



WACOM RESUMES ACTIVITIES — Barbara Stephenson pours tea for Jo Miller, president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Commissioned Officers' Mess, at the "get-acquainted" gathering of WACOM held earlier this week.

Interservice Photo Contest open to active duty Navy personnel

Amateur photographers on active duty will have a chance to "go for the gold" in a series of photography contests that could give Navy the team trophy in the 20th Interservice Photography Contest.

The first level of competition is the regional photography contest which is open to Navy photographers of all skill levels. Entries may be monochrome prints, color prints, or color transparencies.

All entries must be submitted to one of four regional judging sites through local base recreational services departments or shipboard special services officers.

Winning photographers from the regional competition will be submitted to the All Navy Photography Contest hosted by the Naval Air Station, Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 7, 1984.

The final competition in this "go for the gold" series is the Biannual Interservice Photography contest to be held at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., Jan. 18, 1985.

Monthly Membership Night to be held next Friday at COM

Another gala Membership Night affair has been scheduled next Friday, Sept. 21, at the Commissioned Officers' Mess.

The evening's dinner, which will be served in the main dining room from 6 to 9 o'clock, will feature Italian cuisine.

Following dinner, music for the dancing and listening pleasure of COM members and their guests will be provided by "Red Suitcase," a combo from San Diego.

Tickets, priced at \$7 for COM members and \$8 for guests must be picked up at the COM office no later than 4:30 p.m. next Wednesday, Sept. 19.

Desert Counseling Clinic plans series of self-help workshops

"Workshops for Living and Growing," a series of personal growth workshops for adults will be offered this fall at the Desert Counseling Clinic.

These workshops cover a variety of topics and are designed to teach skills for living and growing in a changing society.

"Feeling Good About Yourself," the first workshop of the series, deals with self-awareness and self-esteem. It will be held on Monday, Oct. 1, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

On each Tuesday, from Oct. 9 to Oct. 30, a workshop on "Effective Communication" has been scheduled from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

"Adjusting to Ridgecrest," something newcomers may find helpful, will be offered in four 7 to 9:30 p.m. sessions on Mondays from Oct. 15 through Nov. 5.

A workshop on the subject of "Stress Management" will meet on Oct. 24 and Nov. 21, from 6 to 8 p.m.

In addition, there will be two workshops about dealing with children that will be offered for parents or any others who work with or are interested in children.

"Childhood Fears" is the subject of a workshop planned on Tuesday, Nov. 13, from 7 to 9 p.m., while "Children and Divorce" is to be discussed on Monday,

Varied products on sale at retail store, other NEX facilities

Sales on a variety of products, ranging from grandfather clocks, stereo equipment and children's toys to automobile tires, are currently in progress at the Navy Exchange retail store or will begin next week at NEX facilities.

From Sept. 17 to 21, Diplomat grandfather clocks will be showcased at the NEX retail store and in the lobby of the Commissary Store from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The automotive service center is offering auto tires at reduced prices. The service center also is providing a radiator cooling system check-up and a coupon worth one free gallon of gas.

A special on children's toys will be on-going until Dec. 15, with savings of up to 10 percent on Tonka toys.

Car wash set as fund raiser at gas station

A car wash, planned as a fund-raiser for a Christmas party that will be held by Navy Exchange employees, will take place tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the NEX service station.

All NEX employees who can do so are urged by Jerry Hopper, manager of the service station, to lend a hand tomorrow.

Weekend Roundup. Only two more performances of the China Lake Players production of the Neil Simon comedy, "God's Favorite," remain.

The curtain will rise at 8:15 tonight and tomorrow night at The Playhouse, located at the corner of Blandy Avenue and Lauritsen Road.

Reservations must be made by telephoning The Music Man, 375-4001. General admission tickets are \$3.50, with a charge of \$2.50 for enlisted military, students, and senior citizens.

This evening the Enlisted Mess will serve a dinner special of steak and shrimp from 6 to 9 o'clock for those who would rather dine out than cook.

On Saturday night at the EM, the dinner special will be lobster, served from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Los Amigos Hispanos are sponsoring a dance tomorrow night at the Exhibit Hall at the Desert Empire Fairgrounds.

La Armada, a band from Los Angeles, will provide the music from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. Admission is \$7 per person or \$12 for a couple paid at the door.

Nov. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Finally, a special workshop, "Counseling — Who Needs It?" will be given for those who want to know what counseling is all about.

Dot Landis, a graduate of the Academy of Certified Social Workers, will be the instructor of all the workshop sessions, except for the one on stress management.

The workshop on counseling is open free of charge. For all others, a nominal fee will be charged. Preregistration is mandatory for each workshop.

Tryouts scheduled Sept. 26, 27, 28 for CLOTA stage play

Tryouts for the comedy, "Bedroom Farce," will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, Sept. 25 through 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Light Opera and Theater Association's (CLOTA) building, 1425 Inyo St., Ridgecrest.

According to Bill Blanc, who will direct the CLOTA production, one of the show's strong points is its excellent comic characterizations.

He is looking for four men and four women to depict four upper-middle-class suburban couples. One of the couples is in its late 40s or early 50s, and the others are in their late 20s to early 30s.

Those interested in trying out may want to familiarize themselves with the script. Assistant Director Karen Buehler has placed a copy of the play at the reference desk of the Center library and at the Ridgecrest branch of the Kern County Library.

These copies cannot be checked out, but can be read in the libraries.

MOVIES. REGULAR STARTING TIME 7:00 P.M.

Table listing movie showtimes for Friday (Flashdance), Saturday (Hot Dog, The Movie), Sunday (Twilight Zone, The Movie), Monday (The Sender), and Wednesday (Love Letters).

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Answers sought to questions raised by flood on Aug. 15

The Aug. 15 flood of Michelson Laboratory has raised a number of questions such as "Why was the laboratory placed on a floodplain? Have there been prior floods? And, if so, why haven't adequate corrective measures been taken?"

The possibility of flooding at China Lake was not a consideration in siting the Naval Ordnance Test Station in January 1944, shortly after NOTS was established on Nov. 8, 1943.

While heavy rains have fallen someplace on the Center's vast lands each year, the main site was spared flood damage until the 1960s.

On Aug. 21 and 22, 1961, heavy rains south and west of the community, joining with Engineers in 1963; a separate Corps of Engineers' study for NWC was completed in 1979.



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Skills practiced by USAF unit that specializes in rescue, recovery tasks

An Air Force unit that specializes in rescue and recovery of downed aircraft pilots and their crews has been deployed here for the past 12 days as participants in "Operation Gallant Eagle '84," a massive test of select military groups to fight a desert war on short notice.

If it is possible, the HH-53 helicopter lands in an area from which the search for a downed airman is initiated. If the terrain makes a landing impossible, the men of a pararescue team can either use a rope ladder or rescue hoist while the chopper hovers, or parachute to the ground or into a body of water.

Set up at the gun butts area of Armitage Airfield have been nearly 90 members of the 41st Aerospace Rescue and Recovery and the 41st Consolidated Maintenance Squadrons stationed at McClellan Air Force Base near Sacramento, Calif.

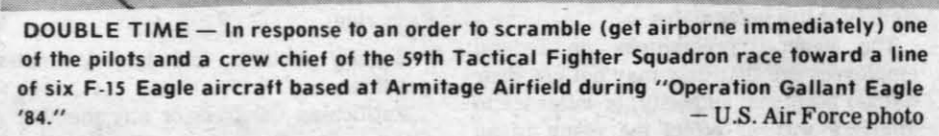
Operating from HH-53 helicopters, the largest such craft in the U.S. Air Force inventory, it was the role of the 41st ARRS choppers, which acquired the nickname "Super Jolly" during the Vietnam War.

According to Lt. Col. Dave Ellis, Deployed Mission Commander of the forces here from McClellan AFB, there were approximately 11 "safe landing zones" established in the Naval Weapons Center's northern range area.

Pilots and flight engineers manned the king-sized whirlybirds, taking with them pararescue teams varying in size from four to six members when a rescue mission assignment was received.

Their standard operating procedure during this exercise was to take off at around dusk in order to be able to take advantage of the cover of darkness to set the wheels in motion for carrying out a rescue mission.

Each member of such a pararescue team not only is a qualified parachutist, he also is a scuba diver and mountain skier, in addition to having extensive training in emergency medical procedures.



DOUBLE TIME — In response to an order to scramble (get airborne immediately) one of the pilots and a crew chief of the 59th Tactical Fighter Squadron race toward a line of six F-15 Eagle aircraft based at Armitage Airfield during "Operation Gallant Eagle '84."

The fast-paced world of an Air Force Tactical Fighter Squadron during a mock warfare exercise has been a part of the on-going activities at the Naval Weapons Center for most of the past two weeks.

An area at Armitage Airfield was set aside for use of the personnel, aircraft and equipment of the 59th Tactical Fighter Squadron — a unit of the 33rd Tactical Fighter Wing headquartered at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida — during the squadron's participation in "Operation Gallant Eagle '84."

For the 90 members of the 59th Tactical Fighter Squadron who were deployed at China Lake, their involvement in this large-scale military operation began with the arrival here on Aug. 31 of two C-141 cargo aircraft used to transport maintenance and support personnel.

Massive military exercise centered in desert area

"Gallant Eagle '84," a Joint Chiefs of Staff military readiness exercise, began on Sept. 5 with the drop of a battalion of Army paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division from Fort Bragg, N.C., onto a designated area of the Army's Camp Roberts, near Paso Robles, Calif.

After that, however, most of the ground operations, took place at the Army's National Training Center at Ft. Irwin and at the Marine Corps Base at Twentynine Palms. Ground units were supported by the Air Force from 15 air bases as far east as North Dakota and Texas.

All told, some 50,000 military personnel from all branches of the military service were involved in "Gallant Eagle '84," which was staged to determine how well the U.S. military services perform together in simulated combat.

The maneuvers were under the direction of the U.S. Central Command, formerly known as the Rapid Deployment Force.

Locally, there were simulated aerial attacks by opposing forces (the Blue and the Red) not only in the Coso Range area, but also at the Electronic Warfare Threat Environment Simulation Facility (Echo Range).

The overall exercise was designed to simulate the rapid intervention of U.S. forces to help an allied nation beat off an invading force.



DOWNED AIRMAN AIDED — A pararescue team from the 41st ARRS demonstrates its task of seeking out and bringing back to friendly territory survivors of aircraft lost on missions against enemy forces.

Their participation in "Operation Gallant Eagle '84" enabled the personnel of this squadron from McClellan Air Force Base to practice rescue techniques in the local desert area.

Operating during daylight hours, the principal mission of these F-15 jet attack aircraft has been to protect other friendly aircraft (mostly F-4s and A-7s) from any simulated enemy air threat, while the friendly aircraft attempted to knock out enemy ground targets.

"This has been excellent experience," Lt. Col. Bill Matthews, Commander of the 59th Tactical Fighter Squadron, said in reference to the tight schedule that had to be met in moving part of the squadron to China Lake and getting ready for the arrival a few days later of the aircraft.

This is very similar to what would have to be done in an actual contingency situation," Lt. Col. Matthews added, noting also that the types of missions that were flown were based on realistic scenarios of wartime contingencies. This exercise gave the F-15 pilots of the 59th Tactical Fighter Squadron the opportunity to "engage" a wide variety of Air Force and Navy planes that made up an opposing force of "enemy" aircraft.

A camera in the aircraft was used to record the exercise.

(Continued on Page 3)

