ranking sailors — the NAF Command has begun the Sailor of the Month program to encourage all enlisted personnel to strive for a higher level of achievement. "Sailors" are defined as having ratings of E4 or below. They are, by the way, still eligible for the Bluejacket competition.

The first sailor chosen for this program, Airman Fairbanks, has been impressing people with her cheerfulness and willingness to help since she reported to NAF in June 1974 as a recruit just out of boot camp.

AN Fairbanks joined the Navy because she was curious — her brother was a sailor but wouldn't tell her enough — and also because she wanted to do something challenging and develop a sense of responsibility. Her supervisors feel that she seems to have found and responded to both challenge and responsibility in NAF's Maintenance Control Division.

Lt. Bill Wilson, division officer, stated: "She is extremely conscientious and accurate in a critical position within the

maintenance organization . . . she's one of my better people."

Lt. Wilson praised AN Fairbanks for taking the initiative in developing her talents without the benefit of any formal Navy schools, seeing this as "a tribute to her dynamic approach to a technically difficult rating." In addition, he cited instances in which the Sailor of the Month has shown a "higher degree of knowledge and responsibility than that normally required

(Continued on Page 3)



AN Debra A. Fairbanks



SERVICE CALL 'MAN OF MONTH' — John Hart, a sheetmetal worker in the Public Works Department's Service Call Shop...

CPO Club will be setting for observance of National Prayer Breakfast on Jan. 29

The Chief Petty Officers' Club will be the setting for the local observance of the National Prayer Breakfast...

This event, one of a multitude of similar programs that will be conducted across the nation on Jan. 29...

However, due to the limited seating capacity of the CPO Club, just 250 tickets (available at a donation of \$1 each) will be provided for the prayer breakfast...

Master of ceremonies for this occasion will be Harry Parade, public information officer...

The morning's inspirational message, entitled "Assumptions We Make," will be presented by Dr. G. L. Hollingsworth...

The program also will include the playing of a brief, taped message from J. William Middendorf II, Secretary of the Navy...

The Sweet Adelines will sing "A Man of the Land," "Amazing Grace," and "Thank You, Dear Lord."

Group singing of "Let There Be Peace" and the benediction delivered by Seymour Uberman, president of the NWC Hebrew Congregation...

The tickets can be obtained at the All Faith Chapel office, from members of the sponsoring congregations...

Navy Wives Club slates program about epilepsy

The Navy Wives Club of America, Desert Flower chapter No. 125, will present a program on epilepsy at a special meeting next Thursday, Jan. 29...

The public is invited to attend the program in the Navy Wives Club hut located at McIntire St. and N. Mitscher Rd. on the Center.

Robert Gorman, executive director of the Kern County Epilepsy Society, Inc., will conduct the program. Through meetings like this, he hopes to increase community awareness about epilepsy...

Promotional opportunities

Unless otherwise specified in the ad, applications for positions listed in this column will be accepted from current NWC employees and should be filed with the person named in the ad...

Electronic Technician, GS-85-5, PD No. 7459001, Code 5581 — This position is located in the Soldering Technology Branch...

Electronic Engineer, GS-85-11/12, or Mechanical Engineer, GS-830-11/12, PD No. 7555113, Code 5535 — This position is in the RF/EMC Evaluation Branch...

Fiscal Accounting Supervisor, GS-501-07, PD No. 7608007, Code 0665 — This position is deputy disbursing officer in the Disbursing Branch of the Office of Finance...

Plant Account Supervisor, GS-501-08, PD No. 7608008, Code 0663 — This is a temporary promotion not to exceed 180 days. This position is located in the Plant Property Accounting Branch of the Office of Finance...

Secretary, GS-318-4/5, PD No. 7608004, Code 082 — Position is located in Office of Finance and Management, Management Division, incumbent provides secretarial services to the head, Management Division...

Space Resources Manager, GS-301-12/13, PD No. 7608006, Code 0822 — This position is located in the Office of Finance and Management and is under the supervision of the Associate for Resources Management...

Electrician, WG-2805-10, JD No. 180, Code 4553 — Incumbent performs journeyman electrician duties in various explosive processing laboratories...

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File applications for the above with Mary Morrison, Bldg. 34, Rm. 210, Ph. 2393.

File applications for the above with Dora Childers, Bldg. 24, Rm. 206, Ph. 2674.

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building inspections and ability to identify fire hazards, and knowledge of reference sources, firefighting knowledge (knowledge of fire, origin, and techniques of extinguishing fires), and ability to accept responsibility...

Supervisory Firefighter, GS-801-4, PD No. 748009, Code 842 — This position is located in the Fire Division of the Security Department, incumbent is crew chief of the major piece of motorized fire fighting apparatus and its crew...

Supervisory Electronics Engineer, GS-855-12 or 13, PD No. 7637007, Code 3743 — This position is head, Telemetry Branch. The branch has the responsibility for the design, development, and implementation of advanced telemetry and instrumentation systems for experimental vehicles...

File applications for the above with Sue Prasolowicz, Bldg. 34, Rm. 206, Ph. 2377.

Supervisory Electronics Engineer, GS-855-13, PD No. 7230062, Code 3944 — This position is located in the Weapons Department, Electro-Optics Division, Electronics Branch...

Clerk (Typing), GS-301-3/4, PD No. 7535074, Code 35302 — This position may be filled on an intermittent or full-time basis. This position is located in the Surface Threat Division...

File applications for the above with Tina Lowe, Bldg. 34, Rm. 206, Ph. 2323.

File applications for the above with Tina Lowe, Bldg. 34, Rm. 206, Ph. 2323.



DIVINE SERVICES

PROTESTANT
Sunday Worship Service 1015
Sunday School - All Ages 0900
Wednesday Noon Bible Study 1130
Sunday School Classes are held in Chapel Annexes 1, 2, 4 (Dorms 5, 6, 8) located opposite the Center Restaurant...

ROMAN CATHOLIC
MASS
Saturday 1700 fulfills Sunday obligation
Sunday 0700 0830 1130

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL
MASS
Daily except Saturday 1135

CONFESSIONS
Daily 1115 to 1130
Saturday 1615 to 1645
Sunday 0800 to 0825
Wednesday 1830 to 1930

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES
Sunday Kindergarten thru 6th grades 1015
Pre-school 1130
Wednesday First thru sixth 1130
seventh & eighth 1900
(Junior High)

Above classes are held in Chapel Annexes across from Center Restaurant. Ninth thru 12th grades As announced "In Home" Discussion Groups Monthly Youth Rallies Contact Chaplain's Office for specifics.

JEWISH SERVICES
EAST WING - ALL FAITH CHAPEL
Sabbath Services every Friday 2000

UNITARIANS
CHAPEL ANNEX #5
Sunday Services — (Sep1-May) 1930

Mother's Buggies maintain lead in Premier League

The Mother's Buggies bowling team continues to hold the upper hand in the Premier Bowling League.

As the result of a 3-0 win over the NAF leaguers this past Monday night, the league leaders are now eight games in front of the second place Loewen's team...

Bowlers for the league leaders posted a high team series of 2,956 compared to 2,886 for Western Columbia and 2,715 for Loewen's.

Triple 200 games were rolled by Jack Brown and Lonnie Price, who ended up with high individual series marks of 638 and 631, respectively. In the high individual game category, Warren Turnbaugh was tops with a total of 266.

In addition to Turnbaugh, who had a 602 series, others over the 600 series mark were Kim Duckett, 624, and Ken Dalpiaz, 611.

Other high single game efforts were turned in by Allen Smith, 238; Dave Hornley, 226, and Vic Black, 224.

Table with columns: Team, Won, Lost. Mother's Buggies, Loewen's, Western Columbia, Hideaway, Credit Union, Number One, Naval Air Facility, Elks, High Desert, King Max.

Burros drop 2 . . .

(Continued from Page 6)

fought back after trailing 19-13 at the end of the first quarter to knot the count, 31-31, at the half.

The game was still a toss-up at the end of a low-scoring third period, which found the score tied at 41-41. Halfway through the fourth quarter, the Spartans, led by the scoring of Charles Jarvis, took a 47-45 lead and remained in front for the remainder of the game — winning by a final margin of 67-58.

High point man in the game was Jarvis of Kennedy High, with 23. On offense, the Spartans also received strong assistance from Hector Alonzo and Randy Yarber, who tacked on 13 points each, and from Dave Carpenter, who contributed 10.

On the Burros' side of the scorebook, Tommy Flournoy was tops with 13, while Doremus and Martin tallied 10 points each.

Wilt's Corner . . .

(Continued from Page 6)

beginning Jan. 22.

All equipment will be provided. Those interested should contact Barbara Revels by calling ext. 2334 as soon as possible.

11th ND Racketball Tourney

The 11th Naval District has scheduled a racketball tournament for military personnel that will be held Feb. 2 through 6 at the Naval Station in San Diego. This will be a single elimination event for entries in both singles and doubles competition.

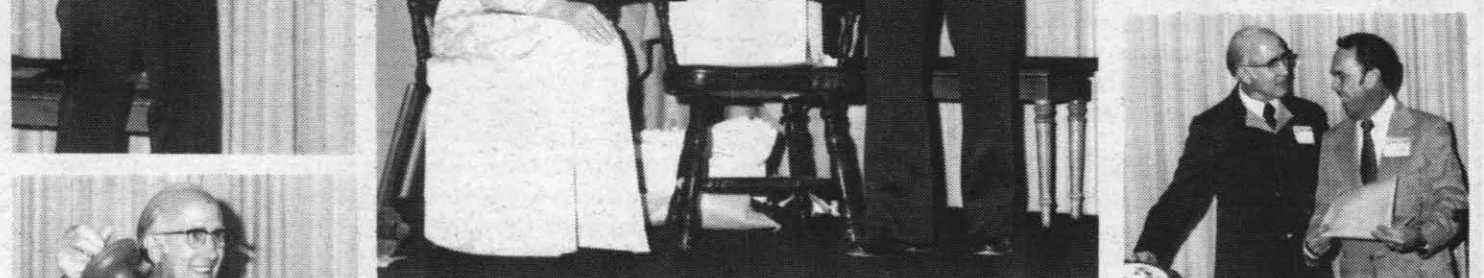
Additional information can be obtained by calling Lt. Ian Refo at ext. 5308; Lt. Terry Allen at ext. 5322, or the NWC gym, ext. 2334.

Youth Center tourney deadline is Jan. 30

Next Friday, Jan. 30, is the deadline to register for tournaments in pool, table tennis, chess, checkers and air hockey that will be conducted at the Youth Center.

Members of the Youth Center who sign up for these events will be competing in their own age groups for certificates that will be awarded to the winners.

The next special event on the Youth Center calendar will be a candy bar bingo game that will get under way at 2 p.m. tomorrow and continue for approximately 2½ hours.



FAREWELL PARTY HELD FOR KIT SKAAR — Friends and co-workers of K. S. (Kit) Skaar, former head of the Naval Weapons Center Safety Department who retired on Jan. 2 after 32 years at China Lake, gathered at the Commissioned Officers' Mess last Friday for a farewell reception and dinner honoring both Skaar and his wife, Ellen.

This camera's-eye view shows some of the many farewell gifts that were presented during the evening. In the photos at left, Skaar is displaying an enlarged color copy of the artist's sketch drawn by Bill Erwin for THE ROCKETEER that was presented by C. E. Van Hagan, head of the Technical Information Department, and a gag gift (a well-disguised hand drill with safety tags attached) that was given to him on behalf of the Public Works Department by Cdr. J. L. Uhe, assistant Public Works Officer. In the center photo (at top) Skaar is holding a metal sculpture of a coyote howling at the moon. An original piece of art done by Dr. William McEwan, it was purchased with Centerwide contributions to a farewell gift for the Skaars. A brief case (center photo at bottom) that was the gift of employees in the Safety Department was unpacked for viewing by the audience after its presentation by Paul Donaldson, acting head of Code 22. The three photos on right (from top to bottom) show Skaar receiving an NWC plaque from Capt. R. D. Franke, NWC Deputy Commander; another plaque from Capt. F. E. McDonald, NWC's Director of Supply; and an enlarged replica of a gate pass from W. E. Davis, Director of Security. This last item was provided in order that Skaar will continue to be able to enjoy his regular hikes up "B" Mt. as a conditioning exercise during his retirement years. Among other awards presented, but not shown in the photos, were a Naval Air Facility plaque from Capt. Conrad Olson, Commanding Officer of NAF; and two certificates — one presented by Roy Pullen on behalf of the Test and Evaluation Department and another by Ron Brummett from the Indian Wells Valley Safety Council. In addition, a model of RAP (rocket assisted projectile) — one of the weapons projects Skaar worked on when he was an employee of the Propulsion Development Department — was presented to him by Dr. G. W. Leonard.

Promotional opportunities

Position is in the Public Works Engineering Division. The incumbent types correspondence, technical reports, and provides general clerical services, receives personal and telephone contacts, files and performs other miscellaneous duties. File applications for the above with Terry Rowell, Bldg. 34, Rm. 212, Ph. 2032.

Procurement Clerk (Typing), GS-1106-5, PD No. 7025005-4N, Code 2522 — This position is in the Purchase Branch, Procurement Division, Supply Department. Incumbent types, assembles and distributes purchase orders, delivery orders and other paperwork involved in small purchase and government contracts, furnishes information regarding procurement status to customers and vendors, receives salesmen, and maintains files and records pertaining to procurement. Job Relevant Criteria: Ability to meet and deal with others, to deal effectively with outside contacts, to make decisions, familiarity with the functions of government procurement operations, ability to function under minimum supervision, and typing proficiency. Motor Vehicle Operator, WG-5703-4/7, JD No. 146-2/ JD No. 165-1, Code 25921 — This position is located in the Receiving Branch of the Supply Department. Incumbent will ordinarily drive straight-in-line trucks over 22,000 lb. GVW on a specific trip basis or on a regularly established schedule. Incumbent loads and unloads materials; makes vehicle operational inspection, etc. Job Element Standards: Ability to drive safely, knowledge of the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles, ability to perform the work practices related to the operation of the appropriate vehicle, reliability and dependability as a motor vehicle operator, and the ability to operate a motor vehicle without more than normal supervision. File applications for the above with June Adams, Bldg. 34, Rm. 210, Ph. 2371.

Supervisory Shop Planner (General), NW-431-4, Code 70403 — This amends Announcement No. WNC-01(76) to change the closing date to Feb. 2, 1976, and to include the following trades: Plasterer, Tile and Plate Setter, and Mason. For additional information on the above, contact Betty Geiser, Bldg. 34, Rm. 103, Ph. 2657.

Housing Project Manager, GS-1173-11, PWC, Pensacola, Fla. — The incumbent is responsible for assignment, administration, operation and maintenance of base family public quarters. Incumbent provides technical supervision for seven personnel. Applicants must show appropriate education and experience as listed in Handbook X-118. Applicants will be rated on the basis of training, experience, and training relevant to duties of the position. Dept. of Navy candidates must submit a current SF-171 with a copy of the most recent SF-50 and agency supervisory appraisal to the CPO, Employment Div., NAS, Pensacola, Fl., 32506. Additional information may be obtained by contacting LCDr. J. A. Kintz, Auto/Von 922-4412 or Commercial (904) 452-4412.

The Rocketeer

Official Weekly Publication
Naval Weapons Center
China Lake, California

RAdm. Rowland G. Freeman III
NWC Commander

Dr. G. L. Hollingsworth
Technical Director

C. E. Van Hagan
Head,
Technical Information Department

Don R. Yockey
Editor

Terri Jacks
Editorial Assistant

Ron Allen
Staff Photographer



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Phones 3354, 3355, 2347



Wilt's Corner

Schedule of MDISL tournaments for coming year set

The quarterly business meeting of the Mojave Desert Inter-service League was held last Friday at March Air Force Base in Riverside.

The schedule of 1976 MDISL tournaments was adopted. The sports, tourney sites, and dates for each such event are as follows:

Volleyball, Marine Corps Supply Center in Barstow, March 21 and 22.

Bowling, Edwards Air Force Base, April 3 and 4.

Tennis, Naval Weapons Center, June 4 through 6.

Fast pitch softball, Norton Air Force Base in San Bernardino, Aug. 13 through 15.

Slow pitch softball, Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Aug. 20 through 22.

Golf, Naval Weapons Center, Sept. 15 through 17.

Minor sports carnival, March Air Force Base in Riverside, Oct. 22 through 24.

Handball Tournament

Entry blanks are now available at the Center gym from all those interested in competing in a singles only handball tournament that will be held Feb. 17-18 and 24-25 at the Center's handball court.

Entrants will be grouped into one of three classifications, depending upon their ability, and action will get under way at 5 p.m. each day the tourney is in progress.

Class A will be for those who are advanced players, Class B is for those who play handball for recreation, and Class C will be for beginners.

An entry fee of \$1 per player will be charged, and completed entry forms must be received no later than 2 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12.

Women's Racketball Class

Registration is now being taken for a beginning racketball class for women. The class will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursdays

(Continued on Page 7)

Initial standings reported in Youth Basketball League

The Youth Basketball League season is now under way, with games being played on Monday through Thursday at 5, 6:15 and 7:30 p.m. at the Youth Gym by teams entered in the Instructional, Intermediate and Junior Divisions.

Teams entered in the Senior and High School Divisions play their games on Saturdays at the Center Gym.

Standings after the first week of play are as follows:

Team	Won	Lost
Intermediate Division		
Cougars	2	0
Bruins	2	0
Lakers	1	1
Trojans	1	1
Warriors	0	2
Spartans	0	2
Junior Division		
Rockets	2	0
Hawks	1	1
Stars	1	1
Huskies	0	2
Senior Division		
Bucks	2	0
Sonics	1	1
Knicks	1	1
Blasters	0	2
High School Division		
Teers	0	0
Pistons	0	0
Conquistadors	0	1
Suns	0	1



PRACTICE SESSION — In preparation for the Mojave Desert Inter-service League's volleyball tournament, which is coming up on March 21 and 22 at the Marine Corps Supply Center in Barstow, practice sessions and scrimmages against other teams are being held by players that will represent NWC in the MDISL competition. More players are needed and are invited by the coach, Jerry Kissick, to contact him by calling NWC ext. 3000 or attend the practice sessions that are held on Sundays from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Center gym. As the camera shutter was clicked, James Bevan and Robert Smith are shown going up in the air to block a drive by Robert Berry (back to camera). At right are Ed Mikami and Duane Fojt, two other members of the Center's present 8-man volleyball squad.

NWC team quickly eliminated from MDISL basketball tournament action

The Naval Weapons Center team entered in the Mojave Desert Interservice League basketball tournament, played last week at March Air Force Base in Riverside, was eliminated in two straight contests.

The China Lakers, coached by Jim Erdman, were outscored, 82-57, by the Los Angeles Air Force Station squad in their first tourney tilt.

This loss dropped the locals into the losers' bracket of the double elimination tournament and they were then defeated decisively, 95-46, in a game played against the hoopsters from Edwards Air Force Base.

March AFB, the tournament hosts, won this MDISL event by posting a first round win over Edwards, 73-60; defeating the Los Angeles Air Force Station team, 82-57, in the second round, and edging the Nellis AFB cagers, 64-61, in the championship game that was decided in the final 2 seconds of play.

Other first round scores in the winners' bracket were Norton AFB 76, George AFB, 73; and Nellis AFB, 93, Barstow Marines, 67, while in the second round of this bracket Norton AFB downed Nellis AFB, 93-67.

In the losers' bracket, final scores not

Intramural League basketball standings

China Lake Intramural Basketball League standings as of Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Team	Won	Lost
Open League		
Loewen's No. 1	5	0
Desert Motors	5	1
Texas Instruments	3	2
Homestead	2	4
Bloodstone	1	4
Delinquents	0	5
Div. A — Recreation League		
Shooters	5	0
Huff 'n' Puff	5	1
Gas Bags	2	3
Crusaders	2	3
Hackers	2	4
Lobos	0	5
Div. B — Recreation League		
Loewen's No. 2	5	1
Dispensary	4	2
Bird Olds	4	2
Lizards	1	4
Perdejors	1	6

2 more games lost by Burros varsity basketball team

Fans of Burroughs High School's varsity basketball team found little to cheer about this past week as the Burros continued their descent toward the Golden League cellar by dropping two more league contests.

In the game played last Friday night at Kennedy High School in Barstow, the Burroughs cagers came out on the short end of a 67-58 final score, while this past Tuesday night it was the visitors from Antelope Valley who took advantage of an unusual number of miscues by the local team to return home victorious, 73-58.

The Burros, who have now lost four straight league tilts following their season opener against Quartz Hill, will play another home game tonight against the cagers from Apple Valley. Tip-off time for the varsity clash will be 8 p.m., preceded by the junior varsity contest at 6:30.

D. J. Wallace had a hot hand for the Antelopes here on Tuesday night as he got the Lancaster team off and running by tossing in 14 points in the first quarter, which ended with the visitors out in front by a score of 27-18. Wallace went on from there to become the game's top point maker with a total of 27.

Although outscored by 9 in the opening stanza, the Burroughs cut into the Antelopes' lead and, with 2½ minutes left to play in the first half were down by just 2 points, 34-32.

All that juncture, the locals were outscored 8 to 4 and left the floor at he halftime intermission trailing, 44-36.

It wasn't the Burros' night shooting from either the floor or from the foul line, where the locals hit 2 points while the Antelopes canned 21 out of 25 charity tosses. An unusually high number of turnovers also contributed to the downfall of the Burroughs varsity.

Antelopes Win by 15

The Antelopes outscored Burroughs 16-12 and 13-10 in the final two periods of play to win by a 15-point margin of 73-58.

In addition to Wallace's 27 points, two of his teammates, Lee Fobbs and Paul Fry were in the double-figure scoring column with 16 and 10 points, respectively.

High scorer for Burroughs was Bill Doremus, who chalked up 14, while Daryl Moline, Robert Campbell and Drew Martin came through with 10 points each.

Last Friday night against Kennedy High School in Barstow, the Burros' varsity

(Continued on Page 7)



KAYAK CLASS BEING HELD — The basic technique of running the whitewater sections of rivers in a kayak is now being taught during a class that is held on Tuesdays from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Center swimming pool. The instructor, Ken Lagergen (at left) is shown above with Bruce Roberts, one of the students. Those attending the class are taught the proper paddle strokes for use in the propelling a kayak forward, backward or making turns. In addition, the Eskimo roll also is being taught. Lagergen's experience includes running the rapids on the Colorado, Provo and Snake Rivers. He also has kayaked through whitewater sections of the Kern and Stanislaus Rivers.

—Photo by Ron Allen

Changing scene at NWC discussed . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

adding that "today the Navy has an incorporated city outside its base which has the businesses, churches, a school district, utilities and housing, plus the potential for further expansion of these facilities and services to support the Center in the accomplishment of its mission.

"Coupled with this is the inescapable fact that the Navy and the Department of Defense plan to get out of the housing business to the maximum extent possible consistent with operational requirements."

Also mentioned was the fact that housing at China Lake is aging and, in some cases, has already reached the point where maintenance costs have passed the point of diminishing returns.

Touched on at this point was the fact that the Center is proceeding with the administrative processes required to dispose of 896 units of housing that have been declared excess to the Navy's needs. He's hopeful, the Skipper said, that disposal action on the initial block of 600 units of Wherry housing in Desert Park will be under way this fiscal year.

More Rental Housing Needed

RAdm. Freeman also expressed the hope that the existence of a growing market for rental housing will be recognized as a need outside the Center's boundaries since, in this field as in other activities, NWC is working to remove itself from competition with the private sector.

Shifting his comments to cover some other changes that are in the offing, the NWC Commander observed that there was a time that the remote location of the Center was justification for building facilities for recreation, shopping and other needs at China Lake that wouldn't have been authorized at other Naval installations.

"But times have indeed changed. Where we could once justify having a pharmacy and grocery store on the Center because there were so few in the entire region, we now find ourselves in the position of sponsoring competition with businesses in the private sector," RAdm. Freeman stated.

Energy Crunch Compounds Problem

In these days of the "energy crunch," the problem now goes beyond that, the speaker explained, because even though non-government activities at China Lake pay utility charges, the amount of such utilities or power that is consumed by their operations is charged against NWC's total authorized expenditure — and the Center must achieve a mandated 15 per cent reduction in its power consumption (using 1973 as the base year).

Due to the energy problem and because (with the exception of the NWC Federal Credit Union) the buildings operated by concessionaires at China Lake occupy space which may, in the future, have a better use in carrying out the Center's mission and (most importantly) the need to insure that what is done on board the Center does not unfairly compete with counterparts of that activity in the private sector, RAdm. Freeman stated: "I expect that we will be phasing down non-government activities on an accelerated basis in the years ahead."

Fence Relocation Proposed

Other changes discussed by the NWC Commander in his talk to the Ridgecrest CofC included the proposed relocation of the Center's southern boundary fence generally along a line from the main gate due east to the China Lake Pilot Plant. The principal reasons for this; the speaker stated, are to reduce the Center's perimeter and thereby enhance security, and place all of the Sierra Sands Unified School District's facilities (with the exception of the Richmond School complex) outside the fence line in order to make the schools more readily accessible to the public.

In addition, as more homes are taken off the Navy rolls at later dates, it was decided that the new fence should be located to serve as the primary security barrier for that housing which the Navy intends to retain indefinitely.

Because of the austere funding situation NWC finds itself in with regard to support of



DISTINGUISHED VISITOR—John W. McCord (at right), assistant director (Test Resources) from the Office of the Director of Defense, Research and Engineering, paid a recent visit to the Naval Weapons Center for the purpose of reviewing NWC's test and evaluation facilities and capabilities. McCord is shown with William Hattabaugh, head of the Test and Evaluation Department, just prior to boarding a helicopter for a tour of the Center's ranges. He also was briefed at the Naval Air Facility on aerial target operations and the remotely piloted vehicle program, and listened to a presentation by Dr. G. W. Leonard, Head of the Propulsion Development Department, on the subject of geothermal resources. In addition to being head of Code 45, Dr. Leonard also is chairman of NWC's Geothermal Task Team.

Sailor of Month chosen at NAF . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

of non-rated personnel."

AN Fairbanks works in the Aircraft Maintenance Control staff office. She serves as a liaison between control and work centers, between decision-making and decision-carrying out.

One of the instances in which she has taken the initiative to improve operations involves keeping track of the maintenance work that is scheduled on the 24 aircraft operated regularly by the Naval Air Facility, as well as maintenance on transit aircraft. AN Fairbanks revised the paperwork on these procedures — streamlining the operation to one sheet of paper that is easily referenced and kept current.

As Sailor of the Month, AN Fairbanks will receive a 96-hour liberty, and the NAF Command has already picked up the dinner tab for her and a friend at the Indian Wells Lodge. In addition, a copy of the Letter of Appreciation sent to her from the NAF Commander will go into her official service record.

The letter reads, in part, "Your demonstrated dedication to duty, superior performance and initiative were significant factors in your nomination and subsequent selection to this honor . . . It is a personal pleasure for me to have personnel of your caliber attached to this Command."

In addition to her normal duties, AN Fairbanks stands regular watches: at the

WAVES barracks, as an NWC junior officer-of-the-day, and as an NAF messenger. She is a member of the NAF drill team, composed of a color guard and 8 or 9 sailors including AN Fairbanks, who carry M-14 rifles.

As enthusiastic off duty as on, the Sailor of the Month enjoys bowling, sewing, knitting, crochet work, embroidery, swimming, refinishing antique furniture, "a lot of things."

AN Fairbanks has found China Lake and the Navy different from life in the small Iowa town where she grew up, but she likes it. For example, she likes the weather and the scenery, and especially being 45 minutes from the mountains where she spends as much time as possible. Then too, she likes the Navy.

USC offers graduate courses for master of science degree

Candidates for a master of science degree from the University of Southern California, take note: The university is offering four graduate courses at China Lake during the Spring 1976 semester.

Registration for these courses will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday in Rm. 107 at the Training Center. NWC enrollment form 12410 / 28 must be received by Code 654 by this date.

The following courses are being offered: Linear Control Systems (EE482) is designed to provide a base for practical design of discrete and continuous linear feedback control systems. Richard Bednar will instruct the class, which will meet from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Probability Theory for Engineers (EE484) will be taught by Gary Hower on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. at the Training Center.

Introduction to Programming Systems Design (CS455) and Introduction to Assembly Language Programming (CS456L) will be taught by John Zener from 6 to 7:15 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. An introduction to computer software design, these courses are recommended for students interested in more than just the mechanics of programming.

Got a Problem?

If it relates to the China Lake community, then the person to call is a member of the China Lake Community Council board of directors.

Following are the names of the Community Council board members and their phone numbers:

Robert Fletcher	446-7251
Bob McCarten	446-2457
Aletha Benson	446-2739
Don Cook	446-3355
Robert Kaufmann	446-4167
Dick Mahan	446-6424
Gail Richards	446-4208
Rudy Shepard	446-2219
Jim Walden	375-4700
Wilt Wyman	446-2310



FAREWELL MEMENTO — Dr. William R. Haseltine, a senior research scientist in the Research Department, who has retired and will be leaving NWC in the near future, is shown being presented a miniature replica of the Sidewinder AIM-9L. This gift, presented by John Crossley of the Sidewinder Program Office, was a token of appreciation for the research work done by Dr. Haseltine that has aided in improvements to the missile's capabilities and performance.

Program held honoring Martin Luther King

The birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., famed civil rights leader and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for his dedicated leadership of the civil rights movement, was observed during a well-attended program held on Jan. 15 at the Naval Weapons Center's All Faith Chapel.

Tributes to Dr. King, who was assassinated on April 4, 1968, were presented by civic and educational leaders in the local area, as well as by a spokesman for the Naval Weapons Center's Deputy Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

The speakers were Dennis Wilson, vice-mayor of the City of Ridgecrest; Robert Rafal, dean of administration and community services at Cerro Coso College; Dr. Howard Harmon, superintendent of the Sierra Sands Unified School District, and Emanuel Dunn, who represented NWC's Deputy EEO Coordinator.

Wilson, who is a program consultant in the Weapons Department's Surface Systems Division, delivered an original poem he had composed for the occasion entitled "A Moment for Martin."

For his part, Rafal mentioned his thoughts as he had reviewed materials that went into a multi-media presentation at the college about Dr. King. What stood out, he said, was a statement made by Dr. King during a talk in Memphis, Tenn. It was: "God has allowed me to go to the mountain top and, looking over, I have seen the promised land."

The college official then displayed an impressionistic painting done by his wife, Susan, in 1969, entitled "I've Been to the Mountain Top." It hangs in their bedroom and is the first thing he sees upon arising every morning, Rafal noted.

"Dr. King was a man of vision, may we pray that his vision will come to pass," Rafal concluded.

Dr. Harmon, pointing out that Dr. King's

A Moment for Martin

by Dennis Wilson

We pause for a moment in pursuit of our thing to remember a man named Martin Luther King.

The world sees men that come and go, For most, when they're gone, there's nothing to show.

But once in a while, in his mysterious ways, God helps a man to brighten our days, to help us remember we're brothers and kin, in spite of our differences of color of skin.

God really sends a voice that's loud and strong, that cries in the wilderness that we've all gone wrong, and reminds us again that we're all the same, and God loves us equally no matter our name.

The man we recall whose name was King had a message of love for us to sing. He said with peace we can all be strong, and standing together, right any wrong.

He said that violence was way out of place, and did nothing but hurt those of every race. He told us that love was the answer to all; it should fill our hearts and make us stand tall.

He said we're all brothers and sisters, my friends, travelling life's road with its twists and its bends, and the way to win, no matter where you're from, is to offer your hand, and then we shall overcome.



CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER'S BIRTHDAY HAILED — Principal participants in the program held on the birthday of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., are shown with Mrs. Betty Sembach Rivera, who was in charge of arrangements for this event. Tributes to the martyred civil rights leader were presented by (l.-r.) Dennis Wilson, vice-mayor of Ridgecrest; Dr. Howard Harmon, superintendent of the Sierra Sands Unified School District; Emanuel Dunn, who represented NWC's Deputy EEO Coordinator, and Robert Rafal, dean of administration and community services at Cerro Coso Community College, who is holding a painting entitled "I've Been to the Mountain Top." At right is James Lewis, a member of the local school district's board of education, who delivered the invocation.

message of passive resistance came to him from the Bible, commented that "he was a religious man, a scholar, a man who stirred the nation. He had the key to immortality," the school district superintendent said of Dr. King.

He refused to deviate from the course of non-violence, and was opposed to acts of violence among his own constituents, Dr. Harmon observed.

Dunn, who read several excerpts from Dr. King's letter from a Birmingham, Ala., jail, noted that while the civil rights leader received many honors and awards, the example he set by his own beliefs (which have enabled black people to develop a sense of unity and pride) was his most outstanding accomplishment.

Tremendous Inner Strength
He had a tremendous inner strength that was rooted in Christian beliefs, Dunn continued in his tribute to Dr. King, and closed by repeating one of the civil rights leader's quotations of an old Negro minister who had once said: "We ain't what we ought to be, and we ain't what we could be, but thank God we ain't what we was."

The Dr. Martin Luther King memorial program began with opening remarks by Mrs. Bettye Rivera Sembach, chairman of the Human Relations Committee of the Desert Area Teachers Association, and chairman of the Education Committee of the Indian Wells Valley branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

She also referred to Dr. King as a man of great vision. "He had a dream that all people would be free — not the mockery of today — for true freedom comes from the love and understanding of all mankind," she said.

Welcome Extended
Rear Admiral R. G. Freeman III, NWC Commander, delivered brief welcoming remarks and then led the audience in reading of the litany. RAdm. Freeman recalled that he had been stationed in Washington, D.C., during the time that Dr. King presented his famous "I Have a Dream" speech to a throng of civil rights leaders and supporters. "We have not yet consummated this dream, but there has been progress toward achieving it," the Skipper said.

"This shouldn't be just a yearly observance, for we must make equality of opportunity real the year around," RAdm. Freeman emphasized.

James Lewis, a member of the board of education of the Sierra Sands Unified School District, delivered the invocation, and the memorial service was concluded with a benediction given by LCdr. R. W. Harper, Naval Air Facility chaplain.

Music during the program included an organ prelude by Joan Fowler, the All Faith Chapel organist; a vocal solo, "Precious Lord," sung by Mrs. Glenda Cubit; and selections by the Vieweg Elementary School children's choir (directed by Mrs. Glenna Niccum), and by the Desert Queenettes, a group from the Poppy Grand Chapter of Eastern Star, led by Carol Celestine.

The audience and combined choirs also joined in the singing of "We Shall Overcome," the theme song of Dr. King's civil rights movement.



FEATURED SOLOIST — An acappella rendition of "Precious Lord," one of Dr. Martin Luther King's theme songs, was sung by Mrs. Glenda Cubit during the program held at the NWC All Faith Chapel on his birthday.

Defense contract administration expert to speak Mon. night

A talk by Spencer Hutchens, of the Defense Contract Administration Service (DCAS), will highlight the next meeting of the Sierra Sands Section of the American Society for Quality Control.

The meeting, which is open to all interested persons, will be held Monday at The Hideaway in Ridgecrest. A social hour will precede dinner at 7 p.m., and the talk by Hutchens will follow.

Hutchens will discuss "DCAS Functions" and answer questions from the audience on the Navy-DCAS relationship. In addition, the program will honor local members who earned ASQC awards and other honors.

Reservations to attend the ASQC meeting can be made by calling Tony Miller, at 446-3501, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Hutchens has been the deputy director for quality assurance, Defense Contract Administration Service, Los Angeles Region, for three years. Before that he was on the Navy Procurement Management Staff concerned with large dollar procurement. His ASQC activities include being the chairman of the National Government Relations Committee and past chairman of the Washington Section.

Upcoming programs of the Sierra Sands Section include co-sponsorship of Engineers' Week activities in February and California Quality Week in March.

Cerro Coso College late registration ends at 4 p.m. today

Late registration for Cerro Coso Community College's spring semester ends today at 4 p.m. for all classes, those in the regular program, the Saturday College Program, and the courses available via TV broadcast.

This week the college announced that four more classes are being offered this semester.

Illustration, meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 9:50 p.m., is intended to meet the needs of art students who will continue on in higher institutions or who will be working commercially in art following their study here.

Winter Camping and Survival Techniques, taught by Janet Westbrook, will meet Tuesdays from 4 to 4:50 p.m.

Hal Williams will teach Introduction to Desert Herpetology, a scientific study of local desert amphibians and reptiles, on Tuesdays from 5 to 9:50 p.m. In addition, he will share his knowledge and skills in Ornamental Welding on Saturdays between 8 and 11:50 a.m.

Several classes are still open; for specific information, call 375-5001, in time to get to the college for registration before 4 p.m. today.



During the Revolutionary War, many Blacks served with great distinction in the Naval forces.

One, James Forten, was a 14-year-old powder boy when captured by the English ship Amphyon. He was offered liberty and a life of ease in England by the ship's captain, but turned it down, saying "I am a prisoner for the liberties of my country and I shall never prove traitor to her interests."

Freed after the war, he eventually became a wealthy and respected sailmaker in Philadelphia.

Graduate courses in Public Administration offered this spring

Under its Master's program in Public Administration, the University of Southern California is offering three graduate courses at China Lake during the Spring 1976 semester.

Registration for these courses will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 26, in Room 107 of the Training Center. NWC enrollment form 12410 / 28 must be received by Code 654 by this date.

The following courses are being offered: Concepts and Practices in Public Personnel Administration (PA 516), a course that includes concepts of man and of work; government personnel systems, including merit concepts, classification, and compensation; collective bargaining; organizational justice, training, and development.

Practice of Public Administration (PA 597) is designed to help the student to understand the public administrator's position in the social force field. This class presents concepts, roles, and practices in public management, and stresses the need for responsible performance in the public arena.

Behavioral Problems in Research and Development Management (PA 579) will focus on the effects of R&D environments on interpersonal conflicts, group orientations, interpersonal and group relations, behavioral change and adaptation, and accommodating technically trained professional men in modern organizations. Dates, times, and location for each class will be announced later.



EVERYONE ACCOUNTED FOR — Hope Dietrichson, a clerk on the trouble desk, watches as Joel Halop, head of the Public Works Department's Maintenance Control Division, checks one of the latest additions to the "Wall of Talent" which features the framed replicas of a variety of certificates received for special training or in recognition of outstanding achievements by the employees of Code 708. Everyone in the Maintenance Control Division now has at least one certificate mounted on the wall, and some have as many as eight awards, Halop noted. The award-covered wall is located in the reception area just outside the division office. —Photo by Ron Allen

Fund drive launched for construction of building to house Maturango Museum

As a lasting monument to and as a part of Indian Wells Valley's participation in this nation's Bicentennial celebration, the board of trustees of the Maturango Museum has embarked upon a fund drive to raise money needed for the construction of a permanent building for the museum.

While a number of service clubs and similar organizations in the local area already are aware that such a fund drive is in progress, and have been asked to lend their support to it, the 1976 springboard for this campaign will be the Maturango Museum's annual business meeting.

This event, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday evening at the Community Center, where a gourmet dinner will be provided by the Museum Monday luncheon volunteers under the direction of Mrs. Sue Byrd.

Reservations Due Today
A social hour at 6 will precede the dinner and program for the evening. Cost of the dinner is \$5 per person, and reservations can still be made as late as 4:30 p.m. today by calling either the Maturango Museum (446-6900) or Mrs. Lorraine McClung (375-7987).

Highlights of the evening will include the presentations of plaques and certificates to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Maturango Museum, as well as the presentation of a talk about the history and people of northern Peru.

The guest speaker will be Dr. William (Pete) Lee, from the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, who will bring along both movies and film slides to illustrate his talk.

3 Trustees To Be Elected
Also on the agenda will be the election of three members to serve 3-year terms on the museum's board of trustees. The nominees are Robert T. Downing, Carroll L. Evans, Jr., Frederick J. Koperski, Douglas Peake, Susan Rafal and Dr. Robert L. Rockwell.

Albert B. Christman, secretary for the past year and one of the trustees whose term of office has expired, has accepted the responsibility of serving as chairman of the

building committee, while Mrs. Pat Leopard is the campaign fund manager.

Other building committee members, and their assignments, are George Silberberg, liaison with local service clubs and community groups; K. H. Robinson, grants and bequests; James Baird, building plans; David Chapman, architectural consultant; Ray Sinnott, exhibit plans; Kenneth Miller, future organization and plans; and Janet Westbrook and Lorraine McClung, members-at-large.

Bicentennial Project

Because there is a firm belief that the Maturango Museum can help to preserve that part of America's history which uniquely belongs to this part of the nation, the Indian Wells Valley Bicentennial Committee has adopted the Maturango Museum as its project for the year.

During 1976, not only is all money derived from annual or lifetime memberships in the museum earmarked for the building fund, but an all out effort will be made to encourage more visitors to the museum throughout the year by bringing in special exhibits having universal appeal, as well as by expanding the museum's regular summer program for children.

Long-Range Goal
The long-range goal of the building committee is to provide a building of suitable size to house a museum that will be self-sustaining and operated by the residents of Indian Wells Valley, Christman stated. "Buy your membership now and join others at the annual meeting," he urged. The annual fees are \$2 for students, \$5 for single persons, or \$10 for a family membership. In addition, life memberships at \$100 each are solicited. To those who purchase lifelong memberships in 1976 will go the added distinction of being designated "pioneer life members."

This is not to be just a one-year effort to raise funds for the construction of a new building to house the Maturango Museum. In order to realize its full potential as a place to display (in an appropriate setting) artifacts showing the handiwork of the earliest inhabitants of this area, the well-

preserved flora and fauna of this high desert location, and the heritage left by countless miners who criss-crossed the valley in search of gold, silver and many kinds of valuable minerals, the building fund drive will carry over from year to year as more and more effort goes into what is expected eventually to be one of the area's top tourist attractions and educational assets.

Membership fees or donations to the building fund should be sent to the Maturango Museum, PO Box 5514, China Lake, Ca., 93555.

Offers of an individual's time and effort will be equally as welcome as monetary contributions, Christman stressed, since the help of anyone with talent varying from those of artists and bricklayers to others with building trade skills is needed for this community project.



GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION WORK — A grounds beautification program conducted by the Rutherford Maintenance Co., and overseen by the Public Works Department's Maintenance Service Branch, is currently under way at various locations on the Naval Weapons Center. Just completed is work at the Center's main gate, while the above photo shows shrubs being planted outside the Police Station. Other such work is to be done at the Center Restaurant, at the theater, and in the area around the Commissioned Officers' Mess. Checking the progress of the work at the Police Station are (at left) Jim Upson, branch head, and Pete Dietrichson, an inspector, both from the Maintenance Service Branch of Code 70. Workmen for the contractor are Bud Gardner and Larry Collins.

Happenings around NWC

Solving the Problem of Poor Performance, a class intended to help supervisors and managers deal with poor performance by subordinates, will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10, in the Panamint Rm. of the Community Center.

Instructor Harold Reimer will focus on positive handling of poor employee performance.

Deadline for nominations for this class is Friday, Jan. 30. An NWC enrollment form must be received by Code 654 by this date.

Community Calendar

In an effort to avoid the problem of major events being scheduled by different organizations on the same date in the local area, a community calendar is being established.

Every organization, business and educational facility is invited to take advantage of this service by sending a list of events scheduled for the coming year (including their regular meeting nights) to the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, 303 S. China Lake Blvd., Ridgecrest, Ca., 93555.

When additional activities are planned, this information can be passed along to the CoC office, by calling 375-8331, and it will be included in the community calendar.

The calendar is to be published quarterly in the Daily Independent newspaper in Ridgecrest.

Navy Relief Course Offered

The Officers Wives are sponsoring a Navy Relief course entitled "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About the Military, but Were Afraid to Ask."

Classes will be held in the Navy Relief Office (Dispensary Building) from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday through Wednesday, Feb. 2 to 4, winding up with a luncheon on Feb. 4.

Vernice Putnam, from the Long Beach Navy Relief Office, will conduct the course. All those interested in attending should contact the Chaplains' Office by calling NWC ext. 3506.

There is no obligation to work as a volunteer upon completion of the course.

Dinner-Dance at CPO Club

Donna Thomas and the Starriders will play for a dance this evening at the CPO Club following the usual Friday night prime rib dinner, George Barnard, club manager, announced.

The band will start playing at 9 p.m. and will remain until 1 a.m.

Dance Tonight at COM

The Commissioned Officers' Club again will feature the Younger Half, a 7 piece band from Victorville, for a dance tonight.

According to Roy Moss, manager of the COM, the band will play for dancing from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

1976: The Changing Scene at the Naval Weapons Center and Its Impact on the Indian Wells Valley

Rear Admiral R. G. Freeman III, USN

(Editor's note:

Following is the complete text of the speech presented by Rear Admiral R. G. Freeman III, NWC Commander, at the Jan. 19, 1976, luncheon meeting of the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce.)

Just last Friday, Dottie and I had the privilege of attending the installation of Sam McMullen and his new board of directors for the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, and since we had an opportunity then to talk with several Chamber members about a number of changes in the works for the Naval Weapons Center, I would like to make my remarks today a sort of "State of the Base" presentation. Many of the changes which I will be discussing impact upon the City of Ridgecrest and the businesses of this community in a very direct way; so I would like to view our meeting today as a "Community Briefing," to update our friends outside the Base.

Bicentennial Perspective

However, before I do that, I would like to take just a moment to emphasize this year's date: 1976. Frankly, I am genuinely excited about this being our nation's 200th anniversary, and I do not—repeat, NOT—number myself among those who think that this great country of ours is in such deep trouble, not only at home, but abroad as well, that there is little hope of "getting things turned around." From my experience as Commander of the Center, I am most conscious of any entire array of issues and problems that require answers and solutions, but it is beyond me how that translates into "Doomsday."

Our country has had wars, threats of wars, rebellions, brutal strikes, violations of the public's trust and unprincipled entrepreneurs in the private sector since before the Declaration of Independence. In fact, as I recall, there were many in this country who were appalled by that declaration from a "bunch of revolutionary zealots"—all they wanted was peace with King George the Third and "business as usual."

Following the War for Independence, we had our first period of westward expansion, and with it, all the problems generated by the rapidly increasing opportunities in our young country.

However, perhaps the best era in our nation's history to compare to these times is the Civil War and the period of reconstruction that followed. I am not a historian, but I can recall reading of wild demonstrations in New York and Baltimore over the drafting of Union soldiers. Our President was assassinated; there was graft and corruption and, not unsurprisingly, there was a vigorous move to dismantle the Navy "since the war was over." And several times in our history, there have been hair-curling depressions.

But, because our firsthand experience comes only from today's times, I have a strong feeling that we tend to be the perpetrators of our own pessimism. The industrial revolution has been going on for more than 100 years, and we still are not managing it very well, particularly when it comes to meeting the needs of the nation. Being creatures of the times, we tend to react to what appear to be our most "critical" needs at the time as pointed out by the most vocal among us—with the net result that most of our long-range plans, not to mention our contingency plans, forever remain just that—plans. We deal with our crises on a priority basis, but even then, I can find no reason to join the ranks of those who say that we've abused our environment, wasted our resources, and lost sight of the principles upon which this nation was founded to the point where there is no reason to hope for recovery.

Nor do I feel that I am some sort of starry-eyed optimist, either. I just happen

to believe very strongly in our form of government and the way we choose to do business. And, because I do, I feel that we will solve today's problems, add to the heritage of our country, and turn over this nation to our heirs strong, independent, and progressing—but, our heirs will have their own set of problems to contend with regardless of how efficient we are today and tomorrow.

Many of the problems requiring attention today are of our own doing—but that only serves to alert us that it is up to us to act now when we have a viable solution, or we will be building a legacy of "yesterday's problems" for those who follow us.

1976 is most assuredly a hallmark year, and this renewed sense of pride in our heritage, traditions, and accomplishments will undoubtedly prevail throughout most of this year. There have been numerous committees formed to select bicentennial projects to commemorate this national milestone. Perhaps the finest pledge we, as a people, could make to ourselves and our posterity would be to rededicate ourselves to honoring our past heritage by keeping it visible, as it is this year, for the next 99 years. Then those who will be obliged to come up with an appropriate commemoration of our Tricentennial will have the benefit of a national spirit that has been a part of everyone's daily lives, rather than a something that has been in mothballs, to be displayed only on selected occasions.

To those who feel that there is little reason to hope for better times, I would only remind them of President Lincoln's remarks on the 19th of November, 1863, at a national cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in which he noted that "Fourscore and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent, a new nation . . ." and now, just 87 years later, we were engaged "in a great civil war testing whether that nation or any other nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure."

Today, 113 years later, we are not only enduring, we are the strongest, freest, most purposeful nation on the face of this earth. We are just about the only nation that tells the world of every one of our faults and flaws. Perhaps we are the only nation that will ever expend its own wealth to rebuild other nations which it has defeated in war. Some other countries do some of the things we do, but no other country does all these things all the time.

So I say, 1976 will indeed be a Special Year in our history. Obviously, the "noblest experiment in the history of mankind" is now 200 years young, and I am most confident that in spite of what we hear from some, we will continue to carry on in the spirit of a tradition that has now 2 centuries of stamina, purpose, and dedication instilled in it.

NWC Changes Expected in 1976

Now, having set my frame of reference for 1976, let me cover some of the changes that I either know or expect to occur at the Naval Weapons Center and how those changes can or will impact upon the community.

Speaking of the community, I had the occasion some 10 days ago to participate in the installation of officers for the China Lake Community Council, and during my remarks I noted that the Command viewed the "community" to be outside the Center, that is, the City of Ridgecrest and the Indian Wells Valley. I have already "heard" about that observation; so it now seems quite appropriate to clarify that "Command view."

Housing

The Naval Weapons Center, being a military installation, falls under the same guidelines, policies, and regulations as other bases. Historically, there were

many waivers of the directives in order that the Center could develop and survive. The Navy even had to build school facilities on the Center to accommodate the children of its military personnel and civilian employees.

It may be like preaching to the choir, but the housing at the Center was required because there was no other way at the time. Developers were not interested in speculating when the Navy had 2,600 homes and apartments available for its employees—and there were no FHA loans available. From 1945 through the mid-'60s, there was no great motivation to examine possible alternatives to the established method of doing things at China Lake.

However, since 1967 or 1968, I think it is fair to say that this has all been changing, and the rapidity of that change has been constantly accelerating. Today, the Navy has an incorporated city outside its base which has the businesses, churches, school district, utilities, and housing, not to mention the potential for further expansion of these facilities and services, to support the Center in the accomplishment of its mission. Coupled with this is the inescapable fact that the Navy and the Department of Defense plan to get out of the housing business to the maximum extent possible consistent with operational requirements. Finally, there is another inescapable fact: Center housing is aging and in some cases has already aged to the point where maintenance costs have passed the point of diminishing returns.

Twenty years ago, our housing was essential to the posture of the Center. Today, we are becoming increasingly conscious that we are competing with housing in the private sector. While there is a genuine shortage of rental housing outside the fence comparable to that which the Navy rents to its employees at NWC, there is a growing market for such housing, and I would hope that this is recognized as a need in the community.

Most everybody is aware that the Center is proceeding with the administrative processes required to dispose of 896 units of our housing which have been declared excess to Navy needs. At the present time, our excessing action is being processed by the Navy Department. Following this, the Department of Defense will be reviewing the entire package. The process is time-consuming, but we are hopeful that we will be advised that the actual disposal action will be done this fiscal year. This would mean that action on the initial block of excess housing—the 600 units of mortgaged Wherry Housing in Desert Park—would be under way this fiscal year. I might add that, at the present time, action on the other 296 mortgaged units will be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the Wherry Housing disposal.

As in other activities, the Center is working to remove itself from competition with the private sector. Thus, I would like to make the observation that over time the Navy will be disposing of additional housing declared excess to its current and projected needs. I would not even speculate on any time schedule because there are many factors which will govern the ultimate plan. For example, the state of the economy in the building business locally can and will have an effect. The rate at which Center residents relocate off the Center will be influenced by the housing market in the Indian Wells Valley. Further, so long as the cost of comparable rentals in the adjacent communities continues to rise, rental charges for NWC housing will increase—and there is no doubt in my mind that the rent increases of 1973 and 1974 were responsible, at least in part, for the accelerated movement of civilian

residents from China Lake to the Indian Wells Valley. Of course, the availability of attractive housing in the private sector was a major factor also.

It is premature to predict when the Center will excess additional housing, but I believe that ultimately the Navy will maintain only that number of housing units at the Center to provide adequate housing for assigned military personnel, their dependents, and those civilian employees where it is determined that it is essential to the accomplishment of the Center's mission to have them reside on board; and sufficient additional units to provide housing for newly hired professional employees. In that latter case, it is presently envisioned that these new employees would be provided housing for a period of 2 to 3 years. This would afford them and their families time to establish themselves, determine if they have found their spot in terms of employment, and stabilize their personal circumstances before becoming involved in purchasing a home in the community.

Community Services

Shifting now to some other changes; first, let me again correlate my remarks with the present situation vis-a-vis that of 20 years ago. As with our housing, there was unquestionably a time when the Navy had to see to such things as recreational activities, an internal shopping district, and several other facilities. It is equally unquestioned in my mind that China Lake at that time was more the "central community" than Ridgecrest. This led to the development of a very closely knit community. I believe it also led to a great expectation that nothing would ever occur that would change the life-style that became a way of life at China Lake.

Historically, the remote location of the Center—way out in the great Mojave Desert of California—facilitated the justification for building facilities for the people of China Lake where, at other naval installations in other places, it would not have been authorized. In the late '40s and in the '50s, recruiting and retaining talented civilian employees at NWC was certainly dependent upon doing something to offset the harshness of the location in terms of the quality of living.

But times have indeed changed. Where we could once justify having, for example, a pharmacy and grocery store on the Center because there were so few in the entire region, we now find ourselves in the position of sponsoring competition with businesses in the private sector. But it's more than that: While nongovernment activities on the Center pay utility charges, the amount of utilities or power used by these nongovernment operations is charged against NWC's total authorized expenditure—and we must achieve a mandated 15% reduction in our power consumption using 1973 as the base year.

The same is true for the buildings themselves. With the exception of the Credit Union, our concessionaires occupy buildings which may, in the future, have a higher and better use in carrying out our mission. Most important though, we need to ensure that what we do at NWC does not unfairly compete with counterparts of that activity in the private sector. For these reasons, I expect that we will be phasing down nongovernment activities at NWC on an accelerated basis in the years ahead.

Boundary Fence

Again, changing the topic: I am certain that many of you have heard speculation about a relocation of our southern boundary fence, with a new fence being proposed generally along a line from the main gate due east to the China Lake Pilot Plant. The reasons for this are:

First, in projecting the trend in dispos-

ing of housing declared excess to Navy needs, it was clear that those units south of Halsey Street would be the most likely nominees. Therefore, in order to preclude repeated fence-line realignments as segments of that housing are taken off Navy rolls, it was decided that a new fence should be located such that it would serve as the primary security barrier for that housing the Navy intended to retain indefinitely. The line along Halsey Street was tentatively identified because it not only served to shorten the perimeter and thereby enhance security, but it also placed all Sierra Sands school facilities, except the Richmond School complex, outside the fence line.

With the District bussing some 62% of its children, it was clear that if they did not have to be concerned with the requirements pertaining to access to the Center, their task would be simpler. Sierra Sands is a unified district; yet our necessary security requirements precluded free access to all the schools, a traditional characteristic of a public school system. With a realignment in the fence line, the only coordination problem to face will be relative to access for those using Richmond School.

School District Use of NWC Facilities

Speaking of our interface with the Sierra Sands Unified School District, as some of you may know, the Navy has executed a licensing agreement with the School District for the use of certain of our special services facilities such as the swimming pool, gymnasium, golf course, bowling center, and theater for student athletic programs. Contrary to what some of you may have heard, this license is not exclusive and is explicitly on a not-to-interfere basis.

With this license, I am authorized to consider requests by the District for the use of those facilities I mentioned, but I would like to emphasize that the license does not "guarantee" the schools the use of any of the above. Navy special services facilities are normally provided for the use of military personnel and their de-

pendents and, where appropriate, government civilian employees and their dependents are also authorized users.

Therefore, use of these facilities by the Sierra Sands Unified School District will be possible only when there is no schedule conflict with our primary users, and, in those cases where we must charge rates for the use of our facilities, the district must be willing to pay the costs involved.

These arrangements, I might add, are necessary for the simple reason that we are now in a most austere funding situation with regard to the support of those things which are for the recreation, morale, and personal welfare of our people, and we simply do not have the resources to support others as we have in the past. We will make every effort to do the best we can, but I'm sure you can appreciate that there are just not enough funds to maintain all our special services facilities as we have in the past.

Other Changes

There are other changes down the pike, but as of this time I believe I have covered, at least in general terms, those which will, in one way or another, impact on the community. Our goal at the Center is to work in close harmony with the entire community, and we will do our utmost to implement only those changes which maximize the benefits to both the Navy and the community.

This statement brings to mind one additional thought: I have tried to relate the historical precedent for many of the policies governing the residents of the Center. At the same time, I have tried to illustrate why some of these policies must now be reviewed and changed when they are found to be no longer supportable or not in consonance with the directives of higher authority. Today, there are two situations which fit that category.

Housing of Non-DOD Personnel

First, over the years, the Navy has granted authority to house employees of other than the Department of Defense in Center housing. Indeed, in looking back,

it was almost essential, for example, to offer Center housing to teachers, particularly those recruited for the China Lake Elementary School District. This policy grew over time to include school employees of the Kern County Union High School District and the Kern County Community College as well.

Today, the vast majority of both College and Sierra Sands employees reside off the Center. Further, with the unification of the school districts, the basis for providing housing to school district employees changed. Now, regardless of where the teachers live, they can be assigned as the district sees fit. Moreover, with increasing costs, it was no longer appropriate to expend Navy funds for employees of other than the Department of Defense. These considerations have resulted in setting a finite date for all employees of agencies other than the Department of Defense to relocate off the Center, except those mission-essential employees that I mentioned previously.

Termination of Private Businesses on Center

In a similar vein, a second situation is that concerning the use of government real property in conducting private businesses. Again, there was a historical basis for allowing residents of the Center to conduct private businesses from their quarters. In some cases, I'm told, the only way the service would be available in this area was when a resident of the Center chose to provide it from his home.

As in the case of the housing for other than DOD employees, there is no longer a valid basis for authorizing individuals to conduct private businesses in the Center's family housing areas.

In fact, there is substantial precedent for not authorizing this type of activity on a military reservation; but perhaps the most easily understood reason is that the Command has neither the resources nor manpower to effectively administer the use of Navy facilities being used for these purposes. A forthcoming notice will set a

date of 30 June 1976 to terminate all home-operated businesses on the Center. Only those businesses which, if conducted in the private sector, would require a license from the California Franchise Tax Board, Kern County and/or the City of Ridgecrest are at issue. Operations such as baby sitting by individuals and newspaper delivery are not affected—just those businesses that would have to be licensed in some way if they were operating in the private sector.

Outlook for 1976

I would like to close by saying that our outlook businesswise for the Center is quite good—particularly when viewed in terms of the extremely stringent constraints now in effect on funding. In general, we anticipate about the same level of funding as this past year—around \$206 million. Our payroll will be up slightly due to the increase in pay, but should still be near the \$88 million of last year.

There will be some very modest reductions in our authorized personnel ceilings, but let me add that I do not expect fiscal year 1977 to bring any additional reductions here at China Lake other than what we already know about.

On the plus side: The Center expects to place its new Laser Applications Laboratory in operation this year. We are also clearing the ground right now for our new dispensary which will be under construction throughout 1976.

Ladies and gentlemen: This is a summary of the noteworthy changes we expect at the Naval Weapons Center and the impact of these changes on the community. I opened with a clear statement that I was accentuating the positive—and I will close with that. We at the Center look forward to participating with you fully in this 200th year of our country's existence as a free and sovereign nation.

Thank you.

Approved for release by the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs and the Office of the Chief of Naval Information, January 1976.

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