

**FINAL PERFORMANCES SLATED**— In a scene from "A Raisin in the Sun," Don "Alvati" Tifford (left) as "Karl Lindner" and James Lewis, who plays "Walter Younger," discuss the Younger family's move into Linder's neighborhood. The play is about a black family's efforts to move from the ghetto. Tonight and tomorrow night's final performances begin at 8:15 in the China Lake Players' Hut, 405 McIntire St., on the Center. Persons who need special passes to attend can get them at the main gate. Tickets, priced at \$2.50 for general admission and \$1 for senior citizens over 65, enlisted military personnel and students, can be ordered by calling Rosalie Barber at 375-9470. —Photo by Bill Benson

## Center theater schedules Easter vacation matinees

Special movie matinees for young people will be shown at the Center Theater on Tuesday and Thursday during Easter vacation week. The doors will open at 1 p.m. and the show will begin at 1:30. Admission is 75 cents.

Tuesday's feature will be "Hugo the Hippo," an animated musical fantasy, which concerns the attempts of the sultan of Zanzibar to use hippos to frighten away sharks which are invading the waters surrounding his country. The hippos succeed and become short-lived national heroes.

The country soon prospers and the heroism of the hippos is forgotten until "Hugo the Hippo" attempts to teach the people of the land a lesson through their children.

Thursday's matinee feature film, "Ride a Wild Pony," is the story of a poor Australian farmer who manages to buy his son a cheap pony. The pony runs away, however, and ends up in the home of a little girl who is crippled with polio. Although she cannot ride him, she manages to train him to pull her cart.

Meanwhile, the little boy has been searching for the pony. When he does find the pony, there is a dispute over ownership. Because of the mixup, a court hearing is held to decide on ownership of the animal.

## Names of new Credit Union officials announced during membership meeting

George G. Silberberg, Karsten "Kit" S. Skaar and Dr. Gilbert J. Plain were elected to the Naval Weapons Center Federal Credit Union board of directors and Woodrow "Woody" D. Chartier, Jr., and Joan E. Crista to the Credit Committee, it was announced during the Credit Union's 30th annual meeting on March 8.

Seventy-six members attended the meeting — the first to be held in the City of Ridgecrest — at the Las Flores School.

Credit Union officers and officials presented several reports during the meeting, and there was a discussion of the benefits being derived from computerized services, including faster and better service to customers.

Silberberg is employed in the Range Instrumentation Support Division of the



**COLLEGE MUSICAL**—James Fitzgerald (left) as "Orphan" and Alex Bellen, who portrays the leading role of "Potemkin," contemplate the condition of Orphan's shoes in this scene from Cerro Coso Community College's Drama 27 production of "Celebration." The musical fable runs two more nights—tonight and tomorrow—and curtain time is 8:15 at the college lecture hall. Tickets are priced at \$2.50 for general admission and \$1.25 for students and holders of college Associated Student Body cards.

## Commissary, NEX featuring Spring sales until Easter

Spring sales are underway at the Navy Exchange and Commissary Store and will continue until the Easter weekend.

The NEX is featuring reduced prices on items in several departments including giftwares, the music center, jewelry and self-service.

On Jan. 26, the local Navy Exchange retail store became a branch of the Long Beach Naval Station Exchange. It was previously under the Port Hueneme Construction Battalion Center Exchange.

The Commissary Store is featuring several voluntary price reductions and coupon redemption specials. Celery hearts, lettuce and some cuts of meat are also on sale.

Both stores have notices available at the door announcing the specials, and coupons are being passed out to Commissary Store patrons.

The NEX store now will be featuring monthly sales and RoseMarie Ottend, retail store supervisor, said that she expects the local store will handle a greater variety of merchandise because the Long Beach exchange is larger than the one at Port Hueneme.

The exchange recently received a shipment of television sets, but these are not being offered at sale prices.

The Commissary Store is a branch of the Long Beach Navy Commissary.

An optician will be at the Navy Exchange retail store every two weeks, and the next scheduled visit is March 23 and 24. The uniform shop will be open on the second Saturday of each month.

## Annual show set by Desert Ceramic Club

The Desert Ceramic Club will hold its 27th annual public show in the Community Center on Sunday from 3 to 9 p.m. and Monday from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The show's general chairman is Veletta Meeks and its theme is "1978 — A Time for Ceramics."

Works shown will be judged and trophies awarded to the winners before the show begins except for the "Best of Show" trophy, which will be based on the votes of the viewing public. The "Best of Show" trophy will be awarded later during a membership meeting.

In addition to door prizes of handmade ceramic pieces, items made by club members will be offered for sale during the show.

There will be no admission charge for the show which is open to the public.

## At COM, St. Patrick's Day buffet, other special events slated

Tonight is membership night at the Commissioned Officers' Mess with a complete St. Patrick's Day Irish buffet dinner for \$3 per person being served from 6 to 10.

The fabulous "Sounds of Country" will provide musical entertainment for the dancing and listening pleasure of patrons from 8 p.m. to midnight. In addition, door prizes will be awarded. Reservations can be made by calling 446-2549.

Tuesday will be "Greek Taverna" night at the COM featuring authentic Greek dinners of roast leg of lamb and the traditional "mousakka" plate. A special combination plate will be available for diners who wish to sample the Greek food and other dishes on the menu. Accompanying the dinner will be a musical background of traditional Hellenic songs.

Next Friday, March 24, will be "dinners night" with an unusually extensive menu selection including prime rib of beef, turf and surf, broiled whole lobster, and crab legs and claws in addition to the regular menu.

Dance music will again be provided as every Friday night is "dance night" at the COM.

## 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

Regular starting time—7:30 p.m.

Program subject to change without notice.

For further information call NWC ext. 2259.

FRIDAY 17 MARCH

"SLAP SHOT" (123 Min.)

Paul Newman, Strother Martin

(Action-Drama-Comedy) The Charlestown Chiefs, a third rate ice hockey team, are experiencing morale problems. Paul Newman, player-coach, overhears that the manager (Strother Martin) plans to leave the team because of the team's losing streak. Newman encourages his players to provoke their opponents to the point of frustration, which results in opposing players losing their tempers and starting fights. (R)

SATURDAY 18 MARCH

"FOREVER YOUNG, FOREVER FREE"

(85 Min.)

Karen Valentine, Jose Ferrer

(Drama) A young child is left on the steps of a Christian mission in Southern Africa. The priest who runs the mission decides to raise the child, Jannie. Several years pass and Jannie and the herdsboy Tsepso become inseparable friends. About this time, the mission is faced with controversy when a Peace Corps volunteer is not accepted by the community because of her liberal ideas. (G)

"FREAKY FRIDAY" (98 Min.)

Barbara Harris, Jodie Foster  
(Comedy) This Disney comedy features Barbara and Jodie as a mother and teenage daughter who exchange bodies and personalities for a day. The result is a hectic and wildly comic day puzzling to both participants as well as the husband/father, friends and neighbors. (G)

SUNDAY 19 MARCH

"MASSAGE AT CENTRAL HIGH" (110 Min.)

Robert Carradine, Kimberly Beck

(Drama) David, an aspiring Olympic runner, transfers to Central High where he meets Mark, an old friend who is the leader of a gang that has taken over the student body. David refuses to join the gang and takes up with Mark's old girlfriend. The gang is responsible for a car wreck and when David tries to help he injures his legs and becomes crippled. After that, David plots the death of the gang members as revenge. (R)

TUESDAY 21 MARCH

"HUGO THE HIPPO" (79 Min.)

Animated Fantasy 1:30 p.m.

Easter Week Matinee

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH

"EMPIRE OF THE ANTS" (112 Min.)

Joan Collins, Robert Lansing

(Science Fiction) Radioactive waste barrels are dumped into the ocean and one lands on a deserted beach. The waste is lapped up by ants. Joan Collins plays the promoter of a phony beach development who arrives on the scene with a group of prospective customers and their yacht skipper. Robert Lansing, the ants grow to giant size and devour most of the group except Lansing, Collins, and three others who attempt to warn the people in a nearby town. (PG)

THURSDAY 23 MARCH

"RIDE A WILD PONY" (93 Min.)

Michael Craig, John Mellon

1:30 p.m. Easter Week Matinee

FRIDAY 24 MARCH

"A STAR IS BORN" (140 Min.)

Barbara Streisand, Kris Kristofferson

(Drama) Kristofferson is a rock music star whose career is rapidly nose-diving because of his addiction to booze and pills. He stumbles across Streisand, a singer in an obscure night club, and whisks her off to his next concert. He introduces her on the stage, and she gradually surpasses him in popularity as their romance blossoms. This creates a conflict in their relationship. (R)

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AMSAN Frederick R. Schoessler, Jr.

## NWC Sailor of Month chosen for February

Aviation Metalsmith Airman Frederick R. Schoessler, Jr., has been selected as the Naval Weapons Center's Sailor of the Month for February.

AMSAN Schoessler is a plane captain and search and rescue aircrewman assigned to the cold line of the Aircraft Department's Aircraft Support Division.

He was cited for his initiative, devotion to duty and professional performance by his supervisors Chief Electronics Technician John P. Bozony and Aviation Machinist's Mate First Class Sam Weaver.

AMSAN Schoessler's recommendation for the award noted that he "has the potential to develop into a superlative petty officer" as well as his selection "from many applicants to become a search and rescue aircrewman."

He was graduated among the top five in SAR aircrew school at San Diego last December.

This is the outstanding sailor's first duty assignment after completing recruit training and aviation metalsmith "A" School at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Millington, Tenn., last May.

A native of Brooklyn, N. Y., AMSAN Schoessler attended school in Brentwood, Long Island, N. Y., and was graduated from Brentwood High School in June 1976. He (Continued on Page 3)



# nwc rocketeer

Naval Weapons Center  
China Lake  
California

March 17, 1978

Vol. XXXIII, No. 11

## Weather forecasters' job complicated by location of Naval Weapons Center

Weather forecasters at the Naval Weapons Center are "between the devil and the deep blue sea in more ways than one," according to Senior Chief Aerographer's Mate Jerry McMullen, CPO-in-Charge of the Center's weather office and Staff Meteorologist to Rear Admiral William L. Harris, NWC Commander.

AGCS McMullen was alluding to the Center's location between Death Valley and the Pacific Coast and the fact that the climates of both areas merge over Indian Wells Valley to create an often erratic and sometimes violent weather pattern.

The moist maritime air combines with the dry desert climate, and the contrast between the two, combined with the influence of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, gives the valley its varied weather, he explained.

### Common Misconception

"Most people think it's just hot and dusty here, but it's not," he said.

However, the heavy rainfall of recent weeks had not been the result of any local influence on the weather but rather had been due to a major shift in atmospheric circulation off the Southern California coast, John Gibson, civilian forecaster, said.

He and others on the six-member meteorological staff had predicted a very wet winter for Southern California this year before other area meteorologists did, but "no one would believe us," Gibson said.

AGCS McMullen said that not only is Indian Wells Valley subjected to the consequences of conflicting air masses, forecasters here are unable to depend upon sometimes conflicting weather prognoses from National Weather Service Offices in



**CHECKING THE WIND**—Chief Aerographer's Mate Chelmer E. Finger adjusts a wind recording instrument at the Naval Weather Service Environmental Detachment office at China Lake. Winds generated by Sierra waves often exceed 80 knots here. —Photo by Ron Allen

San Francisco and Los Angeles. Both of these offices concentrate more on the forecasting for the populated coastal areas than on places like Indian Wells Valley, Chief McMullen added.

The first signs of the end of Southern California's long drought occurred several months ago when an area of low atmospheric pressure over the Gulf of Alaska began to move southward.

This winter, instead of riding over the top of the high pressure into southern Canada,

the storms hit much further south.

As a result, China Lake, which normally receives less than three inches of rainfall each year, has already been drenched with more than seven inches.

However, according to Gibson, the big storm of two weekends ago was "the last of the major storms until next winter."

Rainy winters are not unusual for southern California, Chief McMullen said, although they come in cycles, and rainfall is normally not as heavy as it has been this year.

Another unusual weather phenomena that doesn't put in an appearance more than once every 50 years or so, occurred last year (Continued on Page 3)

## Supersonic tactical missile contract awarded

A major forward stride has been taken in the supersonic tactical missile (STM) program at the Naval Weapons Center as the result of the award of an \$8,400,000 contract to the Vought Corp. of Dallas, Tex., to build four missiles for flight technology demonstration.

The objective of the STM program is to develop a low-cost, advanced supersonic standoff missile that can be air-launched, and will be ready for the Fleet by the mid-1980s.

The STM program is sponsored by the Naval Air Systems Command, and is managed by the Naval Weapons Center. It is currently in the advanced development technology phase, which consists of engineering studies, analysis, and, finally, the procuring and flight testing of missile prototypes.

The four missiles to be produced by the Vought Corp. under the contract include a supersonic tactical vehicle — propulsion (STV-P), a supersonic tactical vehicle — guidance (STV-G), and two advanced tactical vehicles (ATV).

The various subsystems of the STM will be integrated and tested in free flight in these four missiles.

The STV-P will be used to test the propulsion unit and airframe of the STM to evaluate its operation in flight. It consists of an advanced low volume ramjet (LVRJ), including a low-cost combustor/booster, an air injection system, fuel controls and turbine pump.

In previous low volume ramjet tests concluded in June 1976, the LVRJ was

launched from an A-7 aircraft at the Pacific Missile Test Center at Pt. Mugu, flying at speeds well over 1,750 miles per hour. During the five tests made at that time, the

missile demonstrated its capabilities to fly both on-the-deck and at high altitudes, and to maneuver well. (Continued on Page 3)



**READY TO GO**—Members of the team primarily involved with the supersonic tactical missile examine one of the flight test vehicles (the STV-G) before it is sent to the Vought Corp. in Dallas for modification. Shown are (l. to r.) Pat Palmore, Jack Thornberry, John Martin, Max Smith, NWC project manager for the STM, and Karl Kuehn. —Photo by Ron Allen

## New directory of clubs, organizations in IWV published

Copies of the latest edition of the Indian Wells Valley Clubs and Organization Directory were mailed this week to department, division and branch offices on the Naval Weapons Center.

In 1975, the Naval Weapons Center published the last issue of this directory. At that time, it was decided that because of the growth of the community, future issues should be a joint community project rather than be produced in-house by NWC.

The Rotary Club of China Lake, in cooperation with the NWC Office of Information and the Office of the Community Liaison Assistant (Code 2404), assumed the responsibility for printing and publishing the 1978 directory as a community service project. Plans call for the directory to be updated bi-annually.

Distribution of the directory is being handled by Natalie Harrison, the NWC Community Liaison Assistant, who can be contacted in Rm. 209 of the Housing Building by individuals who wish to obtain a copy of the directory.



## nwc rocketeer SPORTS

### Recreation Round-up

#### Volleyball League spring season to begin next Tuesday

Practice games were held this week in preparation for the official start on Tuesday night of the China Lake Intramural Volleyball League spring season.

The schedule calls for games to be played on Tuesday through Thursday nights, with games starting at 6, 7, 8 and 9 o'clock at the Center gym. The season will continue until mid-May.

Seven teams have entered the men's open division. They are VX-5, the Hotnecks, ROB Bunch, Doggie Daddies, Bumpers and Thumpers, PW Puds, and the KKK-(Kumano, Kajiwara and Keto).

The 10-team coed division will be placed in A and B divisions based on the playing ability of the participants on the various teams. At press time, however, the final decision hadn't been made regarding how the coed division teams would be split up.

Teams entered in the coed division are The Dinks, Who Knows, Erratics, VX-5, Roberts, The Put-ons, The Ones, Time Out, Picklebread, and Free Spirits.

#### Umpires' Clinic Planned

Plans are being made by the Valley Sports Association for conducting a clinic to provide instruction for prospective softball season umpires.

The clinic, which has been scheduled on April 5, starting at 5 p.m. at the NWC gym, will be led by Gary Smith, a research mechanical engineer in the Advanced Technology Division of the Ordnance Systems Department.

Smith, who is a member of the Valley Sports Association, has worked as an official in the International Softball Conference world championship softball tournament.

Some knowledge of softball is necessary, but no prior experience as an umpire is required in order to attend the clinic. Qualified umpires will be paid \$11 for working a slow pitch softball game or \$12 for a fast pitch game during the coming season.

#### Easter Week Schedule

During Easter vacation week, the Youth Center will be open on weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 7 p.m. for basketball and volleyball. The Youth Center also will be open on Saturdays from 2 to 5

(Continued on Page 7)

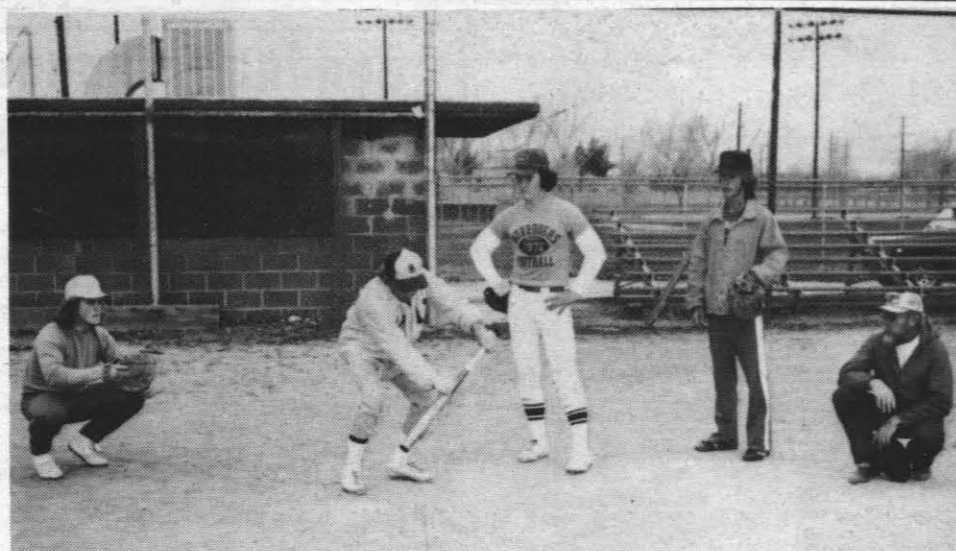
#### China Lakers to vie in MDISL volleyball tourney

A team representing the Naval Weapons Center will compete tomorrow and Sunday in a Mojave Desert Inter-Service League volleyball tournament at George Air Force Base in Victorville. The China Lakers are the defending MDISL volleyball champs.

This will be a round robin event in which the ultimate winner and top two runners-up will be decided by the total number of games each team wins.

The NWC team will be led by Jerry Kissick, player-coach. Other members are Jim Bevan, Bob Berry, Ted Bailey, Duane Foyt, Phil Bowen, Jim Morrow, Claude Gumz, Lyle Parthemer, Jimmy Clark, Jim Awai, Mike Morrow and Cindy Fox.

First game for the China Lakers will be played on Saturday morning against their counterparts from the Marine Corps Base at 29 Palms.



**SOFTBALL TEAM TRYOUTS UNDERWAY** — Tryout sessions for fast pitch softball players interested in playing for the Ridgecrest Raiders, a team that will represent the local area in out-of-town competition and also in tournaments staged here this season, will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday and at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Pony League baseball diamond. Dick Clodt (at right), manager of the Raiders, watches as Richie Clodt, one of the team's prospective players, demonstrates how to lay down a bunt. Looking on are (l.-r.) Ernie Bell and Rich Phillips, while behind the plate for this past weekend's drills was Alan Hopstad, as catcher.

### Burros varsity baseball team has rough time in league season opener

Burroughs High School's varsity baseball team found the going mighty rough in the Golden League season opener Tuesday afternoon against Antelope Valley High School in Lancaster.

The Antelopes, expected to be one of the leading contenders for the league baseball title, shut out the Burros 12-0 on a 1-hitter pitched by Dan Kempken. The winning hurler had 10 strikeouts and issued three walks.

Kempken was one batter away from a no-hit, no-run game when David Boss, an outfielder for the local high school nine, came to bat with two outs in the seventh and final inning and was safe on an infield hit.

The Antelopes out-hit the Burros, 11-1, and took advantage of five errors on the part of the locals to score three runs each in the first, fourth and fifth innings, a single tally in the third and two more in the sixth.

Last week, in their final preparation for the start of league play, the Burros were edged, 3-2, by Bishop High School on Friday, and lost a double-header in Bakersfield to the Drillers by scores of 16-8 and 4-3.

#### Hurt by Lack of Hitting

In the game at Bishop, lack of consistency in the hitting department hurt the Burros, who were out-hit 11-6, by the Broncos. In this low-scoring game, the Burroughs High team led, 2-1, until a Bishop rally netted single runs in the last half of the sixth and seventh frames to win the game.

The Burros' two runs at Bishop were the result of a line drive by Clay McClain that drove in David Cane with the game's first run in the second inning. In the third frame, Randy Radcliff tallied for Burroughs on a wild pitch.

In the first game of Saturday's double-header at Bakersfield, a bases-loaded double hit by Dennis Ikenoyama and a run scored on a steal from third base by Mark Gritton resulted in a 4-run lead in the second

#### Signups for Youth Soccer League to end tomorrow

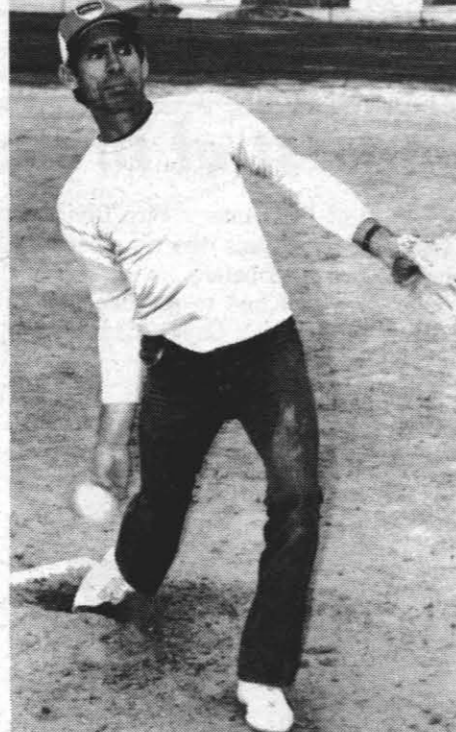
Youth Center Soccer League signups will end tomorrow at noon. The league has been expanded to include players through the 12th grade.

Youngsters desiring to sign up may do so at the Youth Center from 2 to 5 and 6 to 9 p.m. today and at Davidove Field tomorrow morning before tryouts.

Final skill evaluation tryouts will be held for players through the 4th grade at 9 a.m. and for those in grades five and up at 10 a.m.

Signup forms must be completed and turned in prior to noon. More than 80 youngsters have registered and signed up so far this season.

Team assignments will be made by Saturday, March 25. Regular league play starts Saturday, April 1.



**VETERAN HURLER**—Billy Brown, who is employed as an engineering technician at SNORT, will be one of the pitchers for the Ridgecrest Raiders this season. With the exception of a 2-year break (1953-55) for Army service, Brown has been a softball pitcher at China Lake since 1950.

### Results announced of men's bowling ass'n city championship

The annual Desert-Sierra Men's Bowling Association city championship tournament ended Sunday with competition in the and singles events at the Ridgecrest Bowl. All scores reported include the handicap that was allowed.

The duo of Don Powell and Fred Joseph placed first in the doubles by rolling a 1,401 total. Second and third place honors went to the doubles entries of Lou Renner and Russ Trovinger and Bob Banks and Will Levy. Their second and third place scores were 1,297 and 1,285.

In the singles event, Vic Black, the tournament chairman, garnered top honors with a high score of 701, while Ed Davis and Kim Duckett placed second and third. Their totals were 689 and 677.

In the team events competition, which took place on March 4 and 5 at Hall Memorial Lanes at China Lake, the Pollock Construction keggers topped the 42-team entry list by posting a five-man total of 3,179. The team event champs were led by Jim Bradberry's 699 high series and 277 single game score.

Second and third place teams, and their scores were: King Cow, 3,103, and Boog's Place, 3,079.

The top three winners in the all-events category, and their scores, were Ed Davis, 2,023; Don Powell, 1,932, and Vic Black, 1,919.

In addition to cash prizes raised by the bowlers' entry fees, trophies were presented to the winners in the team, doubles, singles and all-events categories.

This was the year of the low average bowler to stand out in the city championship tournament, officials in charge of this event noted.

Of the 38 winners of cash prizes (20 in the singles, 10 in the doubles, and 8 in the all-events competition), only five of them were 180-average bowlers or above, tourney officials noted.

### Military volleyball teams to compete in Admiral's Cup play

Admiral's Cup competition in volleyball is coming up on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, March 21 to 23, at the Naval Weapons Center gym. Starting time for each game is 6 p.m.

On Tuesday, the VX-5 Vampires, who are currently leading in the Admiral's Cup point standings, will play a team representing NWC North (airfield), and on Wednesday night it will be the Vampires vs. NWC South.

The final match between NWC North and NWC South will be played on Thursday night.

Six-man teams will be competing in volleyball. The winner of each match will be the team that defeats its opponent two games out of three.

Organizers of the three teams are Lyle Parthemer of VX-5; Bob Jackson for NWC South, and Charles Barrows of NWC North.

### Little League Major Div. final tryouts slated tomorrow

Final registration and tryouts for the Major Division of the China Lake Little League will be held tomorrow from 9 to 11 a.m. at Diamond 4, across from the NWC Credit Union.

Registration is open to boys and girls 10, 11 and 12 years old.

During the same hours on March 25 and April 1, applications for the Minor and Farm Divisions will be accepted at Diamond 4 from youngsters 8 through 12.

An "open gate" policy will be in effect at the NWC main gate during all Little League baseball tryout sessions. Additional information can be obtained by calling Paulette Solberg, player agent for the China Lake Little League, at NWC ext. 3855 or after working hours at 446-5407.

**SIERRA WAVE** — The severe winds caused by a strong jet stream blowing at right angles to updrafts and downdrafts over the Sierra Nevada Mountains cause the Sierra Wave. Very strong west winds blow across the deserts at speeds in excess of 80 knots. In this photograph, these winds are creating harsh weather conditions from just south of Lone Pine to the Northern Indian Wells Valley in the upper center. The old route of U. S. Highway 395 is barely visible in the center of the photograph. The Sierra Wave is one weather condition that Center forecasters have to be on the lookout for in preparing forecasts for weapons tests. It is the opposite of the Santa Ana winds which blow from the east and only affect areas west of the mountains.



### Complex task...

(Continued from Page 1)

when Santa Ana winds of hurricane force swept down the valleys and through the passes on the western slopes of the Sierras.

Very high pressure over the desert resisted an intense cold front moving eastward towards the mountains from the coast. Instead of eating away at the high pressure and continuing on over the top of the mountains, the front was stopped in its tracks. The resulting very steep drop in atmospheric pressure west of the Sierras generated the high winds.

"People at the Center were very worried and kept asking us when the winds were going to hit here. We told them they wouldn't because only the areas west of the Sierras were affected."

#### 'Sierra Waves' Predictable

Strong winds that sweep from west to east across the desert are called "Sierra waves" and can build up rapidly, but they are usually predictable, Chief McMullen added.

When strong jet stream winds in the upper atmosphere blow at right angles to very strong updrafts and downdrafts over the Sierras, the resulting severe surface winds from the west often exceed 80 knots, he said.

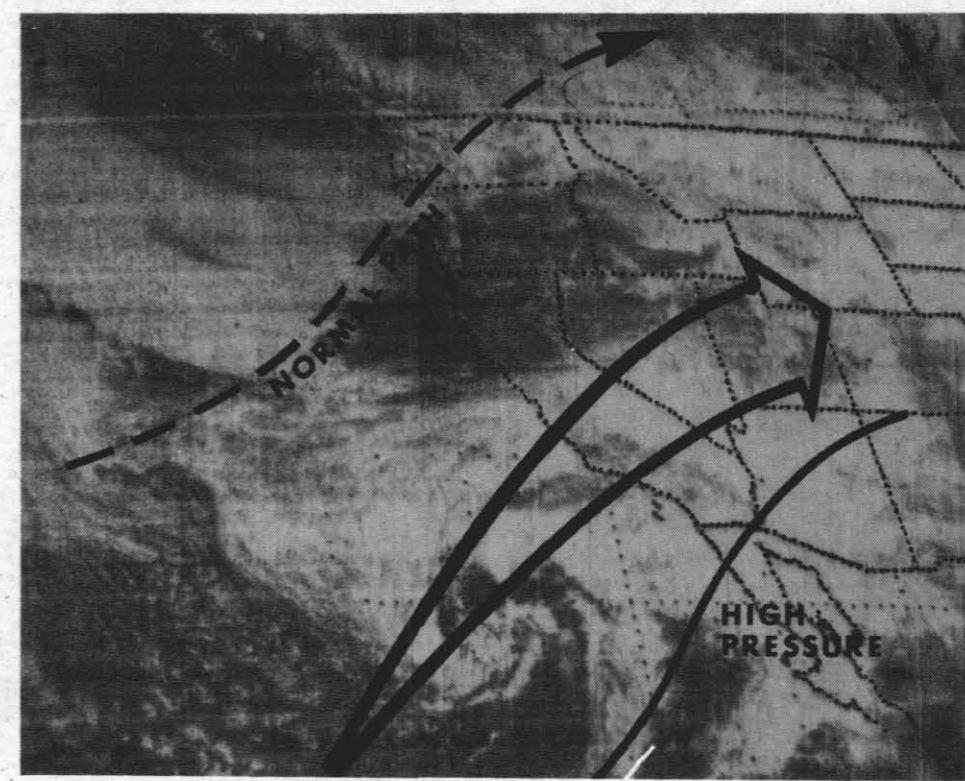
These same winds, updrafts and down drafts create ideal conditions for sailplane gliding, and many sailplane records have been set by pilots taking advantage of them, Chief McMullen said.

Both AGCS McMullen and Gibson have a lot of experience with China Lake's weather and so does a third forecaster, Chief Aerographer's Mate Chelmar E. Finger.

All three have been stationed at the Naval Weapons Center more than once, and Gibson, who served aboard the Center twice before he retired from the Navy as a chief aerographer's mate, has been a civilian



**GETTING BRIEFED**—Senior Chief Aerographer's Mate Jerry McMullen briefs Lcdr. Michael J. Verner, NWC Air Operations Officer, on flight weather conditions. Flight forecasts at the Center often involve narrowly defined areas for extended periods of time.



**LOW PRESSURE PATH** — The large arrow indicates this year's eastern Pacific low pressure storm track, which was much further south than normal. The photograph was received by the NWC weather office and was taken by a National Weather Service satellite on Feb. 28. The white swirl off the coast is the storm of two weeks ago, poised to slam into Southern California.

forecaster here for more than four years. NWC forecasters have to be more accurate in their predictions than their counterparts in the area because of the critical effects weather can have on weapons testing.

"Most forecasters only worry about what it is going to be like for about 24 hours. We have to make regular forecasts for a minimum of two to three days and sometimes longer," Gibson said.

On top of that, NWC weathermen have to worry about simultaneous weather con-

ditions over extended but narrowly defined areas that involve deserts, mountains, plains and the ocean.

Because of their accuracy, other agencies who normally seek advice on the weather elsewhere get their forecasts from the NWC weather office.

"The park rangers at Death Valley passed up the Weather Bureau sometime ago and come to us for their daily forecasts," Gibson said.

The local weather office is officially part of the Fleet Weather Facility at San Diego and is designated the Naval Weather Service Environmental Detachment, China Lake.

Other personnel assigned to the office are Aerographer's Mate Second Class Kenneth Karnes, Aerographer's Mate Third Class Nancy Hill and Aerographer Airman Robert "Rip" Van Winkle.

### Bank of America to be closed early March 24

Both the Ridgecrest branch and the China Lake facility of the Bank of America will be closed early on April 24 in recognition of Good Friday.

The China Lake facility will be open from 10:30 a.m. until noon next Friday, while the Ridgecrest branch will conduct business from 10 a.m. until noon.

Also in Ridgecrest, the bank's drive-in window will be open from 9 a.m. to noon while the walk-up window will be open from 9 to 10 a.m.

### Sailor of Month...

(Continued from Page 1)

enlisted in the Navy four months later. Sports is his hobby and he is a second baseman on the NWC Hawks fast pitch softball team and a forward on the China Lake traveling soccer team.

Describing his duty here, Schloesser said "It's a lot different than where I have lived. I'm used to living 10 minutes from the beach." He said that he often went to the beach after work and school in Brentwood.

AMSAN Schloesser expressed his appreciation for being recommended as a candidate for the Sailor of the Month by Chief Bozony and AD1 Weaver.

He said that the day began with reveille at 6 a.m. followed by a four-to-eight mile run, then two-miles of swimming "with calisthenics in between.

#### Short Rest Time

"They were nice to us though," he said. "They gave us two 2-minute breaks."

AMSAN Schloesser is one of only six qualified SAR aircrewman at the Naval Weapons Center, but he hasn't been involved in any search and rescue missions yet.

He said that his training included the simulated rescue of astronauts from space capsules, as well as routine search and rescue operations.

AMSAN Schloesser expressed his appreciation for being recommended as a candidate for the Sailor of the Month award by Chief Bozony and AD1 Weaver.

For his selection as Sailor of the Month, he will receive a certificate, a plaque, dinner for two at the Shuttle and a 96-hour liberty.

### Contract awarded...

(Continued from Page 1)

The STV-P will be launched at intermediate altitudes to demonstrate the performance of the propulsion system, and is expected to reach speeds in excess of Mach 2.

The guidance system demonstrated by the STV-G consists of a strapdown ring laser gyro inertial guidance system (ATIGS X-2) to provide midcourse guidance from the time of launch to target acquisition, and a microwave radiometer (MICRAD) terminal seeker system. The ATIGS will point the MICRAD, process the MICRAD data, stabilize the missile, and issue commands to the missile actuators.

#### To Demonstrate Engineering Feasibility

The advanced tactical vehicles will demonstrate the engineering feasibility of the integral rocket ramjet propulsion system integrated with the midcourse guidance (ATIGS X-2), midcourse guidance update (MICRAD correlator), and the MICRAD terminal guidance systems. The propulsion section for these vehicles will include a low-cost combustor, low-cost air inlets, and a low-cost fuel management system.

Building and flight-testing the four missiles is expected to take 30 months. NWC program manager for the STM is Max Smith.

Other personnel assigned to the office are Aerographer's Mate Second Class Kenneth Karnes, Aerographer's Mate Third Class Nancy Hill and Aerographer Airman Robert "Rip" Van Winkle.

### Drug abuse seminar slated for military shop supervisors

A one-day drug abuse seminar for military shop supervisors will be held for military division officers and branch officers next Wednesday, March 22.

The seminar will focus on drug recognition and the effects of drug use. It will be conducted by personnel from the Naval Drug and Rehabilitation Center, San Diego.

The seminar will be held in the Panamint Room of the Community Center beginning at 10 a.m.

Military division officers and branch officers are expected to attend, and AFCCM J.W. Hendry, the NWC Leading Chief, will notify enlisted supervisors who must attend. Space permitting, other interested military personnel also may attend.

# Lone Army man at China Lake serving as food inspector

A bit of khaki is adrift on a sea of blue at China Lake.

Specialist Fifth Clifford P. Moreno is currently the sole representative of the Army stationed at the Naval Weapons Center.

Spec. 5 Moreno is the Center's food inspector and is responsible for seeing to it that food and food services at the Commissary Store, clubs and messes comply with Department of Defense regulations.

He reported aboard the Center last month and is officially a member of the Los Angeles Branch, Veterinarian Activities, U. S. Army Medical Activities headquartered at Fort Ord.

## Opportunity for additional education available to women with background in physical sciences

Naval Weapons Center women employees who have a background in the physical sciences but whose scientific careers have been interrupted may be able to pursue a subsidized education leading to an engineering degree, according to Karen Altieri, the Federal Women's Program Coordinator at NWC.

California State University at Northridge is conducting an experimental career facilitation project aimed at increasing the number of women engineers which is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Designed specifically for women who hold degrees in the physical sciences, the program offers 12 months of intensive training leading to either a Certificate of Engineering or a Master of Science degree in engineering.

Ms. Altieri said that if a sufficient number of local women are interested in applying for the program, the university will request another grant from the NSF to continue the program.

Upon completion of the training, NWC

Spec. 5 Moreno said that the Navy does not have a Veterinarian Corps and that Army or Air Force vets and food service inspectors usually handle such matters for the sea service.

This is not his first assignment with the Navy, since he has previously been a food inspector for naval activities in the San Diego area during his more than four years in the Army.

A graduate of the Army's Veterinarian Inspection School at the Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Tex. Spec. 5 Moreno is married, and he and his wife, Barbara, have an 8½-month-old daughter, Katherine.

will attempt to place graduates in engineering jobs, but they cannot be guaranteed such jobs, Ms. Altieri said.

Women who are interested should contact Ms. Altieri, by calling NWC ext. 2348 or 2738.

The program offers part-time employment and internships, as well as direct financial assistance to participants who attend classes full time on the Northridge campus.

NWC employees will be granted leave without pay to participate in the program, Ms. Altieri said.

The Naval Weapons Center is participating with the university in this program as part of the NWC Affirmative Action Plan.

### Dance slated at CPO Club

There will be a St. Patrick's Day dance tonight from 9 to 1 a.m. at the Chief Petty Officers' Club featuring the "Hollywood Brass," a contemporary 5-piece rock band.

A prime rib dinner will be served from 6 to 9 p.m.



LOOKING GOOD—Specialist 5th Clifford P. Moreno, at present the Center's only Army man, inspects a quarter of beef at the Commissary Store. He is the NWC's food and food services inspector. —Photo by Ron Allen

## Promotional Opportunities . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

Supervisory Voucher Examiner, GS-540-4, PD No. 7825004N, Code 5273 — Applications accepted from status eligible. This position is located in the Audit/Processing Section, Receipt Control Branch, Control Division, Supply Department. As section head the incumbent will supervise five voucher examiners who perform audits of contractor/dealer invoices, certifying receipt and acceptance, and forwarding the invoice for payment. Will also review and analyze transactions accomplished during the life of a contract to ensure that necessary supporting documentation is on record and that all actions taken were valid. Job Relevant Criteria: Ability or potential to supervise an organization; technical knowledge of voucher examining methods and regulations; technical knowledge of purchase methods and regulations; ability to plan and organize work and establish priorities; ability to work under pressure.

File applications for the above with Ginger Hamaty, Bldg. 34, Rm. 212, Ph. 2371.

Electronics Engineer, GS-855-9/11, PD, No. 7842016, Code 4241 — This position is located in the Telemetry Systems Branch, Telemetry Division of the Range Department. The incumbent designs and develops telemetry systems and associated instrumentation currently in use by the branch; maintains an expertise in environmental instrumentation and evaluation testing to insure parameters meet design specifications, and provides technical consultation and documentation. Job Relevant Criteria: Must be familiar with telemetry and associated instrumentation. Must have an understanding of telemetry equipment design and packaging concepts. Must be able to develop testing methods and equipments

(Continued on Page 7)

required to evaluate the telemetry sub-systems. Physical Science Technician, GS-1211-8, PD No. 7842014, Code 6212 — This position is located in the Environmental Engineering and Inspection Branch, Quality Assurance Division of the Range Department. For experimental pilot and production items, the incumbent's duties are to conduct industrial radiography tests, to develop and then evaluate the test results. The incumbent assumes full responsibility for the operation of a dark room as well as film evaluation for adequate density, definition and sensitivity, performs all tasks relevant to routine radiography. Another duty is the physical inspection of systems undergoing environmental testing. Job Relevant Criteria: Specialized experience in X-ray film interpretation. Experience in photographic dark room operations. Knowledge concerned with explosive technology and terminal ballistics. Promotion potential to GS-11.

Mechanical Engineer, GS-830-12, PD No. 7445073, Code 4211 — This position is located in the Ballistics Test Branch, Base Operations Division of the Range Department. The incumbent deals effectively with a wide range of individuals and technical disciplines. The incumbent ensures free flow of information and cooperation between the people involved on the test program because he understands all elements of the test program. The incumbent is responsible for scheduling and completion of all mechanical aspects of the test. The incumbent will be required to implement experiments desired by projects groups. He must have sufficient design capability to find a design solution which can be implemented easily. Job Relevant Criteria: Must have extensive background in propulsion systems design and development or testing.

## Joint Cruise Missile Project Office vacancies announced

The following positions are organizationally and physically located in the Joint Cruise Missile Project Office Washington, D.C. These positions are temporary in nature and are not expected to last beyond two years (but may be extended beyond this time with approval of the Civil Service Commission). Selectees will have return rights to their current activity at their grade level. Applications will be accepted from current Department of the Navy employees.

Aerospace Engineer, GS-861-13 — The incumbent is the SLCM Engine Manager and is responsible for the integration of the SLCM air-breathing engine into the SLCM; also responsible for integrating and coordinating all the subsystems and support functions which make up the SLCM Engine with SLCM Subsystems and interfaces are: inlets, fuel system/fuel control, starting system, attachment interfaces, tail pipe installations, thermal environment, and other interfaces and subsystems that affect performance, design and production of the air-breathing engine. Incumbent also attends performance and design conferences with contractor and government personnel; prepares plans for engine performance analyses and tests, including financial estimates and schedules; originates and reviews contract specifications and evaluates performance of contractors. Job Relevant Criteria: Knowledge of air-breathing engine technology as related to missile systems; ability to direct the efforts of weapon systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

Quality Assurance Specialist (Electronics), GS-1918-11-12 — The incumbent directs the quality assurance (QA) program for the Navigation/Guidance Division of the Joint Cruise Missile Project Office. Is responsible for integrating the various QA-connected functions into quality systems designed to meet the needs of the Cruise Missile Project. Incumbent is responsible for defining adequate quality requirements, proper and complete planning of the QA program, and providing expertise on all matters pertaining to the QA of the Navigation/Guidance program. The incumbent interfaces directly with management of manufacturing plants and government activity representatives in order to monitor, audit, and/or verify compliance with QA requirements. Job Relevant Criteria: Knowledge of engineering quality assurance and quality assurance techniques; ability to direct the efforts of weapons systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

Electronics Engineer, GS-855-13 — The incumbent performs both technical and managerial duties as the project engineer responsible for the radar receivers and transmitters that provide the Cruise Missile with altitude, mapping, passive identification, data links and fuzing capability. The incumbent is responsible for integrating and coordinating the subsystems and support functions which make up this part of the total navigation and guidance systems; oversees contractor and field activities which are responsible for developing hardware for assigned systems. Job Relevant Criteria: Knowledge of radar technology as applied to navigation and guidance systems; ability to direct the efforts of weapons systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

Engineering Data Management Specialist, GS-301-12 — The incumbent is responsible for planning and implementing the Navy/Guidance Documentation program in order to meet the requirements of the Cruise Missile Program. As such, the incumbent is responsible for directing the acquisition of program documentation in the areas of: administrative data; engineering analysis; trade-off studies, drawings, and specifications; configuration data; financial reports and documentation; human factors data; logistics plans and documentation; technical manuals and related data; production plans, studies, and data; product assurance (QA, reliability/maintainability) documentation; safety documentation and special studies; test and evaluation plans and reports; and provisioning documentation. The incumbent interfaces directly with contractor management in order to negotiate requirement and monitor contractor compliance with the contractual requirements of the documentation program. Job Relevant Criteria: Knowledge of engineering documentation and documentation requirements; ability to direct the efforts of weapons systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

Supervisory General Engineer, GS-801-15 — As Navigation/Guidance System Engineer, the incumbent plans, directs, controls, reports, and coordinates the development, validation and product improvement of all aspects of the navigational and guidance systems for the Air-Launched Cruise Missile, the Sea Launched Cruise Missile, and the Ground-Launched Cruise Missile Projects to assure total design compatibility of the weapon systems. He is responsible for direction of all engineering development activities associated with the Cruise

Missile Navigation/Guidance program either by in-house staff/line organizations or by the major contractors, sub-contractors and vendors involved. He is delegated the authority and responsibility to make decisions and commitments necessary for the timely and effective execution of the navigation/guidance portions of the program. He is the technical coordinator for the system engineering aspects of the navigation/guidance prime contract and provides technical direction to the contractor. The incumbent is responsible for such areas as engineering design; computer software development; reliability and quality assurance; maintainability; technical data acquisition, review and management; production engineering support; system integration and interface design; test and evaluation coordination; and development of peculiar support equipment. In each of these areas, he is responsible for identification of problems and alternative solutions, risk assessment and conduct of trade-off analysis, selection between alternatives, coordination of support engineering aspects, life cycle cost impact analysis, decision-making followed by implementation of the appropriate corrective action. He reviews and approves all Cruise Missile Navigation/Guidance System level documentation prior to their issuance. Job Relevant Criteria: Ability to supervise; knowledge of missile navigation/guidance systems technology; ability to direct the efforts of weapons systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

Supervisory General Engineer, GS-801-14 — Incumbent is supervisor and systems engineer for the Land-Attack Guidance Section of the Navigation/Guidance Division. As such, the incumbent has overall development responsibility for the land-attack guidance systems. Incumbent interfaces with support groups on configuration management, software and data requirements, quality assurance, reliability and maintainability, and environmental testing. Incumbent initiates/reviews contract specifications, investigates change proposals and recommends contractual implementation of changes. Incumbent must support fly-off demonstration for contract source selection by ensuring that manufacturers receive guidance sets which meet their requirements. Incumbent is responsible for development of software programs to control guidance system and other missile systems. Incumbent is responsible for planning and carrying out intermediate and short range objectives of the assignment and for supervising four project engineers. Serves as expert for land attack guidance systems providing technical analysis of new development such as correlation techniques, radiometry, scene matching techniques, suspense particle gyros, signal processing techniques and laser techniques. Job Relevant Criteria: Knowledge of aircraft/missile inertial navigation/guidance systems and subsystems; ability to supervise; ability to direct the efforts of weapon systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

General Engineer, GS-801-13 — Serves as inertial guidance engineer. Incumbent plans, manages, coordinates, and oversees both government and contractor effort on inertial guidance systems. The incumbent is responsible for the design, development, production and performance of these systems as well as the integration of the inertial system into the complete guidance package. Initiates and investigates change proposals. Evaluates potential inertial systems for future use and alternative methods of enroute and terminal positioning such as radiometry, laser, scene matching, GPS, JTIDS, optical and other techniques. Has technical cognizance over scene matching area correlation programs being developed elsewhere. Job Relevant Criteria: Knowledge of inertial aircraft or missile guidance technology; ability to direct the efforts of weapons systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

Supervisory General Engineer, GS-801-14 — Incumbent is supervisor and systems engineer for the Land-Attack Guidance Section of the Navigation/Guidance Division. As such, the incumbent has overall development responsibility for the land-attack guidance systems. Incumbent interfaces with support groups on configuration management, software and data requirements, quality assurance, reliability and maintainability, and environmental testing. Incumbent initiates/reviews contract specifications, investigates change proposals and recommends contractual implementation of changes. Incumbent must support fly-off demonstration for contract source selection by ensuring that manufacturers receive guidance sets which meet their requirements. Incumbent is responsible for development of software programs to control guidance system and other missile systems. Incumbent is responsible for planning and carrying out intermediate and short range objectives of the assignment and for supervising four project engineers. Serves as expert for land attack guidance systems providing technical analysis of new development such as correlation techniques, radiometry, scene matching techniques, suspense particle gyros, signal processing techniques and laser techniques. Job Relevant Criteria: Knowledge of aircraft/missile inertial navigation/guidance systems and subsystems; ability to supervise; ability to direct the efforts of weapon systems development contractors; ability to communicate correctly and concisely, both orally and in writing; skill in interpersonal relationships (maintaining harmonious relationships with individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests, reconciling differences, facilitating compromises).

File applications for the above with Pat Gault Bldg. 34, Rm. 212, Ph. 2374.

## Seminar planned, dinner held in observance of Calif. Quality Week

Local activities in connection of the ninth annual observance of California Quality Week were kicked off Tuesday night by a banquet held at the Indian Wells Lodge by the Sierra Sands Section of the American Society for Quality Control (ASQC).

Guest speaker of the evening was James R. Bowen, head of the NWC Engineering Department's Engineering Design Division, whose topic was "The Evolution of the Sideswinder Programs."

In recognition of California Quality Week, a proclamation was signed at Wednesday night's meeting of the Ridgecrest City Council, and the final activity will be a seminar that will be held next Tuesday, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Rm 1000D of Michelson Laboratory.

Robert Depp, of the Defense Logistics Agency Defense Electronic Supply Center in Dayton, Ohio, will give a presentation on the DoD parts control system and Military Standard 965.

Topics to be covered will include standard and non-standard parts selection and control; the functions, services provided and methods of utilizing the Military Parts Control Advisory Group; development and maintenance of part specifications and standards; and the diminishing resource and the DoD approach to dealing with it.

Additional information about next Tuesday afternoon's seminar can be obtained by calling either Bob Moore or Phelps TerHeun

## Supervisors' Ass'n membership drive to be launched Tues.

A luncheon meeting, for the purpose of launching a membership drive that is being conducted by the China Lake Chapter of the National Association of Supervisors, will be held on Tuesday, starting at 11:30 a.m., at The Shuttle (Enlisted Club).

Guest speaker for the occasion will be Steve Sanders, head of the Personnel Department's Management Relations Division, who will discuss "Employee Performance Evaluations." One hour of training credit will be given to all supervisors who attend Tuesday's luncheon meeting, which is the first of four such gatherings that have been planned as a means of disseminating information of interest to supervisors and other Naval Weapons Center employees.

In mid-April, the local chapter of the National Association of Supervisors has scheduled a talk on the NWC safety policy by Al Wiruth, head of the Industrial and Range Operations Safety Division in the NWC Safety and Security Division. Other luncheon speakers will be R. M. Hillyer, NWC Technical Director, and Eva Bien, head of the Personnel Department.



SAFETY MILESTONES SET — Congratulations for notable achievements in the field of safety were extended to five department heads or their representatives by Rear Admiral William L. Harris, NWC Commander, during Monday morning's Commander's meeting. On behalf of Dr. E. B. Royce, head of the Research Department, Dr. Ronald Derr (top left photo) accepts an award for 5 million man-hours worked without a lost-time accident. This award covered the period from December 1962 to June 1977. A million man-hour safety award was presented (top right photo) to Dick Boyd, acting head of the Systems Development Department. (l-r.) RADM. Harris is congratulating Burrell Hayes, while Ernie Cozzens and Capt. S. I. Stocking look on. All three are holding 500,000 man-hour safety awards that were earned from October 1976 to September 1977, from June to December 1977, and from February to November 1977, respectively. Hays is head of the Ordnance Systems Department, Ernie Cozzens was representing Dr. G. W. Leonard, head of the Engineering Department, and Capt. Stocking is head of the Aircraft Department. —Photo by Ron Allen

## Rightmer returns to post of fire chief at NWC

After an absence of nearly five years, Richard E. Rightmer is again wearing the chief's hat at the Naval Weapons Center Fire Division.

"I thoroughly enjoyed China Lake before, and it's nice to get back into the operating side of fire fighting again," Chief Rightmer said.

He was fire chief here for a year during 1973 and 1974 and was NWC's deputy and acting fire chief before that.

He left China Lake in May 1974 to become Navy Area Fire Marshall at San Diego, and a year later, he was named Fire Marshall Program Administrator at Naval Facilities and Engineering Command headquarters in Washington, D.C.

"After being in Washington and reviewing the records of other fire departments throughout the Navy, I know that China Lake has one of the most outstanding fire fighting organizations in the Navy. It's because of Command support and the personnel in the Fire Division," Chief Rightmer said.

He said that he is renewing old acquaintances and has found that about

one-third of the Center's Fire Division is composed of persons who were here when he was fire chief before.

"I felt that I had to get into the Fire Marshal Program," Chief Rightmer said;

however, he noted, his job in Washington was "strictly administrative" and he wanted to get back into the field.

One of the last things he did while in Washington was approve plans for a new 1,000-gallon crash-fire truck, and he said, the Center is scheduled to get delivery of the sixth such new truck to be built.

The state of the art of crash-fire fighting has progressed more in the past 10 years than during all the preceding years, Chief Rightmer said. "And, world-wide, the Navy is looked on as the leader in crash-fire fighting," he said.

Chief Rightmer began his career as a fire fighter at North Island Naval Air Station, San Diego, in 1955. He moved from there to the Naval Undersea Center facility on San Clemente Island where he was airfield crash captain during the late '60s until his transfer to China Lake in February 1971.

He and his wife, Birdie, are buying a home in Ridgecrest and are looking forward to trips to the high Sierras in their motorhome and skiing at the mountain resorts — a sport, he says, they took up while in Washington.



Richard E. Rightmer