

Community Events

On Saturday, Sept. 28, the Maturango Museum is hosting *The Taste of Indian Wells Valley* at the Kerr-McGee Center from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Sample the cuisine of about 20 area restaurants on the evening of Maturango Junction, plus receive a complimentary drink. Door prizes for free meals will be awarded throughout the evening. Live entertainment from Stony Creek Bluegrass Band, the Ken Robinson Dixieland Band and Cross Current will be provided. Discounted tickets, sold until Sept. 20, will be \$12.50 for adults and \$8.50 for children (6 to 12 years of age). Regular prices will be \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets are on sale at the museum, the Flower Shoppe and the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 375-6900.

Just because people live in the desert, doesn't mean they can't enjoy the fall colors, leaves turning burnt orange, golden yellow, red and plum. The Bishop Chamber of Commerce has a *Fall Color Guide* to optimize chances of a spectacular spectrum of colors. To get a guide, write to the Bishop Chamber of Commerce at 690 North Main, Bishop, CA 93514 or call 873-8405. The *Rocketeer* office at the Naval Weapons Center also has a limited number of this guide.

During the weekend of Sept. 27-29, the past will come alive when the Wild West Extravaganza springs into action at Ridgecrest's Kern Regional Park. This extravaganza, coordinated by the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce and Maturango Museum, combines three complete events -- the 14th annual Maturango Junction, the Southwest Bluegrass Association's Kern Regional Jam Festival and Western Heritage Mining Day. A complete copy of the weekend's activities can be picked up at the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce office.

Premium books for the Desert Empire Fair are now available at Payless Drugstore, Savon, White Cross, Ridgecrest Community Hospital, Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, K Mart, Pizza Hut, McDonalds, Burger King, WalMart, Johns Pizza and many other local businesses. The Desert Empire Fair is set for Oct. 16-20. Exhibitors are still needed! For more information, call 375-8000.

New works by Los Angeles artist Ron Linden will be exhibited in the Cerro Coso Community College Fine Arts Gallery through the month of September. The gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday. CCCC Fine Arts Gallery's October exhibit will feature works by Tucson artist Bryan Myers. The show will open on Oct. 7 and run throughout the month. For further information, call 375-5001.

Potential environmental impacts from alternative solid waste disposal fee systems will be discussed at the Kern County workshop scheduled in Ridgecrest on Sept. 26. County personnel will be available to answer questions and to hear comments and concerns. The workshop is set for Ridgecrest City Council Chamber from 7 to 9 p.m. For further information, call (805) 861-2481.

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On Sunday, Sept. 22, the Literacy Council of Indian Wells Valley will host an open house of its new training center at 815 Bowen Street from 2 to 4 p.m.

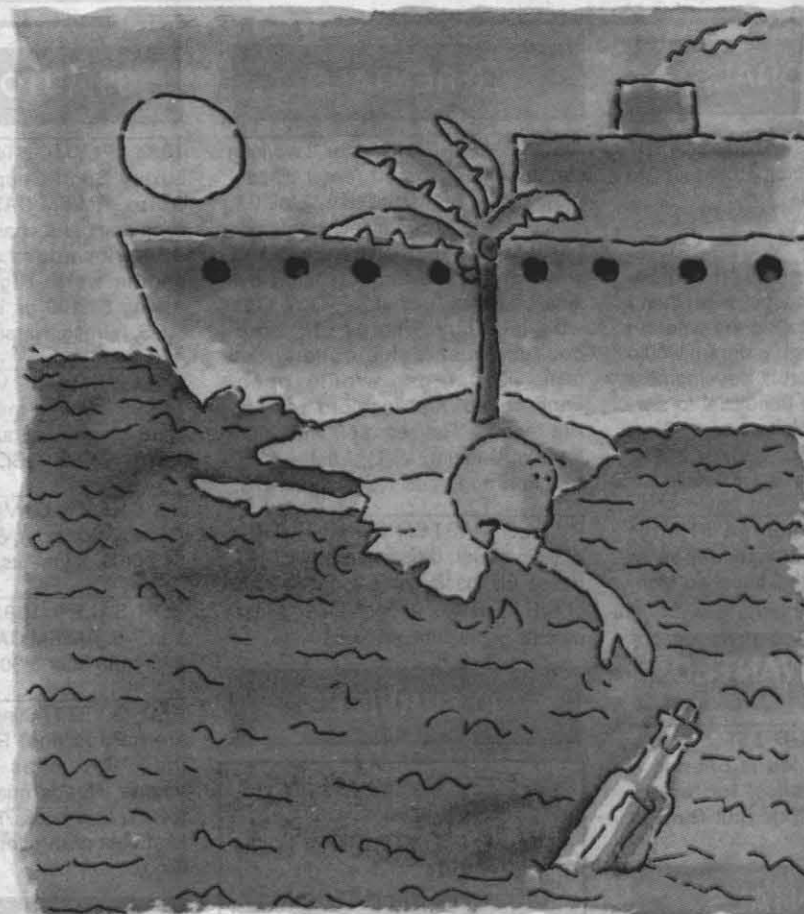
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There's support for those who have suffered a stroke or are caring for a stroke victim. The first meeting of the Stroke Survivors' Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26, in the Beverly Manor Health Care Center's lobby (1131 N. China Lake Blvd.). For more information, call Lisa Corsey at 446-3591.

###

Community Connection for Child Care presents a series of parenting tapes over the phone throughout the year. Developed by Resources for Family Development, the tape for the week of Sept. 23-30 is *What is Normal Development?*. This 3-4 minute tape explains normal growth and common terms describing development. Tapes can be heard from 5 p.m. to 10 a.m. by calling 375-0446.

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Sept. 19, 1991

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WEATHER

	Max	Min	Peak Gusts
Weds.	92	53	12
Thurs.	94	57	14
Fri.	97	60	18
Sat.	98	58	11
Sun.	99	60	12
Mon.	100	59	10
Tues.	103	56	13

Fire Division offers emergency phone number stickers

Emergency telephone stickers are available at the Fire Division Office. The stickers have the telephone numbers for ambulance, fire and police services for Naval Weapons Center employees.

To obtain these stickers, contact the Fire Division Office at NWC ext. 2146. Please order only the amount you need for the telephones in your office or building.

Submitted by Code 242.

Contract managers schedule Halloran as guest speaker

Ann Halloran, contracts manager for the Combined Effects Munition Program and the Tomahawk Program at Aerojet Ordnance in Downey, Calif., will be the guest speaker at the National Contract Management Association meeting set for Sept. 26. Halloran will give a light-hearted look at An Antidote to the TQM Lecture Virus.

The meeting will be held in the back room at El Charro Avitia, starting with a mixer a 5:30 p.m. The presentation will start at 6 p.m. Cost is \$2 for NCMA for members, \$3 for non-members.

Reservations, which are required, may be made by calling Vickey Oakley or Gina Kauppi at MACA, NWC ext. 6245/6334, by noon, Tuesday, Sept. 24.

NWC Rocketeer

Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California 93555-6001

Vol. XLVI, No. 37, September 19, 1991

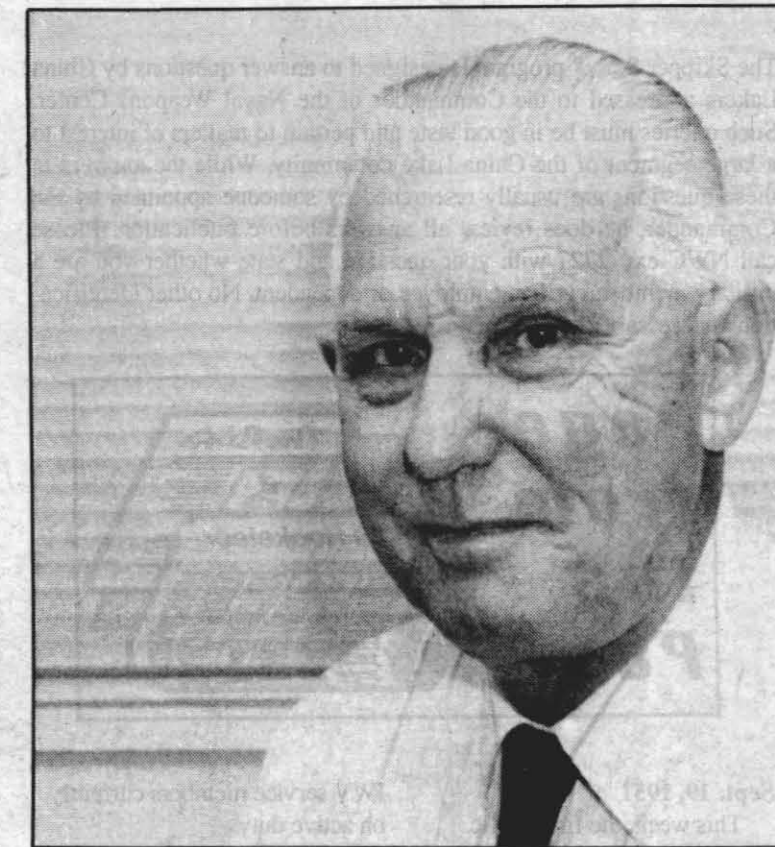
50 years: Rex Smith gives no sign he's ready to retire

By Barry McDonald
 Rocketeer Staff Writer

On his office wall is a technical drawing of the "Mk1, Mod 0 Canonball." It shows a cutaway of a six-inch iron ball filled with black powder and credits Rex Smith as the design engineer on the drawing. The merry prankster(s) responsible for the drawing gave it away as a hoax when they dated it 1897.

Everyone in the Fuze Safe-Arm Division of the Ordnance Systems Department, knows Smith couldn't have designed the canonball -- he's only been in government service 50 years! Furthermore, the design tolerance on the drawing reads, "As round as you can get it." The chemical engineer's 16 or 17 patents attest to his work being much more exacting than that. He's unsure how many patents he holds -- "I haven't counted them lately."

With the stories he tells the young engineers about what he's



Rex Smith

worked on, they might think he's the one responsible for the bogus drawing of the canonball, expecting them to believe it.

"I smoke these guys sometimes when I tell them about things I've done," he told the *Rocketeer*. "I see little lights go on and the wheels go round and round, as they're thinking, 'Naw, he couldn't have done that...it doesn't add up.' But it does. I really have done those things."

While he, indeed, was not responsible for the first canonball, long the premier weapon for pre-modern warfare, the Mk1, Mod 0 electric quib initiator, solely patented by Smith 40 years ago, has been nearly as significant in modern times. It set the standard for such devices and has played a continuing role in various weapons and other electroexplosively initiated devices.

After receiving a BS in chemistry from Wesleyan College in (Continued on Page 5)

Door closing on long Navy career

By Barry McDonald
 Rocketeer Staff Writer

With 35 years of Navy service, 22 of them as an aviator, Capt. Kenneth E. (Gene) Allen, Naval Weapons Center (NWC) Chief Staff Officer, is hanging up his wings and taking to his wheels -- his motorhome -- after the retirement party tonight and the official retirement ceremony tomorrow. The ceremony is set

for 10 a.m. on the lawn of the Headquarters Building.

"I'll be around a little longer than that, until the medical people clear me, but after that I'll be out on the job trail," he said last week. "Being a nomadic sort, I haven't found that one right place to live. I like it here and I may stay if there's a job in it, but if not, it will be the motorhome for awhile. I've established a mailing

address and an answering service, so I'll be able to get my mail and calls wherever I go."

Holding a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and with his naval experience, the captain will be looking for an acquisition management position, he said. "But if nothing turns up, that's okay...we want to be in Florida for Christmas to visit our kids (Dixie, Kenneth and

Pamela)."

Allen served as an enlisted sailor for 7 years before entering the Navy's Enlisted Scientific Education Program (NESEP), attending the University of New Mexico from 1963 to 1967 where he earned his degree.

Commissioned an ensign in the regular Navy after graduation, he applied for and was (Continued on Page 4)

Environment a challenge, not obstacle

Look at environmental excellence as an opportunity, not as an obstacle, was part of the message Capt. Douglas W. Cook, Naval Weapons Center Commander, had for Center leaders at last week's Environmental Workshop.

For 12 hours last Thursday and Friday, department heads and other key China Lakers listened to presentations on environmental cleanup and environmental stew-

ardship, and discussed issues expected to impact NWC in the future.

The Skipper said, "It's an opportunity for potential benefits in the future if we get the forefront of this issue," he said of responsible management of the Center's environment. He reminded the gathered corporate leadership of the positive efforts undertaken so far including the clean-

up of hundreds of shipping containers on-Center, income derived from the sale of scrap metal recovered on-Center and a hazardous materials management program ranked among the best in the Navy.

During the workshop, staff from the Environmental Project Office (Code 008) detailed the functions of each part of their organization, discussed budget

issues and went into depth on particular environmental challenges facing China Lake now and in the future.

An area of particular concern is the handling of hazardous materials and disposal of hazardous wastes. The Center has an aggressive hazardous materials management program, stressing, buying no more of a hazardous (Continued on Page 8)

Commentary

ROCKETEER CLASSIFIEDS

NWC Rocketeer

Published by High Desert Newspapers, Inc.
224 East Ridgecrest Blvd.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(619) 375-4481

This commercial enterprise (CE) newspaper is an authorized publication. Content of NWC ROCKETEER are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or High Desert Newspapers, Inc.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the Naval Weapons Center, China Lake. Correspondence and material for publication should be addressed to: Editor, NWC ROCKETEER, Code 0033, Naval Weapons Center.

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China Lake, CA 93555-6001; telephone (619) 939-3354; FAX: 939-2796; Deadline for receiving stories and photos is 4 p.m., **Friday** for publication on the following **Thursday**.

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The Skipper Sez...

The Skipper Sez..." program is designed to answer questions by China Lakers addressed to the Commander of the Naval Weapons Center. Such queries must be in good taste and pertain to matters of interest to a large segment of the China Lake community. While the answers to these questions are usually researched by someone appointed by the Commander, he does review all answers before publication. Please call NWC ext. 2727 with your question and state whether you are a military member, civilian employee or dependent. No other identification is necessary.

Pages from the Past



Sept. 19, 1951

This week, the first traffic light goes into place at China Lake, regulating traffic at the intersection of Blandy and Lauritsen... The NOTS football team opened its season with a 6-6 tie against Edwards AFB... Three women, Bette Swan, Sarah Chedster and Irene Bowman are members of the China Lake Rifle and Pistol Club... VADM. T.L. Sprague was a recent NOTS visitor... E.L. Crow was elected president of the China Lake Science Club... Graham Westmorland won the China Lake Photographic Society's annual contest

Sept. 16, 1966
Eugene Curry is project manager of an effort to develop a three-axis laser gyroscope for shipboard and possibly aircraft use... Arthur Rutherford was hired as business manager by the Employee Services Board... Red Cross volunteers, 124 of them, help people in the Indian Wells Valley... Police Division employees represented by AFGE Lodge 1781 agreed to a new contract with NOTS... Seabee Reservists Frank DeLeon, a Public Work employee, was called to active duty... Ridgecrest JCs announced a drive to send Christmas gifts to

IWV service members currently on active duty.

Sept. 18, 1981

Melvin Paisley, assistant secretary of the Navy designate, was at China Lake for briefings last week... Jon Matsuo in the Parachute Systems Department recently received his 13th parachute-related patent... NWC Commander, Capt. J.J. Lahr, was the guest speaker for this month's FMA meeting... NWC is again a finalist for the Navy's energy conservation program awards... Salvador Montenegro, retired Los Angeles police commissioner, was the guest speaker for Hispanic Week observance at China Lake

Sept. 19, 1986

Captain Paul Valovich arrived at NWC to take over duties as chief staff officer... Claude Bown received the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award as he retired as head of the Weapons Control Branch... Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense John Mititno was a China Lake visitor recently... China Lake Police Officer and Seabee Reservist, EO2 Tony De La Cruz, celebrated his retirement from military service... Dr. Steve Covey presented a TD Seminar on "Paradigm Shifting."

China Lake Calendar

Friday, Sept. 20
... Retirement ceremony, Capt. K.E. Allen, 10 a.m., Headquarters lawn.

Saturday, Sept. 21
... Retiree Appreciation Day, Edwards AFB

Wednesday, Sept. 25
... ESB Shoemobile visits the Naval Weapons Center.

Thursday, Sept. 26
... VX-5 Change of Command ceremony, Armitage Field, Hangar One, 2 p.m.
... Annual NWC Graduation Luncheon, 11 a.m., Seafarer Club.
... National Contract Management Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at El Charro Avitia.

Monday, Sept. 30
... RF Safety Classes, NWC Training Center, 7:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 2
... TD Seminar, Room 1000D, Michelson Lab, 9 a.m. Dr. Mike Seltzer and Dr. Denton Marrs, presenters.

JP Corner...

By Jim Alley
JP/Co-op Corner Correspondent

Keel Anthony, an electronics engineer, and Liza Dimaranan, an aeronautical engineer, are the two newest members of the Naval Weapons Center's Junior Professional (JP) Program. Anthony, a graduate from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, can be reached at his home code, the Advanced Signal Processing Branch (Code 3943), NWC ext. 6665. Dimaranan can be reached at her home code, the Warhead Dynamics Branch, NWC ext. 2296.

Attention JP/Co-op chili connoisseurs! Prepare your recipes for the JP/Co-op Chili Cookoff set for Oct. 9. Ted Bush is in charge of the arrangements. For more information, or to make an entry, give Bush a call at NWC ext. 3383.

The JP/Co-op corner and other news can now be accessed through the VAX. Enter JPNEWS at the dollar sign prompt. If you have news items to post, please contact Diane Sayer at NWC ext. 6605.

The JP/Co-op volleyball teams, the *Jp Spikers* and the *Wild Things*, are meeting for the "Battle of the JPs" at 8:45 p.m. on Sept. 25 at the Kern McGee Community Center. If interested, contact Patti Newberry at NWC ext. 6651 before Oct. 10.

Anyone interested in joining the newly formed JP Welcome Committee should contact Patti Newberry at NWC ext. 6651. The committee's emphasis is on communicating with new JPs prior to their arrival at NWC and with acclimating them afterwards.

If you have an idea for a fundraiser, attend the next JP/Co-op luncheon. The luncheon is set for 12 noon on Sept. 26 at the Seafarer Club.

The JP/Co-op Welcome Aboard luncheon is Oct. 24.

To place a news item in the JP/Co-op Corner, or to obtain more information on any of the topics mentioned above, call Jim Alley at NWC ext. 3571, Pat Backiewicz at NWC ext. 3371.

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PRC (Retired) George (Harry) Harison Funeral Service will be at 11:30 at the All Faith Chapel on Mon, 23rd.

PVT LG MASTER BR UNFURN - Walk-in closet, dressing room & bath. Incl all util, basic cable & phone. Use of H/H appls. \$300/mo. Non smoking, no pets or children. 446-6510.

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1981 PLYMOUTH SAPPORO - Luxury Sport Coupe, PS, PB, A/C, cruise, AM/FM/CASS, 4 sprk radio, shop manual & chains. Chassis, body & interior above average. Needs engine work. High book \$2,200. Asking \$1,100 as is, where is. 375-5095, lv. msg. Name & phone.

1982 YAMAHA VIRAGO 750cc. 14,000 original miles, new battery. Windscreen. Just tuned & carburator rebuilt. \$1,500 OBO. 446-7653.

88 CHEVY CAVALIER - 2 door Coupe, 4 cylinder, 5 speed. \$6,000 or \$1,000 & payments. 446-7172.

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40 MISC. FOR SALE

1910 Upright Piano by Kimball. \$1000 OBO. 446-4249.

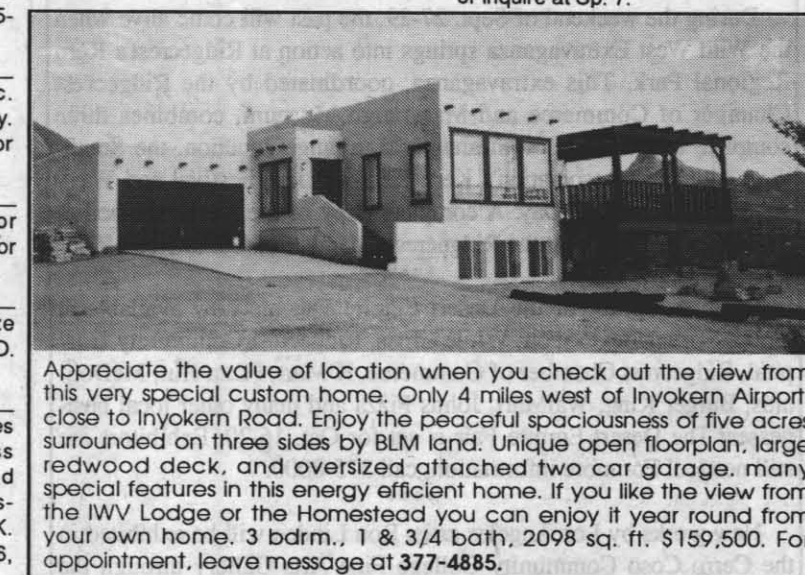
Comp super single waterbed with headboard, \$80. Adjustable Cosco car seat, newborn to toddler, \$15. High lift jack, \$35. Four each P235-15-50SR TA Radials, used, \$10 each. Kalimar camera tripod, new, \$25. Childrens play set, \$50. 446-2647.

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Ladies leather skirt, size 6, \$75. Men's leather jacket, size 42/52, \$150. Exercise bike, \$20. Water skis, \$45. Ski boots, size 9 1/2, \$75. Fuzzbuster, \$50. 446-5851.

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Co-workers short hours due to medical reasons

Employees indicated below have been approved to become leave recipients under the Leave Transfer Program. These employees have exhausted annual and/or sick leave because of personal emergencies and will be in a non-pay status for at least ten days. Employees who wish to donate annual leave to the employee should call NWC ext. 2018.

leave.

Timothy Dawson, Pre-Journalist, Code 3644 -- is indebted for leave due to throat surgery.

Anita Becker, Engineering Data Management Specialist, Code 36531 -- had surgery for removal of a spinal cord tumor and is indebted for leave.

Ron Wright, Electronics Technician, Code 3951 -- suffered a heart attack and is unable to return to work.

Susan Thompson, Secretary, Code 3935 -- is caring for her chronically ill mother and is indebted for leave.

Linda Harinek, Purchasing Agent, Code 254 -- underwent coronary angiography and is in need of leave.

Leo Montano, Visual Information Specialist, Code 3441 -- is undergoing further cancer treatment and is in need of leave.
Jay W. Hill, Code 6421, Elec-

tronic Technician - is being treated for pneumonia and valley fever and is indebted for leave.

Rick A. Breitengross (Code 36813) Engineering Technician is providing care for his step-moth-

er who is in total kidney failure and on dialysis.

Herschel R. Sibley, Mechanican Engineering Technician, Code 3571 -- underwent heart surgery and is in need of leave.

Don't forfeit leave, use donor program

(Continued from Page 18) scheduled for actual use and the amount of leave (days/hours) that was scheduled for use;

b. A statement from the department head giving the reason(s) for the proposed cancellation of approved leave and the beginning and ending date of the operational demand. This date is important because it is used to establish the time limit for the employee to use the restored leave. Failure to provide this date could result in the employee being given less time to use restored leave. Code 221 will obtain approval or disapproval

from Command and notify the department and employee.

Employees whose annual leave is restored will have the leave carried in a separate leave account. This leave must be scheduled and used no later than the end of the leave year ending two years after the ending date of the operational demand.

If employees are unable to use their leave within the leave year and do not think they can show

cause to have their leave restored, they are encouraged to consider donating the leave to those registered in the leave transfer program.

Questions regarding leave restoration can be answered by Nancy Cleland; for more information about the leave transfer program, contact Dan Burnett. Both can be reached at NWC ext. 2018 or 3892.

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Military News

Few on hand for vets' POW/MIA balloon ceremony

With tears in their eyes, a small group of people watched dozens of helium filled balloons climb high and fly free into the endless sky in front of the Headquarters Building on the Naval Weapons Center Saturday morning as the song, Proud To Be An American, played in the background. The black and white balloons represented the 2,273 people still missing in Southeast Asia.

"It is for those Americans held captive or missing in action that we come together today," said guest speaker Capt. Douglas W. Cook, Commander of the Naval Weapons Center. "America owes a special debt of gratitude to these brave individuals who gave up their freedom in the service of our country. That gratitude extends to their families who suffered the burdens of that service and live with the uncertainty of the present and the future. We must never forget our obligation to those who were taken from the comfort and security of their homes and livelihoods and sent to battlefields around the world in the name of peace and freedom.

"By joint resolution, the Congress and the President have declared by proclamation that Sept. 20, 1991 would be National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Today, we at China Lake, join the President and the country in expressing continued commitment to obtaining the fullest possible accounting for those Americans still missing and unaccounted for all American wars.

"It was by utilizing lessons learned from Southeast Asia and previous wars that there were no

remaining MIAs from Operation Desert Storm. The primary reason for the rapid return of U.S. POWs

by Iraq after Operation Desert Storm hostilities was the U.S. government's strong commitment

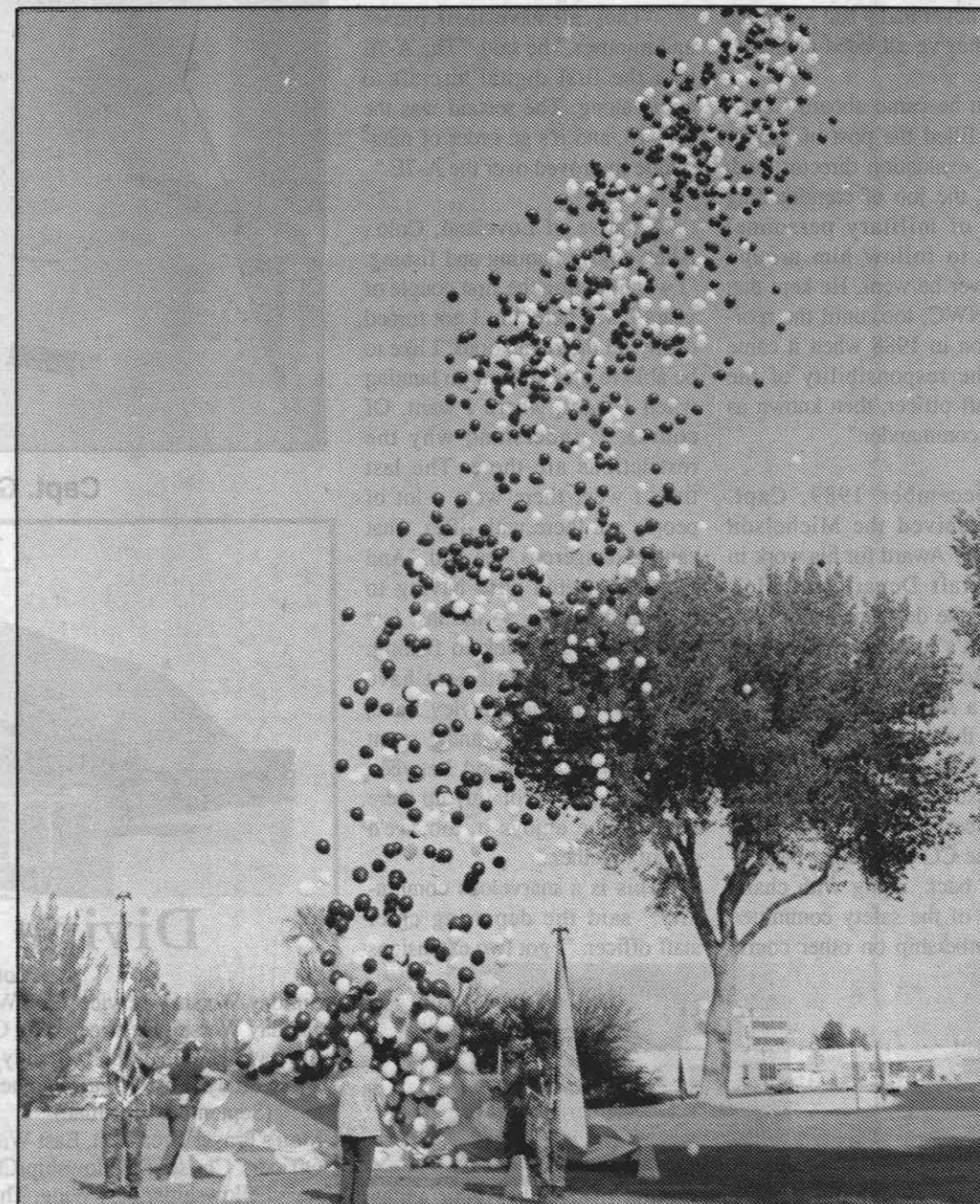
to its service men or women who were captured or listed as missing.

"Today, let us rededicate ourselves to the proposition that our nation must not rest until all U.S. personnel who are held against their will are free, the fullest possible accounting of the missing is obtained and that all recoverable American remains are repatriated. This is the least we can offer to those who dedicate their lives to America service," concluded the captain.

Another guest speaker, George Noys, an affiliate of radio stations KLOA and KZIQ, praised the courage and steadfastness of families and friends who have not given up hope and who still demand an accounting of those missing.

Mike Pruitt, president of the Vietnam Veterans of America local chapter, said, "This past year we have seen lots of things take place in this country, we've seen pride, we've seen patriotism, we've seen some things take place that I haven't seen since I was a small boy. And it will continue, it has to continue."

Pruitt urged families and friends to write to their congressmen and to be the voice of those still missing. To remember those still missing and unaccounted for. "We have to have the answers," he said. "We watch these balloons fly climb into this beautiful blue sky and in this way, we attempt to say, 'Brothers, we haven't forgotten.'"



"WE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN" -- Balloons fly free, remembering POWs/MIAs.

Navy is making adjustments to Selective Reenlistment Bonuses

Washington (NNS) -- The Navy is making adjustments to selective reenlistment bonuses (SRBs) to reflect retention and changing requirements for trained and experienced sailors with certain skills. Chief of Naval Personnel VAdm. Mike Boorda said the

SRB Program is working well and will continue into 1992 with few changes from the past year.

"Right now, the Navy is enjoying the highest retention in anyone's memory," explained Boorda. "But we still need SRBs to encourage reenlistments in ratings and special skills that are undermanned or projected for growth."

The SRB Program targets ratings with retention shortfalls. As announced in NAVADMIN 117-91, new bonuses go into effect for eligible sailors on Oct. 1. Award levels are unchanged or increased for more than three-quarters of the skill levels. More sailors actually will be eligible to receive bonuses as a result of this plan.

Of award levels reduced, Boorda said that decreases are small to limit the effect on sailors currently eligible for those bonuses. Plus, members with an EAOS

items, beverages, frozen dinners, cereals, candies and pet foods will be featured.

Mark your calendars for this special sales event, heralding a new leader in the commissary business, improved service and the start of bigger and better savings to commissary customers.

between Oct. 1 and Nov. 30 have the option of reenlisting for a bonus under the FY 91 or FY 92 plan, whichever offers the larger amount. This option applies until Oct. 31, after which the FY 92 rates apply.

Ratings added to the SRB plan include aviation structural mechanic (structures and hydraulics) and mess management specialists, all in Zone A. New SRBs also are offered for those with MECs as Marine recon team independent duty corpsmen, trained as morticians and air electronic warfare operational intelligence specialists (aircrew mec 8203). The sole rating deleted from the current SRB plan is gunner's mate (guns). For more information, contact your command career counselor.

ings during its Toyland Sale. Save money while making your children's dreams come true! Don't miss out! Check out this year's Toyland Sale at the Navy Exchange!

NEX Toyland Sale thru October 1
Attention moms and dads! Get an early start on Christmas shopping this year!
From now through October 1, the Naval Weapons Center's Navy Exchange is offering super sav-

Capt. Allen hanging up his wings and heading for the open road

(Continued from Page 1)

accepted into flight training at Pensacola. He was appointed a naval aviator in April 1969 and his first assignment was with Attack Squadron 195, making two combat deployments to Southeast Asia aboard the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk.

In all, he accumulated 259 combat missions, 80 over North Vietnam, and made a total of 625 carrier landings.

In August 1972, Allen entered the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River, Md. Following graduation, he worked for the Weapons Systems Department doing airborne weapons separation tests. He later returned to the Naval Test Pilot School as an instructor before entering the Naval War College in 1976.

After graduation, he joined Attack Squadron 37 for his squadron department head tour, making two deployments to the Mediterranean. He then served a Washington tour at the Naval Air Systems Command headquarters as deputy director for test and evaluation resources. During this tour, he also graduated from the five-month program manager's course at the Defense Systems Management College, Fort Belvoir, Va.

Then, before coming to NWC in March 1986 as head of the Aircraft Department, he commanded Fleet Composite Squadron Eight at the Naval Station, Roosevelt

Roads, Puerto Rico.

Coming to NWC as a captain-select, Allen was frocked in April 1987. He said heading the Aircraft Department "is probably the most fun job for any Navy captain here. Working with pilots and people doing the work closely related to production is very exciting. But then I can honestly say I've never had a bad job in the Navy...they've all been challenging."

When he came aboard Center he also filled the post of deputy test and evaluation director, and, he says, the job of commanding officer of military personnel seemed to follow him around where ever he went. He kept that title at NWC, too, until the reorganization in 1988 when it came under the responsibility of the chief staff officer, then known as "deputy commander."

In December 1989, Capt. Allen received the Michelson Laboratory Award for his work in the Aircraft Department. He's proud of the department for continuing its unblemished safety record to 60,000 flight hours without a serious accident in 12 years by the time he left.

Last September, when Capt. Allen assumed the post of chief staff officer, among other duties, he got the CO of military personnel job back, along with chairmanship of the safety committee and membership on other courts

and boards.

During his combat tours in Vietnam Capt. Allen flew the A-7, but he says that isn't necessarily his favorite aircraft. With the time spent at various Navy schools, he has flown 54 different aircraft in the Navy's inventory. At NWC, he's piloted F/A-18s and MU-2s.

"They all have their pluses and minuses," he said. "The A-7E was the first digital aircraft to come along. The second was the F/A-18, and it's an order of magnitude improved over the A-7E."

A native of Loveland, Colo., Allen enjoys hunting and fishing. "I went hunting the first couple of years I was here, but I got turned off by all the regulations. I like to be able to pick up and go hunting when I want, where I want. Of course, I understand why the restrictions are there. The last time I went there were a lot of people out there with rifles. That can get dangerous," he said. "And I got frustrated with having to rely on the draw, so the last few years, I've just stuck to fishing. My motorhome and boat have been parked near Crowley Lake, and my wife Nancy and I spent nearly every weekend between April and the 4th of July up there fishing. She enjoys it, too; we'd go out together."

"This is a marvelous community," said the departing chief staff officer. "I got two extensions

while I was here...that should tell you something...It's been great working with such a variety of people. They're very professional and produce a lot of quality work."



Capt. Gene Allen



Divine Services

Protestant	
Sunday Worship Service, East Wing	8:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service, Main Chapel	10:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 1008-10 Blandly & 1903-05 Mitscher	9:00 a.m.
Bible Study (East Wing), Wednesday	11:30 a.m.
(September thru June)	
Men's Prayer Breakfast, East Wing, Thursday	6:30 a.m.
Officers' Christian Fellowship/Christian Military Fellowships, East Wing, Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Islamic	
Jumaa Prayer (Friday at 1002 Blandly)	1 p.m. (DST) 12 p.m.(ST)
Roman Catholic	
Sunday Mass, Main Chapel	9:00 a.m.
Daily Mass, Small Chapel	11:35 a.m.
Confessions, Weekdays	By appointment
Religious Education Classes (Sunday)	10:15 a.m.
(September thru May)	
1902 Dobb, 1002 Blandly, 1008-10 Blandly & 1903-05 Mitscher	
Scripture Classes, Tuesdays (October-January)	7-8:30 p.m.
St. Ann's Parish Hall	
Jewish	
(375-0385 Messages)	
Weekly Services (Friday - East Wing)	7:30 p.m.
Adult Hebrew Lessons (Saturday, East Wing)	
(September thru June)	
Religious Education (Sunday, East Wing)	3:00-5:00 p.m.
(September thru June)	
	9:00 a.m.-12 (noon)

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September's Threshold

September again! And didn't those long-awaited summer months sail by quickly?!?! For most of us, vacations are now counted along with other good memories of the past; the first day of school has been a kind of "Liberation Day" for many weary parents; and, if we think about it, we stand at the beginning of this month on the threshold of another run of American holidays that punctuate our lives with reasons to celebrate, to be joyful, to be glad to be alive. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Hannukah and Christmas. . . . all on the horizon, as is the beginning of another year hopefully filled with "something better this time around."

In sharp contrast to the summer months which focus their activities on the family, personal time for refreshing the body and soul and journeys to intriguing sites both near and far away, the next few months are a special time of year when people are invited to experience a sense of community that reaches beyond family or respective church boundaries. Witness the delightful parade of neighbors' children on Halloween, ringing doorbells and brightly transforming city streets by a walking display of comicbook, storybook and popular heroes.

Think of the celebration of Thanksgiving which brings out the "decorative" and "creative" in most, inspiring a need to share, to bask, as it were, in the warmth of friends who, likewise, are moved to give thanks for all that they have received. It is a time for hospitality, a time to experience the "commonality" of everyone, a time to regard ourselves as children of a loving God who tolerates our weaknesses and encourages our sharing.

It is Christmas cheer and Hannukah joy that motivate us more than at any other season to "reach out and touch someone," as the commercial jingle urges.

We can look ahead to all of this as we stand on September's threshold, and we should be, likewise, all of the more eager to think about and to thank the God Who provides these occasions for celebrating life, love and each other by giving us the grace and strength to stand on that threshold once again.

While conscious of that eternal goal toward which each of us in his or her own way is steadily moving, let us equally savor the wonder of the God-given days ahead.

By LCdr. S.A. Casimano, CHC, USN Command Chaplain

Reassignment opportunities

This column is used to fill positions through reassignment only. For this reason, the Reassignment Opportunity Announcements are separate from the Promotion Opportunities column in the Rocketeer. Applications will be accepted until the date stated in the announcement. Employees whose work history has not been brought up to date are encouraged to file an SF-171 or 172. All applications must meet minimum qualification requirements established by the Office of Personnel Management. Information concerning the recruitment and placement program and the evaluation methods used in these reassignment opportunities may be obtained from Personnel Management Advisors (Code 096 or 097). Applications should be filed with the person whose name is listed in the announcement. The Naval Weapons Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

No. 64-040, **Interdisciplinary (Mathematician/Physicist)**, DP-1520/1310-2/3, Code 64112 - This position is located in the Data Analysis Section of the Systems Development Branch. The section is responsible for the conduct of a variety of computer related tasks including software development, reduction and analysis of test data, data visualization, data base management, and computer systems management. The incumbent will perform duties in support of section activities primarily in the areas of software development, data reduction and analysis, and data visualization. It is necessary for the incumbent to have a working knowledge of the C and/or FORTRAN programming languages. It is desirable for the applicant to have a knowledge of numerical analysis and digital signal processing techniques; familiarity with the UNIX operation system and UNIX system programming; graphics programming experience; and X Windows programming experience. The incumbent must be able to obtain and maintain a secret clearance. Promotional potential to DP-3, but not guaranteed. To apply send an updated SF-171 to Cal Kato, Code 6411, NWC Ext. 3364.

CSUN needs instructors for classes on-Center

California State University, Northridge (CSUN) is looking for instructors to teach courses offered through the CSUN external degree program on-Center. The courses expected to be offered during the 1992 spring semester are listed below:

- EE 525N: Microprocessor Appl. in Engineering,
- EE 552N: Digital Signal Processing II,
- ME 590: Advanced Fluid Dynamics,
- AM 542: Finite Elements Method in Mechanics, and
- IE 5YY: Software Engineering Course.

Individuals who are interested in teaching one or more of these courses, and have at least a master's degree, are asked to forward their resumes to Cecil Webb, Code 224, by Sept. 26. For more information, please call Webb at NWC ext. 2648.

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Cancelled leave may be restored if stipulated conditions are met

Employees may have annual leave cancelled because of on-the-job operational demands restored for later use provided the following conditions are met: (1) the operational demands are of such major importance as to preclude the use of scheduled annual leave, and (2) the annual leave must be scheduled at least three pay periods prior to the end of the leave year. The leave year ends on Jan. 11. Therefore, leave must be scheduled prior to Dec. 1. Requests for restoration of annual leave should

be sent to the head, Employee Management Relations Division (Code 221), as soon as possible after the on-the-job operational demand is known and prior to the cancellation of the leave. The following documentation supporting the claim must be provided with the request:

- The SF-71, Application for Leave, showing the date the leave was scheduled (must be prior to Dec. 1), the date(s) during which the leave was

(Continued on Page 18)

Gallery Hosts Premiere Film on Doolittle's "Sacred Circle"



Studio Eight will be hosting the regional premiere of a special documentary film on September 26 at 7:30 p.m. What makes it so special is that the focal point of the film is an important work of art with a far reaching environmental impact.

"You shouldn't miss *Sacred Circle: Conserving Nature's Delicate Balance*," says Chuck Cutsinger. "It imparts an important message about the environment, by showing the real-life efforts of conservationists and wildlife habitats. It's really a fascinating documentary about making the right choices for our environment."

The inspiration for the film is Bev Doolittle's latest limited edition fine art prints, *Sacred Circle*. She is the continent's most sought-after, best-selling artist of limited edition fine art prints.

"The sacred circle is the circle of life," Doolittle explains. "It's the delicate thread that unites all living things. Only man knowingly holds the thread. Of all the animals, only he has the intelligence to protect and preserve it. Only he can be the keeper of the sacred circle."

Her limited edition print, *Sacred Circle*, symbolically portrays that delicate thread by portraying eight images of endangered wildlife around a central image of a native American Indian. Although there are nine individual panels, when they are joined together in the final print, a section of white in each panel waves together to make a "sacred circle" around the man.

Filmed in seven states over a period of eight months, *Sacred Circle: Conserving Nature's Delicate Balance* is coshored by the artist herself and Marcellus Bear Heart Williams, a holy man of the Mesocogee Creek Nation, who was so impressed by the message of life in the painting that he wanted to share his knowledge and feelings of how man and nature should live together in harmony.

"As I looked at what (Bev Doolittle) painted," says Bear Heart, "every panel has a story of its own - stories within stories - and yet the common denominator of the whole story ... is life."

Together they explore the unique spiritual connection between man and nature by taking the viewer on a journey of ecological enlightenment in the Rockies' Yellowstone National Park where Bear Heart performs a traditional Native American Sacred Circle Ceremony. The video also explores the wolf ranges of the western Great Lakes, and the eagle sanctuaries of the colonial South.

All this comes together to make for a special premiere that has resonance in both the art world, film world, and the environment. "We're very proud to be hosting the regional premiere of this extraordinary film at the gallery on September 26 at 7:30 p.m.," says Chuck Cutsinger. "It's all part of a program to promote conservation education. The print is on display and available for sale, with a complimentary copy of the video included with every purchase. Even better, a portion of every sale will benefit the National Wildlife Federation, and the Canadian Wildlife Federation. It's a wonderful way to have a positive effect as well to collect a special work of art." (Call 446-7977 for RSVP).

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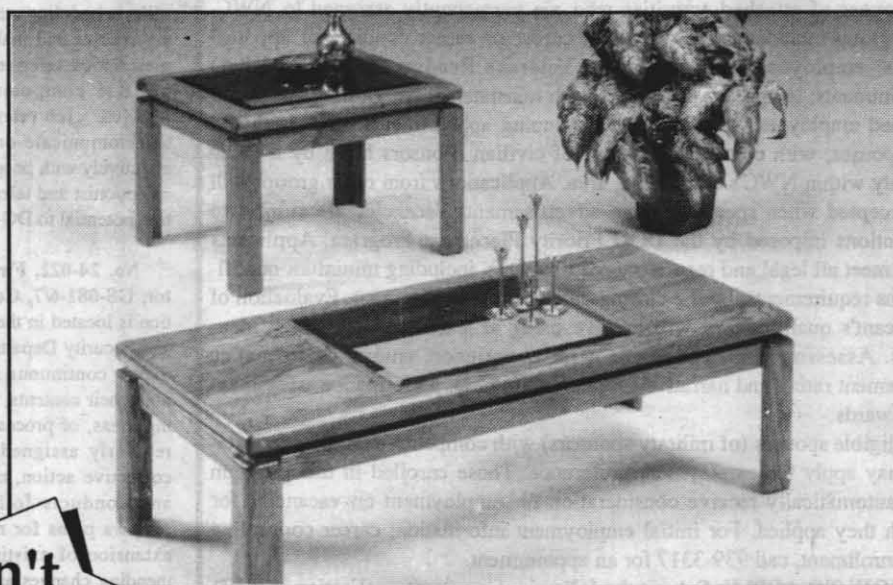
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Longevity a continuing theme in Smith's endeavors

(Continued from Page 1)

his native West Virginia, Smith started his federal service career in August 1941 in a temporary job as a time/motion inspector for the Army Quartermaster Corps, in Morgantown, W. Va.

"It was sort of a fun job. I got to run around all over the plant making sure everyone was doing their job. I climbed a 100-foot tower every day to make sure no one was hiding up there. It was just a temporary job while I waited for my clearance. In those days you couldn't get hired until you were cleared -- they didn't have 'interim' clearances," he said.

The Navy made him a chemical warfare officer and then a corpsman.

In December 1941, he transferred to the New River Ordnance Plant in Pulaski, Va., where he inspected charges and igniters. The charge was an 18-inch long canvass bag of grain explosive. The igniter was a small bag of black powder sewn on the end of the charge. As often seen in World War II movies and newsreels, these charges followed projectiles into the breeches of big guns...the result of several product improvement programs on the canon/canon ball system!

In April 1942, the young chemist went to work at the Radford Ordnance Plant in Radford, Va., where he was involved in what he feels is one of the most significant changes in propellant technology -- the evolution of extruded ballistic double-base propellants. It involved combining nitroglycerin and nitrocellulose in a dough-like mixture, pressing the mixture through a die and letting it harden into sticks.

"These were the first solid propellants. They were a spinoff of Dr. Robert H. Goddard's rocket work in New Mexico. Before this, the only propellants we had were the same as pyrotechnics used in fireworks rockets, he said. "This work was almost as secret as the Manhattan Project; everything was compartmented. I didn't know what they were doing with it, but I can remember addressing shipments to Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, Inyokern Facility," (Cal Tech scientists and engineers were the civilian half of the mili-

tary-civilian team that in 1943 established the Naval Ordnance Test Station (NOTS), Inyokern, now the Naval Weapons Center (NWC), China Lake.)

Smith joined the Navy in June of 1944 and was initially trained as a Chemical Warfare Officer. When it became apparent the technology would not be used in the war, the group was suddenly cut back, its members reassigned en masse to other groups without regard for their training or background. Smith became a corpsman and spent most of his 2-year tour in training centers at San Diego and Great Lakes, Ill.

After the war, Smith returned to Radford for a short time before it was shut down and then transferred to Ballistic Research Laboratories (BRL) at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. He worked as an aerodynamist conducting studies of the exterior ballistics of projectiles and bombs. The laboratory in which he worked was later duplicated at NOTS and dubbed Thompson Lab, where similar ballistics tests were performed before it was partitioned and turned into office space.

"I enjoyed the work at BRL, I interfaced with some of the people who were building and testing German V-2s after the war, and I even met some of the scientists they brought over from Germany," the 50-year man said.

In 1948, a NOTS scientist, Dr. Howard Kelly, who regularly worked with Smith asked him, "Why don't you come out and work with us?" So he did, starting as a chemist in the Explosives Department, working in Area R on the Liquid Aircraft Rocket (LAR).

"When I came here it was kind of grim. The duplexes were just under construction and there was a lot of loose sand around. The most startling thing was the weather. When the wind blew it really blew, and that sand would take your paint in nothin' flat," he said. "I remember standing around talking at the service station when a guy drove in from Inyokern through a sandstorm. His front end and windshield were frosted. One year the wind blew front glass out of the guard shack at the front gate."

"LAR was very fast. But, like a lot of programs, we worked on it for awhile and it was discontinued. Of course the Navy has never been very happy about carrying ordnance with liquid

engines on ships," he said with a grin.

A couple of years later, when working on the 2.75-inch rocket, Smith took an off-the-shelf ceramic electric initiator, redesigned it and patented the Mk 1, Mod 0 initiator. He fumbled through his top desk drawer and came out with a device like a sawed-off 22 casing, the opening sealed, with two small insulated wires protruding from it.

"There's one. Here...it's inert," offering it for inspection. "I used to have one of the old ones around, but it was cast in clay and over the years I guess it just crumbled away. That's what I did...came up with a better solution...I put it in a copper alloy casing and added the Bakelite plug to protect it from moisture and to improve its life cycle."

In addition to the 2.75-inch rocket, the squib was used in early Sidewinder, various other weapons and is still being used in Zuni. The vibrant rocket scientist said, "I think it's used in HVAR,

Smith worked with Bob Hillyer starting with his tour at NOL in Corona.

and it's being used in smoke devices. If I had the time, I'm sure I could find some other applications. As of five years ago, they'd made over 30 million of them, so it's being used a lot."

He continued working with rocket motors, pyrotechnics and explosives until he moved to the Naval Ordnance Laboratory in Corona in 1961. His title was changed to chemical engineer, and he worked on the fuze section of different versions of Sidewinder and other programs.

At Corona, Smith worked in the explosives group with Vic Lowry and Bob Hillyer, who later became NWC technical director and then Director of Navy Labs. While they were working on Walleye and Bullpup, to his knowledge, they were the first to use a new method to test and predict the reliability of each interface in the explosive train (the series of linked explosives leading to the warhead).

"We couldn't afford to fire the hundreds of test shots that were usually done, and we had heard of Varicomp, so we more or less put our necks on the line to say this new technology would give us accurate reliability numbers." By having consistent response to adjacent explosions, Varicomp

(coined from *variable composition*) could be used as a substitute for the receiving explosive. "Penalizing" the receiver by varying the mixture, they mathematically predicted the reliability of each interface in relatively few shots.

"It became a scientific procedure, then, rather than trial-and-error testing," he said. Varicomp reliability testing has since become the standard method for evaluating collateral explosive devices.

When Corona was consolidated with NWC in late 1970, Smith returned as an employee of the Fuze Department where he stayed until his group became a part of the Ordnance Systems Department in the reorganization of 1988. His work has continued in the same area of explosives, igniters and propellants. In the early 80s he worked on the explosive train for the mechanical fuze on Harpoon.

His most recent patent (with Steve Fowler and Pat Yates) is for a film-bridge electric initiator, intended to be the "better solution" than the conventional wire-bridge initiator. They developed an integrated circuit chip to replace the wire-bridge that will be lower cost, faster functioning and have increased reliability, improved safety and extended service life. They're hoping this new technology can be used in Advanced Standard Missile and many other missile systems currently using the wire-bridge initiator.

Still possessing a full complement of fingers, Smith is a big proponent of safety. He teaches a segment of the safety course for firing officers.

Reflecting on his time at NOTS/NWC, another patent of which he's especially proud is for a weather modification product proven to stop or alter the course of hurricanes, and that also causes rain to fall from clouds that might otherwise just pass by.

He remembers the 1958 visit of Dr. Werner Von Braun, who spoke on the possibility of space flight. "The old community center auditorium was just a little over half full...there were a lot of doubting engineers who didn't even attend because they thought spaceflight wasn't possible.

And then, when NOTS itself tried to get in on the space race, Smith was on the team that developed and launched NOT-SNIK.

He says he'd like to fish in his spare time...if I had any spare time, but being a director of the Indian Wells Valley Water District takes up most of it."

Longevity seems to be a theme in Smith's endeavors. He'll be up for re-election to his fourth four-year term in November. He says he's very pleased with the results of all the time and effort that went into the recent assumption and restoration of the Ridgecrest Heights Water District.

"I'm proud to have been a part (Continued on Page 8)

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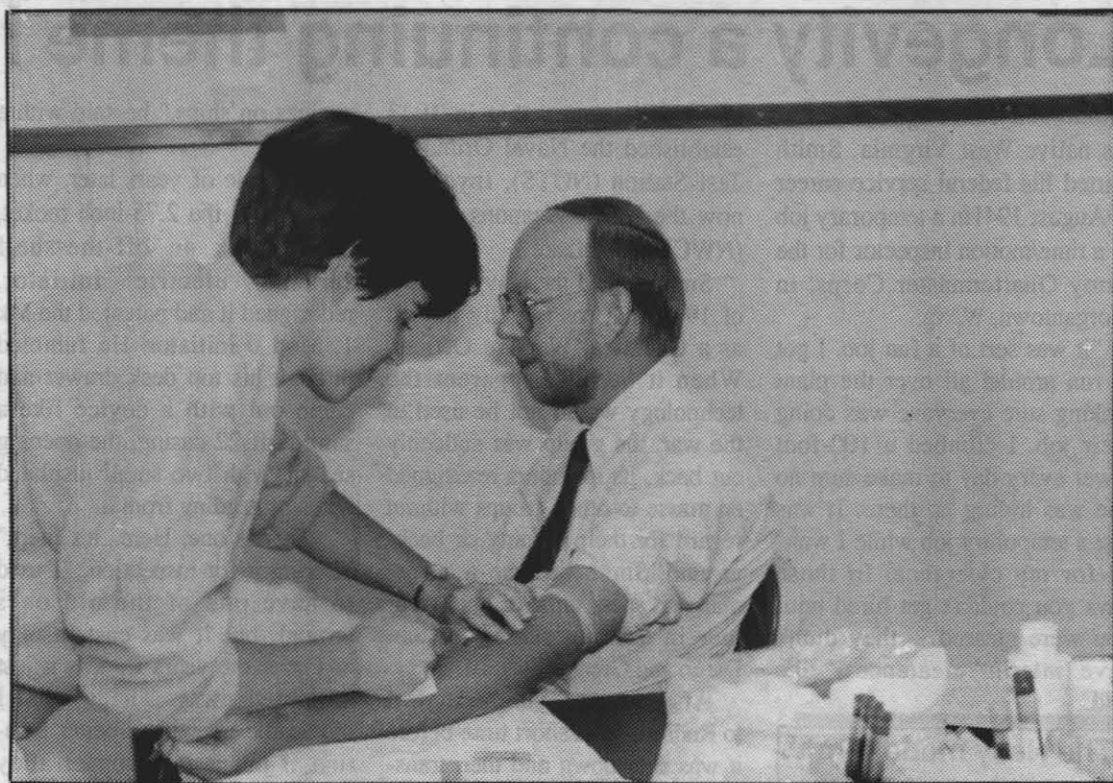
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Wellness Blood draw continues

The NWC Wellness Program is providing all Center employees an opportunity for a low cost blood analysis. The blood test analysis will include kidney and liver enzymes, total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides, glucose, and a complete blood count. Participants must abstain from eating any food or drinking anything other than water for 12 hours before their blood draw. Alcohol should not be consumed within 24 hours of the test. The draws begin at 7 a.m. on dates and at the locations listed below. The cost is \$18. Payment is required at the time of the draw. Make checks payable to MWR. Appointments may be made via computer by connecting to the SCFC VAX and typing in WELLNESS at both the "username" and "password" prompts. Options will appear on the screen allowing you to select the preferred time and location for your appointment. Fitness assessments will not be available until the Spring. If you have access to another VAX on the network, log on and type "set host safe". If you do not have access to a computer, call the Wellness Program Office, NWC ext. 2468, and leave a message giving your name, extension, code, and the preferred date, location, and time you want your appointment.

Blood draw dates, locations

- Sept. 20 (Fri) -- Mich Lab, "Little D" Conference Room
- Sept. 24 (Tues) -- Public Works, Bldg. 981, Conference Room
- Sept. 25 (Wed) -- CLPL, Bldg. 151, Room 10; call Sandy Brown for appt., ext. 7417
- Sept. 26 (Thurs) -- Armitage Field: NAF-80, Bldg. 20192
- Sept. 27 (Fri) -- Training Center, Room 114



NO PAIN--NWC Laboratory Director, Sterling Haaland, was among the early participants in the fall blood draw sponsored by the Center's Wellness Program. The program continues through next Friday for all interested Center employees.

Photo by Tim Tyson, TID

Researchers talk lasers for TD Seminar

Two Naval Weapons Center scientists from the Research Department will present a Technical Director's Seminar on Oct. 2 in Michelson Laboratory's Room 1000D at 9 a.m. Dr. Michael Seltzer of the Chemistry Division will present a paper on *Solid-State Laser Materials for Naval Applications*. This was named the best Navy independent research paper in FY-90. Dr. Denton Marrs, of the Physics Division, will present a paper on *Laser Initiation of BKNO₃ and CH-6 and the Reflectance of Several Common High Explosives*. This paper was accorded honors as the best Navy independent exploratory development paper in FY-90.

Mike Seltzer earned his doctoral degree in chemistry and the University of Connecticut in 1986. He came to NWC as a post-doctoral research fellow in 1986 and in late 1988 became a permanent member

of the Instrumental Chemical Analysis Branch. His research interests include solid state lasers, the application of lasers to chemical analysis and development of on-line analytical instrumentation for monitoring hazardous emissions.

A China Laker since 1980, C. Denton Marrs earned his doctoral degree in physics from Kansas State University in 1980. He is a research physicist with the Quantum Surface Dynamics Branch. He is the author or co-author of seven open-literature publications in the areas of lasers, laser effects and diagnostic development. He holds seven patents in these areas with two more patent applications being processed. Among his research areas are characterization of lasers used in performing laser-induced damage tests and studies in novel laser gain media for the visible and near-infrared spectral band.

Lions Eyemobile visits area, testing for glaucoma

In an effort to find the one in 40 local residents who is suffering from undetected glaucoma, Ridgecrest's Lions Club is bring-

ing the Eyemobile Screening Unit to the Maturango Museum on Sept 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Lions Glaucoma Screening Unit will screen anyone of legal age on a first come, first served basis. For information, call Gerry Baker at 375-9161.

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Personnel News

Promotional opportunities

Applications for positions listed below are being accepted from Department of Navy employees currently working at NWC and from eligible employees of attached activities who are permanently assigned to NWC. This group includes employees with career or career conditional appointments; employees with permanent Veterans Readjustment Act (VRA) appointments; temporary employees with reinstatement eligibility; and handicapped employees with Sch. (A) continuing appointments. Also included are spouses, with competitive status, of civilian sponsors hired by a DOD activity within NWC's commuting area. Applications from other groups will be accepted when specified in an advertisement. Vacancies are subject to restrictions imposed by the DOD Priority Placement Program. Applicants must meet all legal and regulatory requirements, including minimum qualifications requirements, by the closing date of the advertisement. Evaluation of applicant's qualifications will involve using at least two assessment measures. Assessment measures are work experience, annual performance assessment rating and narrative, education, training, performance assessment and awards.

Eligible spouses (of military sponsors) with competitive employment status may apply for employment preference. Those enrolled in this program will automatically receive consideration for employment on vacancies for which they applied. For initial employment information, career counseling and enrollment, call 939-3317 for an appointment.

HOW TO APPLY: Submit the following: a current application, SF-171 or other Human Resources Department pre-approved form; a copy of your most recent annual performance assessment narrative (note: a copy of your performance plan should be attached if the annual performance narrative description does not clearly state the tasks/duties performed); and a completed Background Survey Questionnaire. A supplemental narrative which relates your qualifications to each knowledge, skill or ability (KSAs) as cited in the advertisement is always desirable and may be required if stated in the vacancy announcement. Write the title, series, level (grade), and announcement number on all application materials. Not submitting the annual performance narrative may adversely affect your evaluation scores. Prior to submitting your application, complete Cover Sheet Form 12335/2, available at the reception desk. **Make sure your address, phone number, etc. are current, correct and that all forms are complete and accurate.** If information is missing, your qualifications may not be fully and completely rated. Additional information cannot be submitted after the closing date of the announcement. A current date and a signature on the last page completes the application. Civilian Spousal Program Eligibles with competitive employment status must submit a copy of their sponsor's PCS orders with each application in order to be considered for Merit Promotion vacancies which do not state that status eligibles may apply.

Application materials are accepted, and blank forms are available, at the Reception Desk, Room 100, Human Resources Department, 505 Blandly. Announcements close at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, one week after the opening date of the announcement, unless otherwise specified. Applications received after 4:30 p.m. on the closing date will not be considered. Copies of Applications may be submitted since applications are kept in an announcement file and cannot be returned or filed in personnel folders. The Naval Weapons Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer; selections are made without discrimination for any non-merit reason.

Notice Regarding Drug Testing Designated Positions

Any applicant tentatively selected for one of these positions will be required to submit to urinalysis to detect illegal use of drugs prior to a final selection. Final selection is contingent upon a negative drug test result, and thereafter the selectee will be subject to drug testing on a random basis as the incumbent of a Testing Designated Position (TDP). Further, all Department of the Navy employees may be subject to drug testing under certain circumstances such as reasonable suspicion and after an accident. All individuals will have an opportunity to submit medical documentation that may support the legitimate use of a specific drug to a Medical Review Officer. An applicant's test results will be provided to the selecting official and servicing Civilian Personnel Office before a final selection is made. A verified positive drug test of a current Department of the Navy employee will also be provided to the employing activity/command. (NAVWPNCENINST 12792.2, 14 Dec 90).

No. 24-021, Safety Clerk (Typing), DG-303-1/2, Code 2405. This position is located in the Safety Program Office, Safety and Security Department. The incumbent provides clerical and administrative support to the program office staff. Duties include: answering in-coming calls, scheduling student for safety training courses and making appointments for prescription safety eye wear. Knowledge of IBM computers desired, but not required. **Job relevant criteria:** Ability to communicate orally; Ability to deal effectively with people; Ability to perform receptionist and telephone duties. Promotion potential to DG-2, but not guaranteed.

No. 24-022, Fire Protection Inspector, GS-081-6/7, Code 24202. This position is located in the Fire Division, Safety and Security Department. The incumbent makes continuous inspections of buildings, their contents, utilities and surrounding areas, of processes and operations in regularly assigned areas; recommends corrective action, makes written reports and conducts follow-up inspections; reviews plans for new construction and extension of existing structures recommending changes and additions to ensure compliance with fire prevention and protection requirements. Incumbent tests, services and installs fire equipment, fire doors, sprinkler systems, alarms, etc. Presents fire prevention training and instructions, and conducts evacuation and fire drills. **Job relevant criteria:** Knowledge of fire prevention inspection principles; Knowledge of the physical layout of NWC, including the airfield; Ability to communicate in writing; Ability to communicate orally; Skill in testing, servicing and installing fire equipment, fire doors, sprinkler systems, alarms, etc. **Supplemental Qualification Statement is required to address the job relevant criteria.** Individual selected for this position

will be subject to urinalysis testing for use of illicit drugs. See "NOTICE REGARDING DRUG TESTING DESIGNATED POSITIONS" in "Promotional Opportunities" box above. Promotion potential is GS-7, but not guaranteed.

No. 27-006, Supervisory Information Resources Manager, DP-301-3/4, Code 274. This position is that of Head, Information Resources Technology Support Division, Information Systems Group. As Division Head, the incumbent directs a multi-disciplined organization which is responsible for the development and administration of contract vehicles which effectively and economically acquire FIP equipment, contractor support, software and maintenance for the Center utilizing a centralized single action approach. He/she supports selected Center-wide Omnibus FIP contracts, and Center Departments as requested; provides liaison, coordination and planning with Naval Weapons Center organizations in support of joint Navy Lab/overall Navy IRM Policy and acquisition programs; coordinates the review, approval and acquisition of NWC FIP/C&IS resources and furnishes guidance to the Center in the preparation of annual C&IS plans and monitoring of the C&IS tracking systems. The Division serves as the Center's C&IS Approval Authority and keeps departmental points apprised of changes in policy or procedures related to the FIP arena. The Division also serves as Technical Monitor for the Center's PC Lab which is organizationally under the Division. **Job Relevant Criteria:** Knowledge of Acquisition Processes; knowledge of Federal Acquisition Regulations; knowledge of SECNAVINST 5231.1B; knowledge of Federal Information Resources Management Regulations; knowledge of GSA, NISMC and SPAWAR organizations; knowledge of affirmative action principles

including a willingness to implement NWC's EEO practices and policies; ability to plan, organize, coordinate and manage a project. Selectee may be required to serve a one year supervisory probation period. Promotion potential to DP-4, but not guaranteed. This announcement closes 10-3-91.

No. 32-017, Multidisciplinary (Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Physical Science Technician), DT-802/1311-1/2/3, Code 3212. This position is located in the Thermal and Process Evaluation Branch, Energetic Materials Division of the Ordnance Systems Department. Incumbent is responsible for learning safe procedures for explosives processing operations, achieving skilled operator status and using the skills to complete a variety of operations. Activities include handling, mixing, pressing and loading developmental explosives. Additional tasks include participating in process planning, making and documenting process observations, collecting data, writing summary reports to customers and maintaining a clean orderly work area. Lifting materials up to 70 pounds is a common element of this position. Incumbent is required to participate in the Respiratory Protection Program. **Job Relevant Criteria:** DT-1: Knowledge of elementary physics and/or chemistry; knowledge of basic mathematics; knowledge of ordnance safety; knowledge of personal computers used for word processing and spread sheets; ability to communicate in writing; ability to communicate orally. DT-2/3: Knowledge of elementary physics and/or chemistry; knowledge of basic mathematics; knowledge of ordnance explosive devices and explosives safety; knowledge of personal computers used for word processing and spread sheets; ability to communicate in writing; ability to communicate orally. Promotion potential to DT-3, but not guaranteed.

Secretarial opportunities

This column is used to announce secretary positions for which the duties and job relevant criteria are generally similar. Secretaries serve as the principal clerical and administrative support in the designated organization by coordinating and carrying out such activities. Secretaries perform numerous tasks which may be dissimilar. Positions at lower grades consist primarily of clerical and procedural duties and, as positions increase in grades, administrative functions become predominant. At the higher levels, secretaries apply a considerable knowledge of the organization, its objectives and lines of communication. Depending on grade level, typical secretary duties are implied by the job relevant criteria indicated below.

Applicants will be rated against four or more of the following job relevant criteria: (1) ability to perform receptionist and telephone duties; (2) ability to review, track, screen and distribute incoming mail; (3) ability to review outgoing correspondence; (4) ability to compose correspondence and/or prepare non-technical reports; (5) knowledge of filing systems and files management; (6) ability to meet the administrative needs of the office; (7) ability to train clerical personnel and organize workload of clerical staff processes; (8) ability to plan and coordinate travel arrangements; (9) ability to maintain and coordinate supervisor's calendar and to arrange conferences.

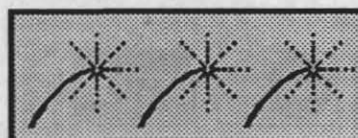
Unless otherwise indicated, applicants for branch secretary will be rated on elements 1/2/3/5/8; division secretary applicants will be rated on elements 1/2/3/4/7/8/9; Program Office secretary applicants will be rated on elements 1/2/3/4/5/8/9; and department secretary applicants will be rated on elements 4/7/8/9. A SUPPLEMENTAL FORM IS REQUIRED AND MAY BE OBTAINED IN ROOM 100 OF THE PERSONNEL BUILDING.

No. 31-014, Secretary (Typing), DG-318-1/2, Code 3131. The incumbent will provide secretarial and administrative support to the Radar Warning Receivers (RWR) Branch. Ability to operate a Macintosh computer is necessary. The full performance level of this position is DG-2. Previous applicants need not reapply.

No. 31-017, Secretary (Typing), DG-318-1/2, Code 3183. This position provides secretarial and administrative support to the Systems Engineering Branch. Knowledge and working skill on the Macintosh II, and related software is desirable. The incumbent is responsible for providing support to a team of engineers to include travel and security arrangements, timely submission of progress reports, and tracking the financial status of projects.

Must presently have a Secret clearance. The full performance level of this position is DG-2. Previous applicants need not reapply.

No. 38-008, Secretary (Typing), DG-318-1/2, Code 3894. This position is located in the Research Department, Engineering Sciences Division, Warhead Dynamics Branch. The incumbent provides secretarial and administrative support to the Branch Head and staff. Additionally, incumbent will assist elsewhere in the Department when needed and workload permits and may be called upon to assist editorial assistants during times of heavy workload. Knowledge and working skills on the Macintosh SE/SE-30/II is desirable. Promotion potential is DG-2.



Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month
September 15 - October 15

Sports



TOP BOWLERS - *Gonna Be First* lived up to its name and became the first place winners in the Summer Code Bowling League at Hall Memorial Lanes. Throughout the long summer months, eight teams from codes throughout the Center competed for the championship title. *Gonna Be First*, representing Code 119 (the Bowling Alley), consisted of (l to r) Debra (Poindexter) Andersen, Bill Booth and Mitzi Nichols. The team's fourth player, Jack Nichols, was not available for the photograph. Photo by PH3 Cary Brady

Bowling leagues have openings

There are still openings in winter bowling leagues offered by Hall Memorial Lanes. Various leagues include Mixed League, which plays on Mondays and Wednesdays; Men's League, which takes the lanes on Tuesdays; and Women's League, which plays each Wednesday.

"Anyone can play in a league," said Bill Booth, Hall Memorial Lanes' manager, "even people who have never bowled before. It's a great way to relax, meet new friends and to learn how to bowl."

For more information, call Hall Memorial Lanes at NWC ext. 3471.

Rattlesnake Relay is tonight

On your mark, get set, go! The *Rattlesnake Relay*, sponsored by the Over the Hill Track Club, takes place at McBride Park tonight, Sept. 19, at 5:30 p.m. Registration starts at 4:30 p.m.

Each member of the three-person team will run a 3.3 mile loop, with times adjusted according to a handicap system based on age, sex and ability. Teams can consist of males, females or a combination thereof. In addition, family members can participate as a team under the Family category.

For more information, call Jo Kajiwara at 375-1779.

Prepare for summer and winter when fishing lakes in Eastern Sierra region

Weather is fluctuating in the Eastern Sierra region, notes the Bishop Chamber of Commerce fishing report. Be sure to bring clothing suitable for all types of weather.

Worms and red salmon eggs are bringing in some nice-size catches in the Big Pine area. Also, the Owens River at Big Pine has started to pick up action once again. Three to four pound trout are being caught by those using baby nightcrawlers.

In the Bishop area, chartreuse powerbait is being effective at South Lake and Sabrina. Browns are starting to show up in the creeks as food is being washed down from the lakes due to the past rains. Try the mouth at Intake 2 and use salmon eggs or worms.

Flyfishing at Rock Creek is excellent at dusk for those using worms! If trolling, use a rapalla, trout pattern or a silver needlefish and troll down four to six colors. Little Lakes Valley has the best backcountry fishing for now.

Art Farrell of the Technical Information Department, reports fishing on many of Crowley Lake's tributary creeks is very good. Fish and Game is planting catchable-size trout on a regular basis, to use up the hatchery-bred trout this year.

Convict Lake is still open, but closes Oct. 31. Powerbait or worms are working and anglers are catching three and a half to four pound trout.

Fishing is really slow at Crowley Lake. But if it's a challenge you're after, use a three eighth ounce barbless hook Kastmaster and fish from the boat landing.

At Mammoth Lakes, all the lakes are having fair fishing. Use baby nightcrawlers or worms.

If in the June Lake area, try red eggs or powerbait. For lures, use a phoebee or Kastmaster. Trollers should use a Dave Davis with a nightcrawler.

The Bishop Chamber of Commerce's fishing tip of the week is to get a used pair of nylons, snip off just enough of the nylon to form a pouch large enough to put a worm or salmon eggs into and attach to a single or treble hook. This way, the worm or eggs will not be lost when casting and keeps the bait from being eaten from the hook by

Free fishing day -- Sept. 28

Remember, Sept. 28 is California's last "free fishing" day of the year.

On this day, the Department of Fish temporarily suspends the need for anglers to hold valid fishing licenses while fishing -- an infraction of California angling laws that could cost as much as \$600 on almost any other day.

However, all other fish and game restrictions -- bag and size limits, fishing hours, equipment type -- apply. On "free fishing day," game wardens will continue to cite violations of non-licensure nature. "Free fishing day" anglers are advised to pick up a free copy of DFG 1990-91 California

sport fishing regulation booklets at sporting goods stores before heading out on Sept. 28.

California's first "free fishing day" this year was held on June 8, in conjunction with National Fishing Week and California Fishing Week celebrations. The second "free fishing day" coincides with National Hunting and Fishing Day, a nationwide observance of the contributions licensed hunters and anglers have made to fish and wildlife conservation.

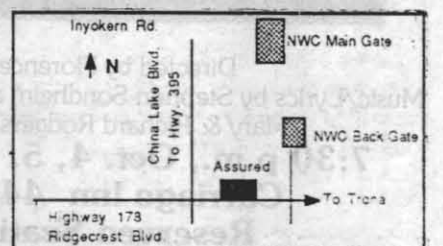
The director of the Department of Fish and Game, Pete Bontadelli, notes, "The department encourages would-be sport anglers to take the plunge. Pick up a rod and reel and participate in a relaxing pastime enjoyed by families as well as individuals who view fishing as a solitary escape to the great outdoors."



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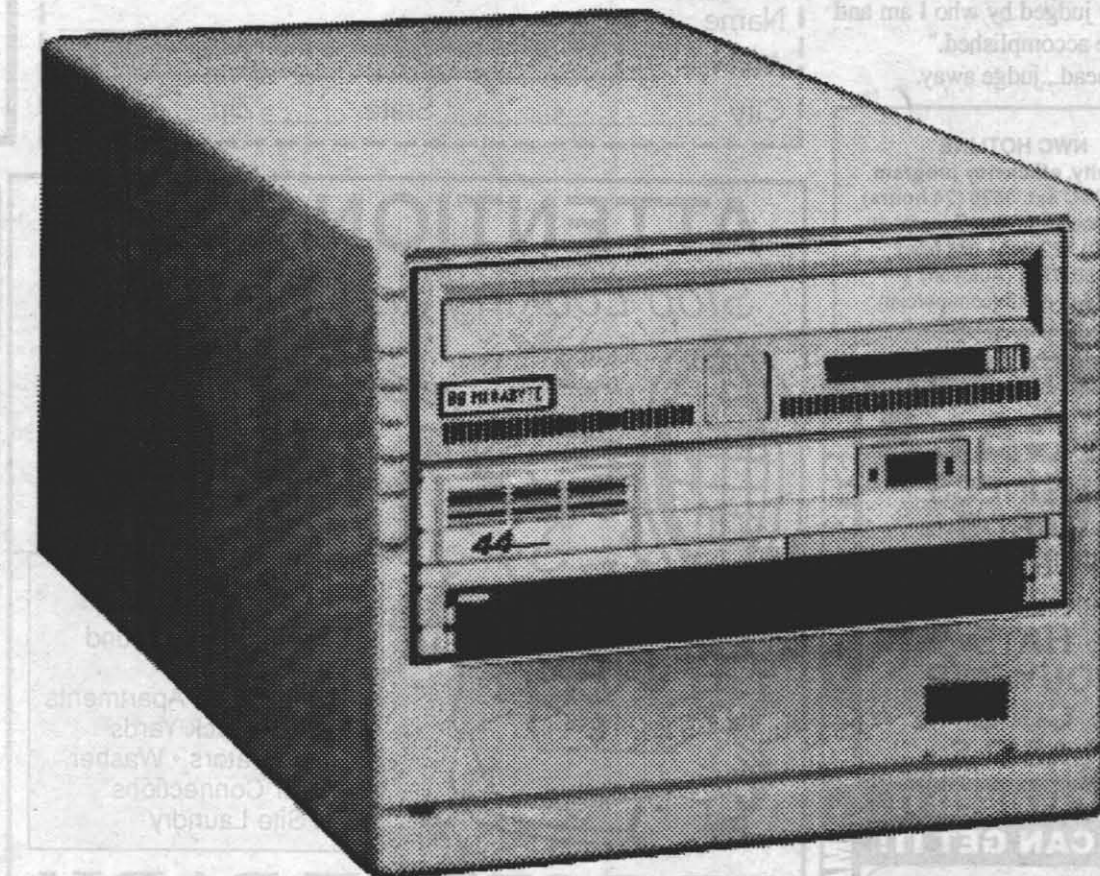
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50 years for Smith

(Continued from Page 5)

of making it a first class system and happy to see it's almost completed," he said with a "whew!" sort of look in his eyes. He said the revitalization of the system should be done by the end of the month. The building moratorium in the Ridgecrest Heights area, imposed by the California Department of Health Services in 1980 due to the condition of the system, was lifted last Sunday.

What little spare time he does find he spends working on his '56 Chrysler Imperial, "the one with the round tail lights up on the fins." He also likes to help his son Rex A., who runs Pegasus Electric in Ridgecrest, work on his '68 Mustang and '56 Chevy.

His daughter Mimi is married to Max Grober, son of longtime, beloved Burroughs High School history and government teacher, Frank Grober. Max teaches at Colgate University in Hamilton N.Y., and Mimi works at an art institute.

Just as he has no intention of voluntarily stepping down from the water board, retirement from government service is not in Smith's plans for the near future.

Regarding age, he said, "I'd rather be judged by who I am and what I've accomplished." Go ahead...judge away.

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Clean environment provides opportunity

(Continued from Page 1)

of five times more than the original cost to dispose of hazardous materials. One example he gave was \$1,000 to dispose of each compressed gas cylinder not returned to the supplier. NWC will spend more than \$1 million in FY-91 alone to dispose of hazardous wastes. And the costs keep going up!

Tom McGill, head of the Environmental Operations Section said it costs an average

of five times more than the original cost to dispose of hazardous materials. One example he gave was \$1,000 to dispose of each compressed gas cylinder not returned to the supplier. NWC will spend more than \$1 million in FY-91 alone to dispose of hazardous wastes. And the costs keep going up!

Tom McGill, head of the Environmental Project Office,

said the Department of Defense "has really made a commitment to cleaning up the environment." Noting the Center is subject to federal, state and county environmental regulation, McGill said NWC must establish an ethic of environmental protection and stewardship to face these challenges in the future.

Capt. Cook, Sterling Haaland, NWC laboratory director and

McGill all stressed the need for NWC personnel to take ownership in the environment.

Environmental protection and stewardship can't be just a Code 008 responsibility, or the concern of the Center commander alone. Corporate ownership is essential, they noted, if the Naval Weapons Center is to remain capable of fulfilling its mission in the next decade and beyond.

Restoration committee has first meeting

Members of the Technical Review Committee for the Naval Weapons Center's (NWC) Installation Restoration Program (IRP) held their first meeting Sept. 11 in Ridgecrest's Kerr McGee Center. The committee reviews and comments on actions proposed for the IRP. The Technical Review Committee (TRC) is a working committee composed of federal, state and county environmental agency representatives, two community members and several members of NWC's Environmental Program staff.

The Installation Restoration Program is a Department of Defense-wide program to investigate former disposal sites at military installations. Locally, the program includes identifying, investigating and cleaning up sites aboard NWC where past use has caused adverse environmental impact.

At this first meeting, the Technical Review Committee (TRC) was

given an overview presentation of the IRP and discussed the Center's progress during early phases of the effort. Discussion also covered work plans which detail how the early stages of remedial investigations of the selected sites will be conducted.

Committee members discussed how to best share information about the program and its progress with the local community. Fact sheets giving current status of the IRP will be distributed to the community and presentations will be made to local organizations, as requested, throughout the process. In addition, reports and documents related to the IRP are open and available to the public at the IRP Information Repository at the Ridgecrest Branch of the Kern County Library.

Initial field studies begin next month to obtain more detailed information about the 15 former disposal sites under investigation at this stage of the program.

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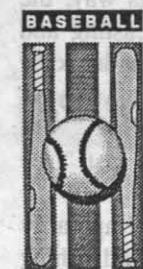
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MWR

Have your favorite sports teams represented in the Seafarer Club's new bar



Have your favorite sports teams represented in the Seafarer Club's new Sports Bar. Items needed to decorate the bar include team jerseys, hats, sports paraphernalia and even sports trophies!

Upon its opening, the new Sports Bar, located across the Chief Petty Officers' Bar in the Seafarer Club (the old EM Bar), will offer freshly made pizza, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, video and pinball games, pool tables and six television monitors.

According to Fred Garcia, the Seafarer Club manager, Morale, Welfare & Recreation staff and other volun-



unteers have been donating their time and talents in creating a relaxing atmosphere for military and civilian personnel alike. Garcia noted there is still a lot of work to be done, including putting in track lighting. Additional volunteers, especially those who work with electricity, are more than welcome.

Anyone who would like to make a donation to the bar, or who would like to volunteer their talents, whether decorating or electrical, please call Garcia at NWC ext. 2581. This is one place everyone can use, Garcia stated.



LEARNING DEFENSE --
Students in NWC's Youth Martial Arts program are learning their moves. The class, designed for 5-11 year olds, is held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday at the Gym Annex. AD2 Leslie Lewis, a Tae Kwon Do student, and two students display proper form during a show at the NWC Youth Center.

Community Light Opera and Theater Association presents

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What's happening

Ridgecrest's Desert Empire Fair is right around the corner, Oct. 16-20. Tickets, available at the Craftech Center, will be on sale starting Monday, Sept. 16. The cost is only \$10 for a book of 25 tickets.

On Sept. 26, there will be an Intramural Flag Football meeting in the MWR Conference Room, Bldg. 21, starting at 12 noon. Anyone wishing to enter a team is encouraged to attend. For further information, call Michelle at NWC ext. 6542.

Craftech is currently recruiting individuals who would like to learn the art of oil painting. Mary Spencer, instructor, will teach students of all levels. For further information, call NWC ext. 3252.

Starting Oct. 6, by popular demand, the Seafarer Club will once again offer Sunday Brunch. Enjoy all you can eat from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$5.95 per adult (12 years old and older) and \$3 per child (4 to 11 years of age). Each Sunday, a special entree, roast beef, ham or turkey, will be offered.

COUNSELING SERVICES



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Cookies, neural networks and the Taguchi Method?

By Peggy Shoaf
Staff Writer

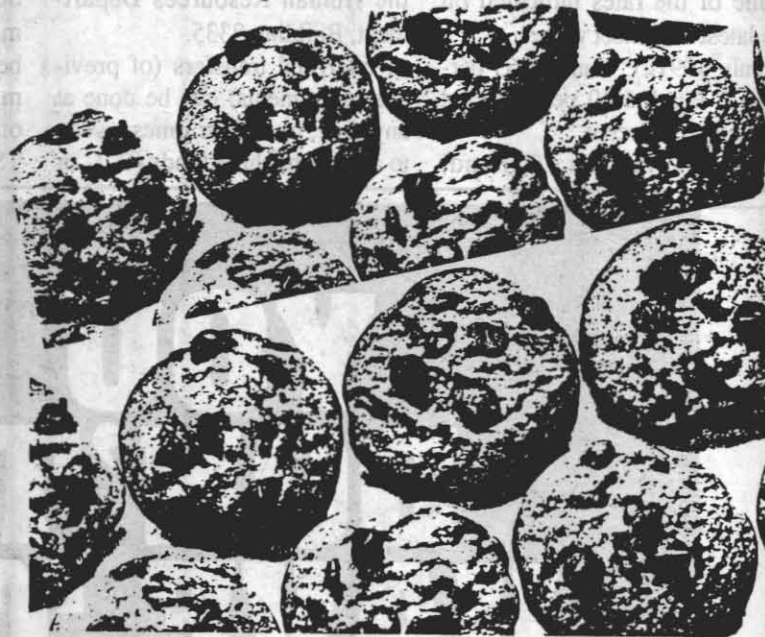
Cookies . . . rich, gooey chocolate chip cookies and the Taguchi Method! Sound like an "odd couple?" Would you believe this analytical method can predict the optimal chocolate chip cookie, or the optimal neural network? No? Well, then, just read on!

Personnel in the Attack Weapons Department's Weapon Simulation & Data Analysis Branch (Code 3511), hope development of the optimal Tollhouse chocolate chip cookie recipe piques interest in the Taguchi Method for China Lakers doing analysis work. The Taguchi Method is a procedure to optimize a manufacturing process; a way to create an improved product. And, according to George Lam and Daniel Searle, analysts in Code 3511 who designed the Tollhouse test, all the experimentation was done after working hours.

To further demonstrate the effectiveness of the Taguchi Method, Code 3511 analysts used it to optimize the parameters of a multilayer backpropagation neu-

ral network in an effort to improve its convergence rate.

Of the two tests, the optimal Tollhouse cookie recipe is defi-



COOKIES—Process controls make better chocolate chip cookies.

nately getting the most attention, noted Lam. A flyer advertising a seminar (held last week) explaining the Taguchi Method and the two tests read, "Division Seminar, Cookies and Neural Net-

works, 'Robust Experimental Design using Taguchi.'" However, the paragraph describing the tests only covered the cookie

to the process. In the cookie experiment, this meant deciding which recipe ingredients were essential in making a good cookie, he explained. "It wasn't hard to find several people willing to eat and rate eight different chocolate chip cookies," laughed Lam.

After analyzing the experimental results, an "optimized" cookie recipe was determined, Lam said. "Cookies prepared using this new modified recipe were chewy, tasty, moist and simply delicious," he added.

In the neural network experiment, the number of neurons in the hidden and output layers, the learning rate and the momentum were optimized for faster rate of convergence.

For both tests, the Taguchi Method was more efficient than a full factorial investigation (making one change at a time), noted Lam. A full factorial investigation for the cookies would have required 128 batches of cookies, while the Taguchi Method used only nine (including the confirmation test). In the neural network experiment, only 27 runs

were needed, not the 81 runs required in full factorial testing. "This method not only saves time, but allows for other variances," said Lam. "For example, in the cookie method, you could have an inexperienced cook and a bad oven, but still get the same results."

Both experiments were learning experiences, such as how a Taguchi experiment should be set up and executed, noted Lam. "The objectives of these experiments were to encourage other engineers and scientists to look into the Taguchi Method as a viable optimization method and to have fun while doing it," Lam said. "I believe we met both objectives."

For more information on the Taguchi Method, or the experiments, call Lam or Searle at NWC ext. 2614.

By the way, the optimal cookie recipe was two and a quarter cups flour, two teaspoons baking soda, one teaspoon salt, one cup shortening, one cup brown sugar, one half cup regular sugar, two cups chocolate chips, two teaspoons vanilla and three eggs.

demonstration, with no mention of the neural networks.

According to Lam, the first step in the Taguchi Method is to brainstorm quality characteristics and design parameters important

Center grads recognized at next week's luncheon

This year's luncheon honoring graduates from the Naval Weapons Center-sponsored academic programs will be at the Seafarer Club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 26. NWC-sponsored academic programs include the Cooperative Education programs, Center-sponsored degree programs and the fellowship program. Tickets for the luncheon may be purchased from Denise Tracy, Room 212 in the Training Center. The deadline to buy tickets is tomorrow (Friday). Tickets

must be paid for by check made payable to MWR-EM.

Guest speakers will include Capt. Douglas W. Cook, NWC Commander; Bill Porter, NWC Technical Director; Dr. Ronald

Derr, head of the NWC Research Department and the FY91 chairman of the China Lake Fellowship Committee; and Pat Baczkiewicz, NWC's professional recruitment coordinator.

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IDEAS Office

Your IDEAS get Answers

Not all IDEAS get implemented as a change to our work procedures. Sometimes, when we follow up on a submission, we find that the suggested change is already in place. So, in those cases, the originator might not get an Idea adopted but they do get an answer. For instance Larry Brauer (Code 3268) submitted IDEAS # 51. He thought the timing would be better for the Annual Training Plan Survey if it were sent out on April 1, rather than May 1 as it was this year. Carol Corlett replied for Code 224 and let Larry know that April 1 is indeed the normal time for the survey to be sent out, but organizational and personnel changes in the Human Resources Development Division caused a delay this year. Next year, the survey will be sent out at the normal time of April 1.

If you have any question or need any information, we'd be glad to talk with you. You can reach the IDEAS office at X2311, or E mail - SCF::IDEAS, or QuickMail - "IDEAS Office"

In the last week these new Ideas were submitted: No. 194, Return of Empty Compressed Gas Cylinders, Patrick Coughlin, Code 3417 (Patrick suggests a process for the timely return of empty compressed gas cylinders); No. 195, Individual Personnel Reports, Gerry Powell, Code 3945 (Gerry proposes more instructions and a return address be put on the form sent to supervisors at the end of a new employee's probationary period); No. 196, Letter Designation for Building 1409, Dick Klabunde, Code 3915 (Dick and Allen Robins proposed a change in the building numbering system to account for the four different Code occupants); No. 197, Visitor Information Package, Stuart Iskowitz, Code 6443 (Stuart suggests that the Center and the City of Ridgecrest create a standard area information package for visitors); and No. 198, Use of Shredded Paper, Patrick Coughlin, Code 3417 (Patrick noted that some of the shredded paper is not recyclable and suggests that it might be collected and sold as mulch).

Center provides class in RF safety for employees

Richard Hughes will present Radio Frequency (RF) Safety classes for Naval Weapons Center radio frequency workers on Sept. 30.

Classes, which consist of two four-hour sessions, are held in Room 114 at the Training Center.

The first class is from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m., with the second class running from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. There is still space available in either class, but remember, size is limited.

To register, submit a NAVWP-CEN Form 12410/73 (Rev. 12-

88) "On-Center Training Request" to the Safety Program Office (Code 2405), attention Gary Beckstrom. Please, DO NOT send these forms to the Training Center.

For information, call Beckstrom at NWC ext. 2002 or 2362.

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Engineers have chance to visit Aerotest Center

Members Only! The Oct. 1 meeting of the Society of Military Engineers will be a tour of the Mojave airport and Aerotest Center. The tour bus will leave the Public Works Department parking lot between 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. A picnic lunch will be provided, for a nominal fee, at 11:30 a.m.

Reservations are required and must be made by close of business on Friday, Sept. 27. For reservations, call Dot Johnson at NWC ext. 3411, ext. 283 or Darrell Hovde at NWC ext. 3411, ext. 360. The picnic lunch, costing \$5, should be paid for at the time of the reservation. Annual leave is required for this tour.

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America's 'melting pot' moves to cultural pluralism

WASHINGTON (AFIS)- By opening her arms to immigrant masses, America became known as an international "melting pot." But today, with the nation's increasing Hispanic population, the face of the "land of immigrants" is changing fast -- not through the melting pot approach, but through cultural pluralism.

In the melting pot, immigrants were Americanized through the educational system and other societal influences. They gave up their old identities and replaced them with values, perceptions and customs of their adopted country, said Navy Lt. Schuyler C. Webb, a researcher at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute in Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.

Cultural pluralism is more like a stew, where all the ingredients retain some of their identity. Immigrants don't surrender ethnic and cultural identity to become Americans.

This is particularly true for the huge, unprecedented growth in Hispanic communities across the nation. In the last decade, the Hispanic population has grown about 53 percent, to 22.4 million, five times faster than the rest of the population, according to Webb's research.

Researchers predict if the massive annual influx of 600,000 to 700,000 people from Mexico and Central and South America continues, coupled with a soaring birth rate, Hispanics will replace African Americans as the largest minority group by the year 2020.

A special White House committee coined "Hispanic" in 1969 as a neutral, all-encompassing word to describe all Americans

with Spanish ancestry. The largest groups of Hispanic Americans hail from Mexico, Puerto Rico and Cuba. Other large groups emigrated from Spain, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Ecuador, Nicaragua and El Salvador. Although many Filipino-

tant secretary of defense for health affairs, believes polarization and language are major concerns and adds there are cultural and heritage reasons for these concerns, even though some people might be offended by them.

"I've noticed over the years

HISPANICS: A PROUD HISTORY...

September 15 - October 15, 1991



Americans have Spanish surnames, they generally are considered part of the Asian community.

Personnel managers are increasingly concerned about promoting better understanding about Hispanic culture and heritage in the DoD worldwide community.

Dr. Enrique Mendez Jr., assis-

that some young Hispanic people -- enlisted and officers -- tend to congregate with other Hispanics in their units," said Puerto Rico-born Mendez, who spent more than 28 years in the Army Medical Corps before retiring as a major general in 1983. "There are several reasons. One is culture, in terms of sharing the basic language and music and gathering at

restaurants where Hispanic food is served. It's also cultural in talking about their origins and their homes.

There are many other misunderstandings of the Hispanic culture and heritage, researcher Webb said. For instance, few Hispanic contributions to American society are mentioned in most history books.

"One possible reason is offered by Hispanic researcher Gary Archuleta," said Webb. "He said during the Mexican-American War, which started in 1846, and the Spanish-American War of 1898, propaganda turned popular sentiment against the enemy.

"A negative public image of Hispanic people was needed to justify the wars," Webb continued. "The propaganda was effective on two fronts: Other Americans believe it, but many Hispanic-Americans did as well and began to feel those stereotypes were true. Unfortunately, these stereotypes linger in society at large even today and may be factors in Hispanic school and

employment dropouts."

Manuel Oliverez, DoD's Hispanic employment program manager, said oversights of history, stereotyping and the different shades of skin color have prevented Hispanics, African Americans, Indians and Asians from being main ingredients in America's melting pot.

"America has never been truly a melting pot. People, including textbook writers, have known that but deny it. They don't acknowledge, respect or encourage many basic ingredients that bind us together as Americans," said Oliverez.

"Cultural pluralism is the correct term to describe America today, but that's the intellectual way of saying it," he continued. "I think 'salad bowl' is a better way of describing the many different groups of people who make up America. If you look into the salad bowl, all the ingredients have their own distinct color, flavor, consistency, texture and characteristics. That's the mixture that is America."

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Image conversion tools

The major problem in displaying images created on one manufacturer's system on another manufacturer's system is the difference in file formats. Recently the SCF operations staff located some tools at the San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC) to alleviate this problem. A version for the Sun Sparcstation was downloaded to the Vis-Lab's Sparcstation and tested using images scanned in on a Macintosh. Conversion between PICT, TIFF, GIF, RAS, RLA, RLE, and XBM was tried. The following is an E-mail excerpt from the SDSC about their 1.0 release on March 25, 1991. SDSC announces the binary release of its image file format conversion tools. These tools currently support the following image file formats:

Format	Description
cgm	Computer Graphics Metafile
gif	CompuServe Graphics image file
hdf	Hierarchical Data File
iff	Sun TAAC Image File Format
mpnt	Apple Macintosh MacPaint file
pbm	Portable Bitmap file
pic	PIXAR picture file
pict	Apple Mac QuickDraw/PICT file
pix	Alias image file
ps	PostScript file
ras	Sun Rasterfile
rgb	SGI RGB image file
rla	Wavefront raster image file
rle	Utah Run length encoded image file
rpbm	Raw Portable Bitmap file
synu	Synu image file
tiff	Tagged image file
x	Stardent AVS X image file
xbm	X11 bitmap file
xwd	X Window dump image file

Multiple variants of each format are supported: monochrome, color index, RGB, RGB + Alpha, uncompressed, run-length encoded, with and without color maps, etc. as appropriate to the format. These tools are available for the following UNIX machine architectures: alliant-ix2800 - Alliant Computers FX/2800, alliantfx80 - Alliant Computers FX/80, cray - Cray Research Cray Y-MP, sgid4 - Silicon Graphics SGI 4D, sun4 - Sun Microsystems Sun 4 and Sparc. For details call the VisLab at NWC ext. 2078/3257.

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TSP funds report earnings growth during year

Each month, the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) office issues a fact sheet listing rates of return for the three investment funds. Some of the rates indicated on the latest fact sheet were:

July 1991: C Fund, 4.63 percent; F Fund, 1.40 percent; and G Fund, .69 percent.
Last 12 months: C Fund,

13.15 percent; F Fund 10.45 percent; and G Fund, 8.60 percent.

A copy of the complete fact sheet is available in Room 100 of the Human Resources Department, Building 2335.

Interfund transfers (of previous investments) can be done at any time, up to four times a year, to any of the three funds (G, C or

F). Interfund transfer requests must be submitted on Form TSP-30 direct to the Thrift Savings Plan Service Office. The TSP Service Office will send a confirmation when the transfer has been completed. Remember, submission of the TSP-30 affects only funds already in existing TSP accounts.

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