The Reflector

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School Students Send Aid to Tornado Victims Via NADC

NADC flight crew pose with relief material sent by Unami Jr. High.

The Public Affairs Office receives many requests for assistance, information, photographs and other material, but recently a unique request for help brought to mind just how caring and loving people can be. Jack Hall, a teacher at the Unami Junior High School, called NADC's Public Affairs Office with an idea that he needed help with. He said that he wanted to get his students involved in helping people out during the holidays. What he had in mind initially was a drive to collect cookies and distribute them either to the Marines stationed in Lebanon or to the victims of the floods and violent weather in the Mid-West. He called NADC to see if the Center could somehow assist with the transportation arrangements.

Since Lebanon is not on the beaten path it was decided that the Mid-West would be the target for the cookies. Now what was needed was some type of transportation. It just so happened that on 21 December NADC had a training flight going to the West Coast and a refueling stop was scheduled at Scott Air Force Base in Missouri. A quick call to the Public Affairs Office at Scott confirmed that a town near there had been hit by a tornado and was in need of help. Next a call to the town, New Baden, Illinois, was made to let them know that the cookies were on the way. During the conversion it came out that the town also needed other things. The Mayor said that the townspeople needed personal items like toiletries. This information was passed back to the Unami students, who filled about forty boxes with cookies, personal items, canned goods and clothes.

On Monday 20 December a group of students from Unami and Hall arrived at NADC to help load the P-3 with the cargo for New Baden.

Many boxes of cookies and other items were sent to the people of New Baden, people who lost everything before the holiday season. With the jesture of good will that was sent by the students of Unami Junior High School the people of New Baden had to know that people felt their plight and answered with kindness.

Artificial Intelligence Technology at NADC

As we all know, the age of computers is dawning.

More and more of the daily routine is being taken over by the magical machines. As computers become more sophisticated they will acquire the attributes of human intelligence. Artificial Intelligence or AI, is the science of having machines engage in activities that normally require human intelligence. The concern of AI researchers is to get computers to emulate such unstructured and vaguely defined mental operations as speculating, reasoning, inferring, hypothesizing, drawing conclusions and making logical guesses.

To help introduce the technology of Artificial Intelligence to NADC personnel, Dr. Rudolph A. Stampfl and Dr. Mort Metersky of the Systems Directorate decided that it was time for a briefing. The meeting will be held in the Center's auditorium on 21 January. Both men feel that it's time to start integrating Artificial Intelligence into the Center's R&D process. With the available AI technology and potential advances coming in the future, the Fleet can improve its effectiveness and be better equipped to cope with increasing data rates and technological complexities.

Artificial Intelligence covers many different areas but those which are most advanced include robotics, pattern recognition, knowledge based systems, and natural language processing. Although the field was begun about 25 years ago in the academic community, AI Technology is just beginning to be employed in real world systems. Metersky feels that NADC should join other Navy Laboratories in applying AI.

The various segments of the briefing will be given by experts in the Artificial Intelligence field. Because this is an introduction to AI technology, the substance of the briefings will be on an introductory level. About 70 seats have been reserved for the conference but after that it's first come first served, said Metersky. "It will be possible to get an overview of the entire program in about one and a half hours", Metersky added. If someone wishes to stay for a more detailed briefing on a specific subject they can pick the session they are interested in or stay for the whole seminar.

Now You Can Patent Programs

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) has recently reversed its long-standing policy of steadfastly rejecting patent applications drawn to computer programs or algorithm related inventions. More liberal guidelines have now been formulated for its Patent Examiners which review the Navy's interest in securing rights to computer programs developed in-house or under contract.

The patentability of computer programs, software, and even computer hardware was muddled by a plethora of court decisions which plagued the Navy Patent Program and patent practitioners

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Nominations Wanted for NADC Awards

NADC AWARDS FOR ENGINEERING AND SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT — Nominations are requested for the Annual Engineering and Scientific NADC Awards. These two awards recognize any employee or former employee, military or civilian, who has made a substantial research or development contribution to the U.S. Navy while employed by NADC. Each nomination must be accompanied by a concise statement of the achievements and contributions being recognized, and any supporting documentation available that attests to the significance of the contribution.

NADC AWARD FOR PROJECT LEADERSHIP—Award nominees, civilian or military, may be from DCP or technical departments for command or other level technical projects, or from PAR, Staff or Engineering Support Group for some special project leadership contributions. Although the nominee need not be the most senior leader in a project, he must have had sufficient responsibility to demonstrate outstanding leadership with regard to other project contributors.

SUPPORT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD—This award will recognize an individual from any organizational unit of the Center who, through his or her effort, has made a significant and identifiable contribution to the smooth and efficient operation of the Center. Each nomination must be accompanied by a concise statement of the achievements and contributions being recognized. Please forward nominations to 031 not later than 15 Feb. 1983. For additional information, call x3078.

Alert Flight Crew Saves Helicopter from Destruction

Saving a multi million dollar aircraft from possible destruction was all in days work for this flight crew. LT Norm Edwards, LCDR Stu Schreckegast and AE1 Billy Bonn were flying a CH-53 helicopter on a logistics mission to the Calverton Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (Peconic Field) on Long Island Sound, New York when something went wrong.

The flight to Calverton was uneventful. After dropping off passengers, refueling and a quick lunch, the flight crew launched for the return leg of the flight. About thirty minutes after takeoff, as they were flying down the coast of Long Island, the crew noticed that the Master Caution light had come on along with the First Stage Hydraulic Pressure Caution light.

At the time the lights were noticed the pressure in the hydraulic system dropped to 1800 pounds per square inch and was fluctuating in that range. Edwards, who was the pilot, reduced both altitude and airspeed in preparation for an emergency landing.

Because the crew could not see a suitable landing area along the flight path, Edwards elected to turn back towards known terrain rather than continue ahead. The pressure in the First Stage Hydraulic System continued to drop to 100 psi and the First Stage Servo Out Caution light was on. AE1 Bonn saw hydraulic liquid seeping from the overhead.

Up ahead the crew saw a large parking lot and decided that it was the only safe landing zone in the area. Using the last known wind direction and speed, Edwards executed a no hover landing in the lot.

Upon landing the crew inspected the helicopter for damage. They found that the First Stage Hydraulic Pump Pressure Line had ruptured at the quick disconnect seal, depleting the hydraulic system and cavitating the pump. The crew remained on the ground for five hours, aided by the local Coast Guard Station and citizens until a maintenance crew arrived. A new pump and hydraulic lines were installed and the system was reserviced. After a ground maintenance turn to check for leaks, the crew took off and returned to NADC.

This in-flight emergency was serious and could have cost three lives and one helicopter but cool heads and knowledge of how to handle the problem made it a story that the crew and NADC can be proud of and not one that will be remembered as a tragedy.

Update III Aircraft Delivered

Captain Anderson, center rt, turns over Update III Aircraft to Pax River Crew.

A major milestone has been reached in the P-3C Update III Project. NADC's Update III aircraft was turned over to the Naval Air Test Center on 21 December for the beginning of Validation and Verification tests. This phase of the Update III Project marks the successful completion of an overall Center effort that people at NADC can be proud of. According to LCDR David Seckinger, Update III Project Officer, "The next step will be a Follow On Test and Evaluation (FOT&E). After that the Update III will receive Approval for Full Production (AFP).

The Update III Project has been in development since 1974. This new avionics package, represents a "quantum leap in (Anti-Submarine Warfare) ASW capability", Seckinger said. Towards this end NADC has been making final software and hardware improvements to the Update III system which had received preliminary approval for service use last July.

The heart of the Update III ASW avionics suite is the Advanced Signal Processor (ASP) which replaces the AQA-7 acoustic processor. This ASP provides the two acoustic operators in the aircraft with CRT displays and a manual entry panel for operator/machine interface. Other Update III improvements include the Advanced Sonobuoy Communication Link (ASCL) receiver, the Adaptive Controlled Phased Array (ACPA) antenna, the Acoustic Test Signal Generator (ATSG) and the Digital Magnetic Tape System (DMTS).

The ASCL receiver is a 99 channel, computer tunable acoustic receiver system that replaces the ARR-72 Sonobuoy Receiver. Update III uses the ACPA antenna system to provide directional/omnidirectional RF reception for either increased RF sensitivity or anti-jamming capabilities. Simulated RF signals for acoustic system end-to-end tests are provided by the ATSG. All four special Update III software products are loaded into the aircraft using compact tape cassettes with the DMTS.

The Update III avionics suite was developed, integrated and tested by the Naval Air Development Center Update III Project Office, under the sponsorship and direction of the Naval Air Systems Command (PMA-240). After the three month test cycle at NADC the Update III aircraft will go to AIRTEVRON I for follow on T&E. If all goes well Update III will go into production in May of 1984.

More Effort Needed for Energy

With all the energy saving devices and ideas that NADC has put into effect you'd think that we would be in pretty good shape as far as reaching the 1985 goal of a 20% savings, right? Wrong, says Tom Ames, NADC's Energy Coordinator. Ames explained that new computer and airconditioning equipment have caused the Center to move away from its energy savings target. "In the last quarter of 1982", Ames said, "we have put on line, computer terminals and other related equipment that is the equivalent of an entire computer mainframe." This increase, projected into 1983, will drop NADC's energy savings to 8% when it should be at about 16% by the end of the year.

Once this reverse trend was identified Ames was tasked with finding some other ways of saving energy. Several no-cost ideas were floated before the Center Management Group (CMG). The first proposal is to set up an Energy Hotline. The Hotline will provide a focal point for employees to report energy violations or suggest ways to further save energy. The top ideas submitted before 5 February will be written up and submitted as beneficial suggestions. Also planned is a review of the Center's lighting requirements. Emphasis will be placed on increasing task lighting, decreasing general lighting and making desk lamps easier to obtain.

Ames will be offering an energy briefing package to the directorates, departments and tenants in an effort to make Center personnel aware of what they can do to save energy. An energy status board is proposed so that employees can track the savings effort throughout the year. Section monitors will be designated to act like an end of the day security detail, making sure all unnecessary equipment is shut down for the day.

One other proposal that Ames presented would involve an alteration in weekend overtime schedules. The Center could be shutdown on alternate weekends to save energy. It would involve scheduling overtime in advance, Ames stated, but the savings could be significant.

All these ideas are being considered now. NADC needs to save energy now and with you're help we can achieve the goals.

Tax Savings

Did you know that the capital-gains tax on the profit from selling a home need not be paid by military personnel if they reinvest the money in another home of equal or greater expense within four years. The Internal Revenue Service says that you must remain on active duty during the four year period to take advantage of the longer grace period. Also the house must be used as the taxpayer's principal residence to qualify for the tax exclusion.

1982 Was a Great Year for CNM

Last year was a very good year for the Naval Material Command. The Chief of Naval Material Admiral John G. Williams said in a year end message that, "The accomplishments (by the people of the Naval Material Command) were the direct result of literally hundreds of thousands of people performing their assigned duties in an outstanding manner".

Williams reported a 32 percent increase in awarded contracts for acquisition of new equipment. That translates into approximately 37 billion dollars. Some of the things that money has bought are contracts for, 205 new aircraft, 31 new ships, delivery of 159 aircraft and 36 ships.

Also 18 candidate programs for multiyear procurement were forwarded with a potential savings of over 407 million dollars. Under the Defense Acquisition Improvement Program savings of about 5.3 billion dollars were identified.

On the logistics side, depot overhauls of 57 surface ships and 9 submarines were completed. Private sector surface ship overhauls were delivered on an average of 2 days late versus 23 days in FY 81. Ordnance asset readiness improvements included a 7 percent increase for air launched missiles and a 9 percent increase for ship gun ammo. In 1982 1,516 aircraft reworks were scheduled and completed.

In the area of Military Construction 1 billion dollars in construction was completed during the year. Three hundred new facilities were turned over to the Navy and 693 new family housing units were added to the inventory. Improvements were also made to 300 substandard housing units.

In summation Williams said, "I thank you and as we prepare to greet 1983, I ask for your continued support so that the Naval Material Command will keep setting new records in support of the Navy". "It is this improvement year by year, that is the single most important item that will enable us to obtain our 600 ship navy. We must continue to look for all the ways in our business that will enable us to get more program for our dollars. I know you will continue to support this endeavor as we enter the new year."

The Reflector

Naval Air Development Center

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CAPT James B. Anderson — Commander, NADC
Robert S. Buffum — Technical Director
Joseph P. Cody — Public Affairs Officer
David Polish — Editor

TIES laboratory demonstration is presented by G. Heal and L. Smith to Squadron Leader (RAF) Weber (seated), CAPT Harper, MAJ Register and Mr. Botha.

TIES Lab Demonstrated

The Navy is currently in the process of completing a six year R&D effort for the concept definition, development, and laboratory demonstration of an advanced integrated Communication Navigation - IFF avionics system for Navy platforms of the 1992 era. This program, designated as the Tactical Information Exchange System (TIES), is sponsored by NAVAIR-33 utilizing NADC's Communications, Navigation Technology Directorate as the performing R&D laboratory. Because of the broad scope and wide range of technologies inherent in the TIES, the TIES represents the military's most sophisticated integrated avionics architecture serving as a model for projected state-of-the-art technology and overall automated control of on-board resources.

On 23 November 1982, AIR FORCE personnel from Wright Patterson Air Force Base visited the Center to obtain a first hand briefing on the TIES and review the TIES integration laboratory facility.

They are responsible for the Integrated COMM-NAV-IFF Avionics (ICNIA) development program being conducted by the Air Force; and, as such, both the Navy and Air Force want to insure that maximum benefits are derived from common areas of interest and the potential to utilize common developmental resources.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Under the authority of 10 USC 5031, information regarding training/experience is requested in order to develop a skills data base. The information provided by you will become part of your skills record. This information will not be divulged without your written authorization to anyone other than the Technical Volunteer Program. You are not required to provide this information; however, failure to do so could result in you not being notified of opportunities to volunteer your special skills.

Technical Volunteers Wanted

Help is requested in providing volunteer *technical* assistance to local governments and community groups. With a combination of diminishing Federal and State funds available to local communities, coupled with a rise in complex issues and problems, there is an urgent need for volunteer help to provide technical assistance. Some of the critical needs faced by one local township include:

—computer assisted file management

—computer assisted scheduling

—training programs and assistance in locating video training tapes

—underground water leak detection by acoustic or other means.

Current employees and recent retirees who are willing to volunteer some part of their off-hours to these or other local community problems are encouraged to respond by providing information on the reverse side of this notice and returning it to:

Jerry Bortman, Code 703

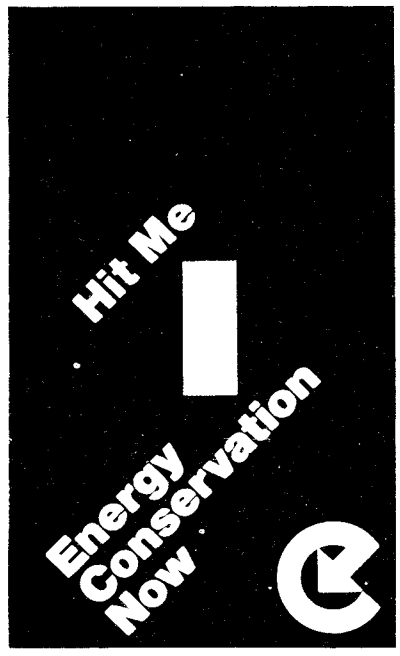
The Technology Transfer Office will assist these efforts and is currently trying to establish a *Technical Volunteer Service* with the help of individuals who are interested in helping their local communities.

Changes in Retirement

If you are a military retiree working for the federal government there are some changes to the civil service retirement system that you should be aware of. Military retirees in civil service jobs will have their pay reduced by the same amount their retired military pay is increased by cost-of-living adjustments in fiscal years 1983, 1984 and 1985. Employees whose retired pay is based on wartime, service-connected disabilities will not be affected.

Credit for military service has also been changed. Military service previously was credited to civil service annuity. The annuity subsequently was recomputed at age 62 to exclude military service after 1956 (for those eligible for social security). Now, those hired before 1 October 1982 will choose between continuing under that system or depositing an amount equal to seven percent of basic military pay received after 1956, preventing reduction of civil service annuity.

Regulations, pay tables and instructions are expected soon from the Office of Personnel Management.



Patents continued

in general. Consequently, little was done to encourage invention disclosures in this area.

In the private sector, computer programs are most frequently protected simply as trade secrets by restricting their use and disclosure under software licensing agreements. The rub in this form of protection is that once the program is let "out of the bag", it can't be put back and the protection is lost. Less frequently, computer programs are copyrighted, but this form of protection is not available to the Government. Even if it were, the scope of protection is murky because copyright, in general protects only the form of presentation and not the substance. For example, it is not clear whether there is infringement when a copyrighted program, described by flow diagrams, listings, decomentation, etc. is stored in memory or transormed into electronic circuitry.

The change in the PTO policy stems from a U.S. Supreme Court decision (Diamond vs. Diehr et al, March 3, 1981) which held by a narrow margin (5 to 4) that a process using a digital computer program for regulating the curing time of raw rubber in a mold press was *patentable.* Temperature in the press was monitored and periodically fed to the computer which recalculated the cure time according to a well-know equation. The basic premise of the Court decision is that "anything under the sun that is made by man" is patentable - even a process which includes a procedure or algorithm for solving a mathematical formula. However, the algorthm *per se* is similar to laws of nature or mathematical formulas which have long been held to be unpatentable.

The "bottom line" is that the invention must be viewed in the *whole.* A mathematical formula or algorithm which is only one step of a combination of steps in a whole process cannot be singled out by the Patent Examiner for attack simply because that step is tantamount to an unpatentable law of nature.

New computer programs of particular interest to the Navy for patent prosecution are those which are or will be used in Fleet Operations or on a continuing basis in RDT/E. Computer programs with these prospects developed in-house or under NADC contract, should be discussed with the NADC Patent Counsel. The disclosure needed for preparing a patent application should include the following elements:

a. Specific use of the program,
b. Mathematical formula if any
c. Flow charts.
d. Listings in machine or machine-independent (object or source) language, and
e. Block diagrams, if any.

If your computer program *appears* to fit this "show", please contact the NADC Patent Counsel, Code 93, X3000.

Bumper Stickers: Statements with Impact

by Regina Beans

There is always someone who makes life tougher. Not only are we faced with commercials, magazine and newspaper advertising, junk mail, bill boards and signs but we are all bombarded by our fellow drivers sporting numerous stickers affixed to their bumpers. These bumper sayings encompass a wide spectrum of ideas, beliefs, sentiments, vacation spots, teams and baudy colloquialisms.

Here at the Naval Air Development Center many employees seemed compelled to state their minds using messages printed on gummed paper. One can determine a lot about a person from looking at their bumpers.

A visual survey by the Public Affairs staff turned up some prime examples of bumper communications.

Someone here is determined enough to "Bet Your Shamrocks, I'm Irish." Some potential Pied Pipers are here beckoning "Follow Me To Church This Week", and "Follow Me To Feasterville/Bristol." A relative of E.T. could possibly be among us as he boasts a sticker with warning "Look Out for Real People."

Are you aware that the first amendment guarantees you freedom of "Bumper Religion" for nowhere can you drive without being reminded of a car owner's religious affiliation.

Someone is willing to "Make It In Massachusetts" and I'll bet that person is Italian because "Italians Make Better Lovers." This sort of thing doesn't appeal to everyone though because some would "Rather Be Sailing."

An employee here would really like to "Take a Mandolin Player to Lunch" in case anyone qualifies. How would you like people working in Security, Advanced Weapons Concepts, or one of the warfare branches sporting stickers reflecting "Take My Gun, Like Hell You Will", or "The West Wasn't Won With a Registered Gun."

Four people love New York, three people are rooting for the Eagles and the Phillies and Sixers are tied with two a piece. However, the NADC award winning bumper sticker for its deep moving concern for creatures of the earth is awarded to the owner of the automobile with this catchy little phrase: "Caution: I speed up to run over small animals."

Consider these staggering ideas: "I've Seen Paul Bunyan", and "I Love Lithuanians." With important messages such as these to convey it would be a serious injustice not to keep the many bumper sticker companies profitably in business. Who wants to take in nature's scenery or keep their eyes on the road when they could be getting educated reading bumper stickers?

Commander Salutes

CDR Gary Smith, Al Hellman, Jules Lewyckyj, Dan Lorch and Bill Zarkowksi, all of ACSTD, for their assistance to the Fighter Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Ed Yanuzzi, Donald R. Furmanski and John Tate, all of SATD, for their contributions to the Helicopter Night Vision System (HNVS) Project.

Howard Sheckman, SD, Henry H. Cornell, George R. Mott, Robert Loewenstern, Matthew J. Lamb and Richard Routzahn, all of ACSTD, for their support given to the On Board Oxygen Generating System (OBOGS) Program.

LT Norman M. Edwards for professionalism shown during in-flight emergency, (see story this issue).

Jim Moran, Paul Devlin and Vincent Petrone, all of PAR, all for their performance during the NAVMAT Training Course entitled "Implementing the Commercial Activities Program at NAVMAT R&D Centers".

Joseph Spodaryk, Comptroller, for his assistance during the testing phase of the System 2000.

Franz Bohn, DCP, and David Hammond, SATD, both for their expertise during the recent testing of the P-3C DICASS system.

Daniel Probert, PAR, Stu Boose, Bob Starry, Howard Krumboltz, Jerry Ferguson, Mike Contarino, Ken Petri and Dr. Arno Witt all of SATD, for their support to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency on the LIDEX Program.

Ellen McGrody, SATD and James Weikert, SD, for their work on the Active Gated Television (AGTV) project for the Coast Guard.

Mark Wagner, Joe Franz and Mike Caddy, all of ACSTD, for their assistance in updating the F-14 tactical manual.

George Werts, Ross R. Barcklow, Raymond K. Satterfield, Edward H. Malloy and Walter H. Tolle, all TSD, for their support to the Director, Naval Reserve Intelligence Program.

Robert Bauder, ESG, for his completion of the Contract Management Program

Edward W. Richardson, SD, for his past accomplishments on the Long Range Airborne ASW Systems Program and the ARAPAHO Merchant Ship ASW Systems Program

Corrections

Last month's article titled "NADC Personnel Fly Over the North Pole for Tests" contained some mis-information. The Directorate identified should have been CNTD not SATD and the following personnel should have been recognized for their efforts in making the test flights a success: Chyau Shen, Joseph Perrine, Gina Luce and Carl Anderson, all of CNTD, Captain Richard Fidler, Major Stan Toole, LT Dana Place, LT Lee Erdman, LT Dan Paterson, ADC Gary Kreutzer, AD1 Gary Matthews, AT1 George Post, AE2 Kevin Starks, AD2 Curt Miglionico, also AMH3 Ralph Woolums and AW1 Mike McNamara.

New Prices

For those of you that eat lunch in the Enlisted Dining Facility please take note that new prices are in effect. These prices will impact on civilians and Officers.

Higher Pay

Good news for those civilian employees that are at the upper reaches of the federal pay scales. Pay caps that have been in effect for several years have been lifted to new levels. The pay limit for GS/GM employees is now $63,000. SES pay will be raised to a top level of $67,000. And Executive Service people will have their limit raised to $80,100.

Retention Rate

The year 1982 was a successful year for the Navy's retention program. Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger said the reenlistment rates have been, "the highest we have enjoyed in many years". Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral James D. Watkins saluted all members of the Navy's retention team by saying, "Credit for this accomplishment is shared by Chief Petty Officers, Leading Petty Officers, Command Career Counselors, Division Officers and upward through the chain of command". "Maintaining the momentum attained in FY-1982 is essential to meeting the Navy's long range requirements to man the fleet of the 1990's."

Officers Elected

NADC's Toastmasters Club has elected new officers for the coming year. Robert D. Hayes was chosen as President with Rockne S. Anderson as Educational Vice President. Administrative Vice President will be William E. Eisenhower. Secretary for 1983 is Maureen Satchell and Janice L. Gess will be the Treasurer. George P. Gillespie will serve as Sergeant at Arms.

The Toastmasters Club is a group whose aim is to improve public speaking skills. If you are interested in joining, contact any of the above people.

Benefits News

If you need information about CHAMPUS benefits there are two offices in the area that can help. The numbers for the Health Benefits Advisor's Office at NAS Willow Grove is 443-6376 and at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital 755-8288.

Drunk Driving

Sure you've heard about the new tougher laws that apply to drinking and driving but do you know that your parking privileges at NADC can also be lifted if you're caught. If you're caught drinking and driving either on or OFF the Center the Commander has the authority to scrape off your parking sticker and rescind the parking privilege for one year.

According to OPNAVINST 11200.5B/MC0 5110.B any individual found guilty of driving while intoxicated by a civil court, a court martial or base administrative procedure will be prohibited from operating a private motor vehicle on base for a minimum of one year. Additionally, offenders must complete the 36 hour Navy Alcohol Safety Action Program or an equivalent alcohol education program before base driving privileges will be reinstated.

Super Safety Fights Fireplace Fire By Mike Masington

Prometheus Pyro, former financial advisor to Atari Inc., and author of the "Ultimate Homeowner," decided to cheer up a snowy day with a fire in his seldom used rec room fireplace. As the freshly cut pine logs began crackling, Pyro left momentarily to attend to other chores. Suddenly, smoke began billowing out and sparks spat from the hearth opening, starting several small fires in the orange and mauve plaid rug. Finally smelling the smoke, Pyro grabbed his trusty CO_2 extinguisher (recently liberated from an unattended government vehicle) and aimed it at the fire. Unfortunately, the extinguisher hadn't been checked since VJ day, and it sputtered uselessly. Dashing to the phone, the perplexed Pyro pawed through the yellow pages for several minutes looking unsuccessfully for the number of the local fire department.

By now the fire had consumed the rug, his new Kawabonga stereo, the beanbag sofa and was endangering his prized collection of glass door knobs. In a panic he ordered his wife and kids out of the house, and ran back into the smoke to save his valuable treasures.

Super Safety, the pharaoh of fire fighting, noticed the dense smoke, and flew to the scene. Quickly taking charge, he sent Pyro's wife to a neighbor's house to alert the fire department, donned the breathing apparatus from his utility belt, wrapped himself in his flame retardant cape and rushed into the burning house. He found the prostrate Prometheus lying overcome on the kitchen floor, and dragged him outside to the fresh air. As he recovered, the parboiled Pyro gasped his thanks and asked what happened.

"You almost became a crispy critter, that's what happened," retorted his reproachful rescuer. "You should know better than to ever use a fireplace without first ensuring that the flue, damper and chimney are clear and operating properly. Also, using soft, unseasoned wood not only reduces the amount of heat, but also creates an excessive amount of sparks. In any case every fireplace should have at least a screen to completely cover the opening, but glass doors are better especially if the fire is unattended. As far as fire extinguishers and other emergency items are concerned," continue the pasha of protection, "they must be checked regularly to keep them ready for use. If you should have a fire and it can't be put out immediately, call the fire department. Their emergency number should be readily available near every phone in your home. An even better idea is to evacuate the house, make sure everyone is out, and call from a neighbor's phone. Finally, the most important rule is never go back inside for anything. Burning synthetic materials in drapes, rugs, furniture, etc. emit toxic gases which can overcome an unprotected individual in seconds. Nothing, regardless of how valuable, is worth your life."

"Mr. Safety, how can I ever repay you?" pleaded the penitent Pyro. "How about some slightly devalued Atari stock? Maybe a singed glass door knob? How about a copy of my new book, "Home Fire Protection Made Easy?" With that last comment the scion of safety swallowed a few Rolaids with a Pepto-Bismol chaser and left.

Bridge Open

The pedestrian bridge that links NADC's main laboratory complex with the airfield is now opened. The new bridge is located about a hundred feet north of the old bridge which was damaged last year. The bridge is now higher and it has lighted hand rails for safety at night.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL AIR DEVELOPMENT CENTER
WARMINSTER, PENNSYLVANIA 18974

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PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE $300

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AREAS OF INTEREST FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE: