

GLOBE

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Serving the military and civilian community of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center

Women's History Month

See page 6

DLI as a SEAL sees it

See page 7

EEO counseling

See page 9



Photo by PH2 Cindy Harris

Gillea "Scooby"
Benitez, Toddlers'
Group, paints a
mural on the
fence of the Child
Development
Center at the
Presidio of
Monterey. (See
related story,
pages 10-11.)

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So you want to go to DLI?

You may well be in for a humbling experience if you show up at DLI, expecting it to be like other military schools

The article below appeared in Full Mission Profile, The Professional Bulletin of Naval Special Warfare (Spring 1992). Though it is directed at Sea-Air-Land teams, the information and advice applies to almost every student entering the Defense Language Institute.

By CDR Robert Schoultz, USN, Naval Special Warfare Unit EIGHT

Like many frogmen, you have probably experienced being in a foreign country and standing helplessly by, feeling stupid and useless, while one of your buddies is confidently speaking to the locals in their own language, translating for the rest of your group. They always seem to get the coldest *cerveza*, the prettiest girls, the best meals, while you're relegated to a supporting role.

Enough, you say. Being a can-do kind of guy who is used to getting what he wants and being a star performer due to exceptionally strong personal drive, outstanding initiative and iron will, you decide that you, too, can be an expert linguist -- you are going to be the guy who's indispensable, the envy of all the other guys, who carries the success of the mission (whatever it may be) in the palm of his hand. You are going to go to language school and learn that language.

Good plan! However, there are a few things you ought to know first. Many SEALs go to the Defense Language Institute with unrealistic expectations, the wrong attitude or without any idea of what they're in for. As a result, many don't learn their assigned language to their fullest capacity and have extremely frustrating experiences.

In this article I will try to provide some practical advice on how to get the most out of the training. In the process, I hope to give you a better idea of what you're getting into before you get there, in the hopes of making your training less onerous and more enjoyable.

Have an idea of what your language aptitude is. If you don't have a good aptitude for language, you can still learn the language. But you should expect that it's going to be a lot harder for

you than for most of the other students in the class, most of whom were screened to go to DLI based on a very high Defense Language Aptitude Battery score.

Language training is much the same as Basic Underwater Demolition School. While you don't have to be a natural athlete to make it through, you know you're going to have to make up for that lack of natural talent with a lot more motivation, desire and hard work.

If you don't have a strong aptitude for language, expect, going in, that your ego is going to take a beating as you struggle to learn things others in your class grasp easily. Also expect that it will fre-

quently take you hours to do homework that others in class knock out in half an hour or so.

Brush up on your grammar. DLI is much easier for those who have a good knowledge of English grammar. Like most subjects, languages are easier to learn if you have some frame of reference from which to start. It's simpler to learn the parts of an AK-47 if you already know how an M-16 works. Similarly, it's much easier to pick up another language if you understand how your own works. When the instructor begins talking about adjectives and ad-

verbs, direct and indirect objects and the other parts of speech in a foreign language, you'll be in a better position to learn and understand if you already understand the terminology. Otherwise you'll be handicapped by having to learn English grammar along with foreign grammar and vocabulary.

Many frogmen have commented that their lack of understanding of English grammar put them at a distinct disadvantage at DLI and have

Language training is much the same as Basic Underwater Demolition School.

strongly recommended that students fully understand parts of speech, basic sentence construction and grammatical rules prior to attending DLI.

DLI is a desk job in a classroom environment. It's not like Jump School, Dive-Sup Training, Outboard Motor Repair or Over the Horizon Boat Navigation, where you get a mixture of classroom training (where some SEALs are not at their best) and practical training

(where most SEALs excel). This is all classroom, a lot of it quite tedious. Seven hours a day. Months and months of it. With several hours of homework nightly.

You get your PT on your own time. Outdoor activities, such as jumping, diving, hiking, camping and the like, are available, but it's time away from studying.

DLI also has minimum test scores for tests given through the course. If you fail to meet these minimums, the policy is, you go home. Some SEALs have been able to convince a Board of Inquiry to grant an exception and give them a second chance, but it ain't easy, and it's a humiliating process to go through.

You may well be in for a humbling experience if you show up at DLI, expecting it to be like other military schools. You have to do more than just show up, and you won't excel simply by virtue of your force of personality, natural leadership and charm and proven track record as a Special Warrior.

DLI takes busting your butt, studying a lot and doing whatever it takes to learn that language, even if it means cutting back on, or giving up some of those extracurricular activities which have become so dear to you, to succeed. It's a lot like months and months of staff work, only with homework. But it's worth it, in the end, when you get the opportunity to use and develop your language

capabilities after you leave DLI.

DLI is a military organization which doesn't care that you're a SEAL. Administratively, you will be working for the Naval Security Group Detachment, which musters and administers all Navy people at DLI. DLI serves as an "A" (apprentice) school for Navy Cryptologic technicians and provides basic Military Occupation Specialty skill training to Army, Air Force and Marine radio intercept operators and interrogators.

All of which means that, as the language instructional staff is trying to teach language, the military organization is trying to teach the young soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen how to be in the military. So be prepared to put up with more regimentation than you may be used to. The military organization is not designed to recognize you as "Someone Special."

A few of the SEALs have chosen to jump in and excel in leadership positions within the Naval Security Group Detachment and have had a very positive impact on young sailors new to the military. Many have chosen to have as little to do with the military organization as they could get away with, while others have chosen to fight the organization in any way they can.

This last option can divert much needed energy away from language study and perpetuate the attitude that SEALs are a bunch of *prima donnas* who don't want to pull their weight. This can alienate exactly those people who can really help you if you get in a bind with your studies.

Be aware

that, while you are at DLI, you will be expected to fulfill certain military requirements which are geared to a Fleet and/or conventional Army frame of reference, with no apologies to your Naval Special Warfare-unique background or qualifications. You'll also find the bureaucracy which divides responsibilities and functions between (See *SEALS*, p.8)

This is all classroom, a lot of it quite tedious. Seven hours a day. Months and months of it. With several hours of homework nightly.

DLI takes busting your butt, studying a lot and doing whatever it takes to learn that language.

SEALS, from p. 7

the language instructional staff and the military organization to be an awe-inspiring wonderment, no matter what your previous experience.

In the end, you'll just have a basic foundation in your language. You will be a qualified linguist the same way you were a qualified SEAL after you graduated from BUD/S. There is much

work following graduation from DLI to become a qualified linguist as there was to becoming a SEAL after BUD/S. DLI is an unreal world doing its best to prepare you for the real world, but out in the real world, you won't be speaking with a university-trained language instructor. As soon as possible following DLI, you will need some total-immersion time in-country to solidify the classroom training you've received and give you a flavor for how the man in the street talks. Only after you've been in a sink-or-swim environment and survived, armed only with your DLI training, will you begin to feel the pay-off of months and months of instruction. And only then will the NAVSPECWAR community truly benefit from giving up your services for the months you were in language school.

Everyone who leaves language school, even those who walk away with "threes" on their Defense Language Proficiency Tests, experiences the humbling and frustrating experience of getting in-country and wondering if they learned the correct language. It takes time and perseverance to polish those language skills.

Conclusion. DLI offers a great opportunity to learn not only the language, but also about the people and the culture of the country(s) where the language is found. But if you've never learned a lan-

guage before, stand by for a new and extremely demanding experience.

"Maxing out" in an academic environment is different from maxing out at Physical Training or on an operation, but it requires the same level of discipline (maybe more) and professionalism if you are going to make it pay off. Go in with the right attitude, determined to put learning the language as your number-one priority, and you will succeed at

school and learn the language to your fullest capacity.

Think of DLI as a linguistic BUD/S. Just getting by doesn't cut it. It pays to be a winner, and hard work pays.

To the commanding officers and executive officers out there: If you've got a guy who has put up with all the hassles and hard work of language school (and the community had to lose him for the months he was at DLI), get him in-country any way possible, as soon as possible, to give him and the community the maximum benefit of DLI. We might as well need him as a linguist and translator some day soon.

• • • • •
Today, the United States is in a position to positively influence the international security environment to foster economic progress and political stability. In this regard, special operations forces are instruments of

U. S. national policy that play an increasingly vital role in a security environment fraught with change, ambiguity and risk. (USCINCSOC "White Paper," January, 1992)

"Maxing out" in an academic environment is different from maxing out at Physical Training or on an operation, but it requires the same level of discipline (maybe more) and professionalism if you are going to make it pay off.

... if you've never learned a language before, stand by for a new and extremely demanding experience.

Making a difference in the workforce EEO counseling: a rewarding duty

By Elizabeth Gabriel,
EEO counselor

I like people! I like people to get along. That's what it's all about. Do you know what I mean? I help people get along by working as a community volunteer in counseling. I've always hoped that someday I could do the same at work. Well, that someday came about; that's when I decided to become an EEO counselor. I want to help salvage the relationships between employees and supervisors in times of crises. Although things don't work out satisfactorily all the time, I know I've made an impact. Counseling people has interested me ever since I became an Equal Employment Opportunity assistant four years ago. I learned a lot about how the EEO system and counseling work and how employees and management can benefit from the process.

When the opportunity arose, I jumped at the chance to become an EEO counselor, a collateral duty I've held for a year and a half now, and I've learned even more from the people I've dealt with in that position, both in and outside of DLI.

When I started, I was concerned that I might not be able to do my job properly and that I might not be able to say what I needed to say to employees and managers. Most of all, I was concerned that I might leave out important information that employees and managers needed to know.

After my first counseling session with an employee, I realized I was more competent than I'd thought. I knew the regulations that I needed to conduct counseling; in fact, I still find myself checking regulations and verifying information before I say anything to employees.

I also understood the impor-



Photo by PH2 Cindy Harris
Elizabeth Gabriel, EEO counselor and statistical assistant, Evaluation/Research Division, and Angelica Seivwright, EEO assistant, review regulations in the Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

tance of good communication and listening skills. I discovered that the employees and managers I interviewed could be emotional at times. But I felt that their feelings and concerns were important. I had to relate to them as best I could -- a little difficult without appearing detached and emotionless, since my job is to be impartial at all levels of counseling, and at the same time, let people know that I am there to do whatever I can to resolve employment issues. I also know my services are important to them and that I can make a difference in their concerns.

When I accepted a counseling assignment, requested by TRADOC, at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., I felt apprehensive at first about conducting an EEO counseling inquiry outside of DLI. In a new place, I didn't know the situation,

the people, the type of management, or whether to expect friendliness or hostility. Once I was introduced to and had interviewed the people there, I discovered that my inquiry was no different from the counseling inquiries I'd conducted at DLI.

Because of the strong support that I received from the DLI EEO staff, I felt confident. Although TRADOC supervised my counseling inquiry at Fort Huachuca, the DLI EEO staff was there for me whenever I needed information or anything else that they could provide. However, I had to learn the locations of different offices, how the organizational structure worked and who was in

charge of what department. I also had to figure out how to get from one place to the next -- and most importantly -- the employment psychology of the workplace.

In spite of minor problems I encountered (delayed airline flights, misdirected luggage and hotel problems) I am glad that I had the opportunity to do an inquiry outside of DLI. My experience at Fort Huachuca showed me what I can build upon and where I need to strengthen my counseling abilities.

I know the DLI EEO Office is there to help me with counseling. The EEO staff provides me guidance whenever I need it, especially when I feel unsure, so I know I am not working alone.

Realizing that I can make a difference in the work force motivates me to continue counseling.



Sara Castro, Preschool Room, pushes the ball into the sand to keep the ball from rolling so she can climb up on it.



Aaron Huggins, Preschool Room, practices motor skills during play.

April: Month of the Child Child care progresses to Child Development

Story and Photos by PH2 Cindy Harris

Child care providers aren't just babysitters any more. Their attitude and their program fosters child growth and development.

"A parent once said to me, 'It's just day care'. I was offended, since we do more than babysit here. There's a purpose to what we do; it's to enhance the growth and development of children," said Mrs. Marlo Nash, assistant director of the Child Development Center on the Presidio of Monterey.

She explained that, through various activities, the caregivers can encourage the development of the children's social, emotional and physical skills.

"We improve their social skills through their interaction with the caregiver and with each other. This might include sitting and talking or playing together, or it may come out in games." Mrs. Nash said.

"We use positive guidance as our method of discipline to help the children develop their sense of right from wrong. For example, if a child stands on a chair, instead of saying, 'No!' or 'Don't stand on the chair!' or 'Get down!' we calmly go over and help the child down, while saying, 'You need to keep both feet on the floor. It's unsafe for you to be on the chair. You could fall.' We may make this ex-

planation a hundred times a day, but as we repeat the message, the child begins to understand why she needs to stop standing on the chair." said Mrs. Nash. She added, "If a child cries, we simply reassure him."

The CDC provides different activities for each age group to develop the children's physical well-being, according to Mrs. Nash. Infants get muscle massage to stimulate them to learn to roll over, crawl and then walk. The children use playdough, different types of painting techniques and Legos to develop fine motor or small muscle skills. Writing and other manual activities help develop the small muscles. The children play games with balls, ride bicycles and dance to develop their large muscle groups or gross motor skills. These large muscles must be developed for coordination and control.

Although the Center has a comprehensive curriculum, the caregivers still need parent involvement to make their program successful.

"At the center we strive for consistency for each child, so the parents need to let us know what's going on at home. For example, if the parents are trying to wean their infant from the pacifier, they may tell us that they only want the baby to have the pacifier during sleep time. In that case, we try to encourage the child to use the pacifier only then. As long as what they're doing falls within our regulations and guidelines, we can work with the parents," she said.

"Child care centers today focus on ensuring that every facet of the program is multicultural. This an area where parents learning different languages or coming from different cultural backgrounds could help us out by bringing activities such as dancing or story-telling to the center," said Mrs. Nash.

The Center primarily supports DLI's military service members and their dependents. Single military parents have priority, then military parents, followed by one military and one civilian parent, and finally, civilian parents.



Shawby by Infant



etoddlers' Room, brushes up on his artis-
inating class in the afternoon.



1 McCormick, Pretoddlers' Room, stops
shoot the breeze with Mariah Follett,
s' Room.



Above: Timothy Su'a,
Pretoddlers' Room,
moves the railroad tracks
to a different location
during afternoon play
time.



Left: Kara A. Harris gets
the last bite of cereal
during breakfast in the
Infants' Room.

Child care providers need sponsors

Story and photo by PH2 Cindy Harris

Mrs. Rosalie Marclely, Ms. Judy Klispie and Mrs. Rachel Torres, caregivers for the Presidio of Monterey Child Development Center, need sponsors to help



Photo by PH2 Cindy Harris
Mrs. Rosalie Marclely plays with Cullen Skinner and David Castro at the Child Development Center.

in the Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program. The CDA program, designed to enhance the quality of child care, defines, evaluates, recognizes the competence of child care providers and helps them further their training in the physical, emotional, and intellectual needs of children.

Within a year from the time candidates receive their CDA packets, they must complete professional resource files, gather parent opinion questionnaires, undergo formal observations by experienced child care providers, pass an early childhood studies review and be interviewed by an agent of the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition, assigned by the CDA National Credentialing Program, Washington, D.C.

The Washington, D.C., office must receive the \$325 fee from applicants before their oral interviews. If you'd like to help these POM child care providers, call the Child Development Center, 647-5530.

Aiso Library Notes -- Research for class presentations

By Carl C. Chan, librarian

Choosing a specific topic can be the hardest part of preparing a class presentation. The following principles might help:

The Serendipity Principle. You have no topic ideas: browse the book shelves, the periodical shelves or the audio/video shelves until something piques your interest. It's a perfectly acceptable technique.

The Pencil Sharpener Principle. You have a vague notion of a topic but need to sharpen your focus: general encyclopedias have concise topic overviews and can help you decide your approach or direct you to other topics. Of Aiso Library's two English language general encyclopedias, the *Collier's* is more readable (larger type, smaller words), but the *Britannica* goes into greater depth.

The Library also has general encyclopedias in many language collections. You'll find them in the 030 to 039 range in each language section. Find national encyclopedias in the 940 to 999 range. (Note: Some encyclopedias are located in the oversized

shelves at the front of the Library.) You'll also discover topical encyclopedias and dictionaries, located with discursive and analytic works on the same subject.

The Dating Game Principle. You've defined your topic and need books or articles dealing with it: unfortunately, your topic won't jump out of the catalog and shout, "Here I am!" Using the card catalog and other finding tools is like using the personal ads for match-making: you need to know the right code words. Look them up in the *Library of Congress Subject Headings*, the three big, red volumes on top of the card catalog.

For example, if your topic is "partisans in Yugoslavia," you won't find any books under that subject heading. If you look up "partisans," the LCSH will tell you, "use Guerrillas." Look in the card catalog under that listing. However, if you want ". . . in Yugoslavia," and find nothing in the listings under "Guerrillas," check the LCSH again. The entry under "Guerrillas" says, "sa [see also] subdivision 'Underground

movements' under the individual wars, e.g., 'World War, 1939-1945 -- Underground movements'." This is a related topic, which may emphasize political organization yet still discuss military organization.

LCSH also says, "BT [broader term] National liberation movements." A book with one or a few chapters on guerrillas might be listed under this heading instead of under "Guerrillas." Often, you have to go to broader terms at several levels removed to find something relevant to your specific topic. On the other hand, LCSH says, "NT [narrower term] 'Women guerrillas.'" What a find! If you restricted your research to "Guerrillas," you could easily miss out on more specialized topics such as female guerrillas.

Finally, matchmakers have historically made the dating game easier. The reference librarian, there to help you, sometimes makes report writing easier.

So shop around for topics, get an overview, look at your choice both broadly and narrowly, and then create a fantastic report.

Women's History Month: DLI employees recognized

Award ceremony capstones a month of activities



**Mary K. Roberts, personnel spec.,
Civilian Personnel Office**

**Story and photos by
SSG Jim Lovell**

Activities for Women's History Month ended with a flourish March 27 as three DLI civilian employees received special awards from the Federal Women's Program Committee at an awards ceremony held in Nakamura Hall.

Mary K. Roberts, Civilian Personnel Office, received the Woman of the Year award; Jean Oman, secretary in the Middle East School, Employee of the Year award; and Benjamin De La Selva, dean of the Middle East School, Supervisor of the Year award.

The accomplishments of all reflect their diverse and interests.

Mrs. Roberts has been active in advancing the interests of disabled employees at DLI and in the community, Mrs. Oman coordinates many of the issues in the Middle East School, and Mr. De La Selva has aggressively expanded the minority, female and disabled hiring at the Middle



**Jean Oman, secretary,
Middle East School**

East School while working successfully to increase language proficiency.

All three gave credit to their co-workers for their awards. "It's easy to be a good supervisor in the Middle East School," said Mr. De La Selva. "The faculty and staff are quick to offer their help when I need it."

"I really enjoy my job here," said Mrs. Roberts. "It's a great place to work, the teamwork is really outstanding."

When the Employee of the Year, Mrs. Oman, was named, the audience responded with applause and an overwhelming roar of approval. Mrs. Oman has held various positions at DLI and has touched many people along the way.

In addition, the awards ceremony featured a special presentation by Dr. Phyllis Peet, Women's Program coordinator, Monterey Peninsula College.

In her talk, entitled, *History: A View from Women's Culture*, she showed how women's stories and history are reflected through



**Benjamin De La Selva, dean,
Middle East School**

needle work. Her slides showed how African culture is reflected in American and European quilt designs and blanket making.

She showed how Native Americans assimilated the American craft of quilting into their own work.

She talked about needlework's purpose as a practical necessity for clothing and providing warmth for families. Yet, through recycling old fabrics, women also recycled their families' memories and often provided the only bright, decorative items in the household.

The award ceremony was the capstone to a month of Women's History activities. Dr. Ray T. Clifford, provost, gave a presentation on the New Personnel System; Dr. Alan Smith and Dr. Salah-Din Hammoud, Faculty and Staff, offered a workshop entitled *Leadership Styles*; and Dr. Martha Herzog, dean, Curriculum and Instruction, and Mr. Ben De La Selva, dean, Middle East School, gave a workshop on interviewing.

Presidio of Monterey Chapel

Catholic services

Masses

Sunday, 9 a.m. & 5:30 p.m., Chapel
Tuesday, noon, Aiso Library Seminar Rm
Thursday, noon, Aiso Library Seminar Rm

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Sunday, before Mass
(8:15-8:45 a.m. and 4:45-5:15 p.m.)

Protestant services

Worship service

Sunday, 11 a.m., Chapel

Bible Study

Tuesday, noon-luncheon, Chapel Annex
Wednesday, noon-luncheon, Chapel Annex

Jewish service

Friday, 8:15 p.m., Chapel

Ecumenical activities

Pizza-video night

Friday, 7 to 9 p.m., Chapel Annex

POM Chapel, Bldgs. 324, 325

telephone: 647-5281/5405

DLI to observe Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week

The Defense Language Institute will observe Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week May 3-7 with a number of events.

During the opening ceremony, May 3, 3:15-4:30, guest speaker Dr. Walter Wong, director of Environmental Health for Monterey County will base his talk on this year's theme, *Asian/Pacific Americans: Challenges-Changes-Choices on Our Way to the Twenty-First Century*. He will speak at Nakamura Hall Auditorium, Bldg. 619. Refreshments will follow.

On May 5 the Job Assistance Center, Army Career and Alumni Program, will present a workshop

14 GLOBE April 22, 1993

From the Security Office: Security responsibilities

By Steven W. Comerford,
chief, Security Division

Who is responsible for security at the Defense Language Institute? All commanders must maintain security programs and implement security education for their people.

Commanders must implement and enforce security policies and procedures and supervise the protection of classified information. They must make sure that everyone in their organization is trustworthy, has the proper clearance or has had a preliminary security investigation. Commanders may delegate local security-function authority but not responsibility. Security is always the commander's responsibility.

As the DLI security manager and the commandant's authorized representative, I have to establish and administer an effective security program. Each service, directorate, or branch must appoint a security manager to handle the commander's security program, including educating service members and civilians.

The Security Division will provide a course soon for security managers on information security, security education, automation security, communications security, foreign travel briefings and on subversion and espionage directed against the Department of Defense.

Security managers must also oversee the law enforcement and physical security aspects of their organizations, including key and lock control, POV registration, security and registration of privately-owned weapons, crime prevention, terrorism counteractions and operational security.

Look for more security information in future *Globes*.

entitled *Marketing Your Skills*. The workshop will take place at Nakamura Hall Auditorium, Bldg. 619, 8:45 - 10:30 a.m.

During May, the Aiso Library will exhibit an Asian/Pacific Islander cultural display.

The Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaskan Native Employment Program Committee, the Asian and Korean Schools and DLI are sponsoring the week's events.

Navy Navy picnic all wet

By JO2 Doug Stutz

Having a picnic in early Spring calls for being prepared just in case it rains. And due to the Murphy's Law Syndrome that crops up all too often -- especially on weekends -- precaution is the better part of staying dry. The Naval Security Group Detachment prepared for contingencies

during Spring Command Picnic, March 27. Sailors erected a huge tarpaulin over the tables and the area surrounding the gazebo, where most of the day's activities were held.

And rain it did, from a light, intermittent sprinkle to a heavy, steady downpour. The rain drove everyone under the tarp, except

the hardy foursome who carried on a spirited, albeit drenched, game of two-man volleyball. Unfortunately, the dunk tanks had to be shut down. Let's face it, what's the use of trying to dunk someone who's already drenched?

Despite the rain, the barbecue grill sizzled with burgers, hot dogs and chicken. Picnickers also devoured macaroni salad and hot beans and guzzled an assortment of soft-drinks, as well as a sizable container of hot coffee, which attracted more and more cups as the rain continued to fall and people shivered

in the wet chill.

The Morale Welfare and Recreation Auction raised \$1440. Bidding on the 'Dinner for Six,' compliments of LCDR James Blow and his wife, Denise, highlighted the auction. The dinner netted \$160 for the MWR fund.

But CTI1 Peter Olson took in the largest bid. For \$750, Olson promised to join Professional Indoctrination and Development Division, PRIDE, for a week. A sizable number of NSGD's staff and students all pledged \$5, \$10, \$20 (one person even pledged \$100) to 'allow' Olson to undergo the PRIDE experience along with the newbies.

The \$1440 raised for MWR set a record of sorts for NSGD, because only six items and services were auctioned off. An earlier auction raised the \$1990 cash record, but participants had 20 items and services to bid on. NSGD also raised \$550 at a car wash the week before this year's auction. All funds go into the Navy Birthday Ball fund.

NSGD's own, the *Fungo Bat Band*, provided sets of toe-tapping music during the afternoon. The wet weather did have an impact. It kept many of

NSGD's staff and students indoors or away, but for those who showed up to brave the elements, a rain drop or two falling on the hot coals didn't matter at all. What did matter was being with friends and neighbors to enjoy the day, and not let the rain put a damper on things.



Photos by Ph2 Cindy Harris

Above: Naval Security Group Detachment sailor takes his turn at trying to dunk a shipmate before the downpour of rain drenched them both.

Right: George Zetrouer, Brian Duchene and Joseph Dunn, attend to the chicken and hamburgers cooking on the grill.



Air Force

New system improves personnel service

A name change and new computer system are the latest changes to the Air Force personnel unit.

Effective March 1, the Satellite Personnel Activity converted to Military Personnel Activity. The name change reflects the changes made Air Force-wide.

The MPA also changed management. The activity, formerly controlled by Travis AFB, Calif., now falls under the jurisdiction of the 311th Military Training Squadron here.

In addition, MPA became one of the latest Air Force personnel units to receive the Personnel Concept III, an automated personnel communications computer system.

"The system is designed to improve quality, efficiency and personnel services to commanders, staff agencies, unit orderly rooms, and other designated offices," said CMSgt. Coverston Navy, chief of the MPA.

More than three years after the first system was installed at Randolph AFB, Texas, the four-person team linked the MPA to the PC III network. The estimated completion date Air Force-wide is September 1993.

"In today's environment, commanders need information immediately at their finger tips," Navy added. "This new system puts that information at their disposal."

With the new system, authorized users can check assignments, records, EPRs/OPRs, promotional releases, and other pertinent data.

"The people at the Air Force Military Personnel Center have also taken steps to ensure that information not be accessible to unauthorized persons," said Navy.

To access the information, users must have log-in codes and

passwords known only to them.

Though the new system will also help lighten the load for the Military Personnel Flights/Activities, it will add to the load of unit orderly rooms.

"Units will bear responsibility for reenlistment documents, performance reports, alpha rosters, gain files and more," said Navy. "We have become sort of a manager for the personnel system while the units are the primary users."

According to Navy, approximately 90 percent of the records

here have been input into the system.

However, if people wish to review their performance reports, they must go to the MPA in person.

"Of course, when you first install a new system, you have to anticipate some problems," Navy said.

He said he expects the system to be up to par by May 1.

Training and getting familiar with the system, according to Navy, will probably be one of the biggest challenges facing his staff.

Partin earns top student honors

A1C Todd A. Partin earned Student of the Month honors for the 311th Military Training Squadron for March.

He credited becoming a student leader for his success during the Student of the Month board.

"They asked questions on leadership, discipline and basic military knowledge, all the things you need to know to become a student leader," Partin added, "I took being a student leader seriously."

Partin, a native of Winchester, Ind., said he joined the Air Force (February 1992) to further his education but was also encouraged by his father.

"My father was in the Marines for six years but told me to join the Air Force because it would offer me a better lifestyle. So I took his advice," said the 19-year-old Winchester Community High School graduate.

Partin said he plans to make the Air Force a career and hopes to one day retire as a major or lieutenant colonel.

"I'm looking into the possi-



A1C Todd A. Partin

bility of going Bootstrap, going to school while on active duty, or applying for the Air Force Academy," he said.

The Bootstrap Program allows military service members to go to school full time while still on active duty.

Partin, a student in Hebrew, is scheduled to graduate in mid-April.

End of *Ramadan* observed

Photo and story by JO2 Douglas Stutz

The Arabic Departments of the Middle East School, the Persian Department of the Asian School and the Turkish Branch of the Central European School all came together March 25 to celebrate the end of the month-long observance of *Ramadan*, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar.

During *Ramadan*, a daily fast is enjoined from dawn until sunset. The fast is one of the five pillars and basic duties of those of Islamic faith. The other major tenets are *Shahada*, the profession of faith; *Salat*, formal prayer (performed at fixed hours, five times a day, while facing Mecca); *Zakat*, purification (alms-giving to share wealth out of gratitude for God's favor); *Saum*, fasting, and *Hajj*, pilgrimage (to Mecca).

Traditional Arabic music filled the air in DLI's Weckerling Center, and long tables were piled high with tray after tray of delicacies, ranging from meats and side dishes to breads to pastries.

The main dish was kebabs, with a mixture of lamb and beef. The trays held spinach triangle pies and cheese triangle pies, grilled *kibbi*, stuffed grape leaves, *tabbuli* (Arabic salad supreme), yogurt-cucumber salad, rice with saffron and almonds, and other treats. *Baqlawwa* (layered pastry), *qtayif* (filled pastry) and cheese cakes covered the desert table.

"Brothers, sisters, colleagues, I welcome you here to enjoy our celebration," said Mr. Osauma Akkad, DME academic specialist and chairman of the



Faculty, staff and students queue up to the table to sample Arabic cuisine during *Ramadan* observance March 25.

organizing committee for the celebration, "and the many more we will have at DLI for years to come." Also on the official *Ramadan* committee were Ms. Nadia Boctor, Mr. Youseff Hazimeh and Ms. Labibeh Hamoudeh.

"Welcome to the celebration of the end of *Ramadan*," said Mr. Ben De La Selva, DME dean. "This is but one of the two times we all can get together during the year. We're here to enjoy the talk and company and, of course, all the tasty and delicious food."

Enjoy the celebration and food is exactly what the capacity crowd did.

Raining cats and dogs -- and ants

By JO2 Douglas Stutz

The storms lashing through the Monterey Peninsula over these past several months have been a boon for some farmers and a bane for most vehicles on the roadways.

The rainfall has had an impact on plants, animals and also masses of *Hymenopterous* insects of the *formicidae* family (in layman's language: Ants). The ants headed for drier climes when their regular domiciles got waterlogged. As a result, area residents found their homes invaded by unwanted hordes.

Ants are social insects, all 3,500 species of them, all three distinct castes (male, female, worker). Terrific. Being neighborly and stopping by is one thing, but when I awaken to find a siz-

able portion of a local nest --all the uncles, cousins and friends -- investigating the bathroom tile, that's

quite another. And that left-open bag of popcorn? When the kernels move, it's time to literally bag it. Ants are party guests that never leave.

Fortunately, I found that I could exert *some* control over re-occurring visits by not leaving uncovered food out and by keeping my quarters clean and depositing all soda cans and garbage



into the proper, ant-proof receptacles.

The encyclopedia *says* these 'sophisticated species' are vegetarian. But who gives these miniature storm troopers their marching orders? And how do we know that some crazed commander of ants won't order a crawly battalion to mobilize and advance on an unsuspecting ankle?

If invasion occurs again, is it possible to contract out for an aardvark or anteater? Killer bees have reached the southern border, and how do we know that some sneaky strain of voracious Amazonian army ants hasn't infiltrated the area, gearing up for the outdoor barbecue season?

Guess the weather has put the kibosh on picnicking plans in more ways than one.

Leisure

Tours

April 25, Cherry Blossom Festival. Celebrate an ancient Japanese tradition with a salute to the blooming cherry trees. Tour Japanese tea gardens, Japantown and watch the parade at 1 p.m., \$20
 May 8, San Francisco get acquainted tour \$20
 May 8, Summer festival and Oldies bands, including the Platters, Drifters and Coasters. \$28.50
 For more information call 242-3092,

Tickets/Discounts

Purchase Galaxy 6 (for \$4.25), United Artist (for \$4.50) movie tickets in advance at ITT.
 Entertainment Book '93, \$40. Get 50 percent off dining, entertainment, hotel and travel. Good through Nov. 1.
 Town and Country 2-for-1 Fine Dining, \$20.

POM Rec Center

Talent Show

April 24: 8-10 p.m., Coffee House musicians with non-amplified instruments are welcome to perform. Sign up by 7 p.m.

June 12: 7:30 p.m., FORSCOM Festival of Performing Arts talent show. Cash prizes, no entry fee. Call Dave Allen at 647-5447 for more information.

Tournaments

April 23,30 and May 7, : 6:30 p.m., pool tournaments. Table Tennis tournaments held at 7 p.m., same dates.

POM Youth Center

Summer Program includes Piano, boxing, Taekwon do instruction, nature walks, bike tours, fishing trips, swimming, dancing, baking lessons, and much more. call 647-5237 for more information.

Lewis Hall (Old Gym)

Bldg 228, Tele. 647-5506

Hours: Mon-Fri:
6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Fort Ord Recreation

Boat rentals

Fort Ord has power boats and canoe rentals at Moss Landing. Call 242-7322 now to reserve a boat for salmon season or a trip up Elkhorn Slough.

Riding

Fort Ord riding stables offers weekday or weekend riding lessons, trail rides and pony rides. Call 899-7737 for more information.

Water Sports

Fort Ord Outdoor Rec Center offers a Open Water I Scuba Course, \$200, this month; Power Boat Classes, \$8; Surfing Classes, \$40; Open Water II Scuba Course, \$85. Call 242-7322/3486 for more information.

Frame and Photo Shops have new operating hours

Monday, Thursday and Friday, hours are 12-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. -5 p.m. Shops are located near 3rd Avenue and 9th Street.

The Presidio Student and Faculty Club, Bldg. 221

Hours of operation,

Dining Room and Snack Bar:
 Breakfast, 7-10 a.m., Tues.-Fri.
 Lunch, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Tues.-Fri.
 Dinner, 7-10 p.m., Tues.
 Orders to go: phone 649-1822

Hours of operation, Bar and Ballroom

Tues. - Breakfast, lunch and evening lounge, 4:30-11 p.m.
 Bingo 7:30-10p.m.
 Wed. - Breakfast, lunch and Country and Western 4:30-11 p.m.
 Thurs. - Breakfast, lunch and Ladies night.
 Fri. - Breakfast, lunch, Variety Music D.J. and dinner.
 Sat. - Variety Music D.J. and dinner.
 Closed Sunday, Monday and Holidays

Community and Family Activities Division:
Bldg. 842, Presidio of Monterey. Tele. 647-5557.

Community and Family Activities Division:
Bldg. 284G, 12th St. & E Ave., Fort Ord. Tele. 242-6543.

Outdoor Recreation: Bldg. 3109, 4th Ave., Fort Ord. Tele. 242-7466/3486 or FHL 16-2677/385-1207.

POM ITT Office: Bldg. 843. Tele: 647-5377.
 Open Thurs. and Fri., 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. closed - 1-2 p.m. on those days. Tours available to active-duty and retired military, DoD civilians and family members on announcement.

POM Youth Center: Bldg. 454. Tele. 647-5277. Active-duty or retired military and DoD civilian family members may participate. Open 1-7 p.m. Mon - Fri. Closed Sat., Sun. and holidays. The Center offers pool tables, air hockey, table tennis, football, Nintendo games, board games, a library and a snack bar.

POM Rec Center: Bldg. 843. Tele: 647-5277.
 Open 5-9:30 p.m. Mon.-Thurs.; 5- 10 p.m., Fri.; 1:30-10 p.m. Sat.; 12:30-9 p.m. Sun. and holidays.

Runnin', bikin', swimmin'

By JO2 Douglas Stutz

During the past decade, more and more fitness-minded people of all ages, shapes and sizes have picked up the triathlon challenge.

And like the people, triathlons come in all shapes and sizes, from Hawaii's grueling Iron Man's Triathlon with its 2½-mile swim, 26.2-mile jaunt, and 110-mile bike ride, to Fort Ord's Law Day Triathlon, with its 500-yard pool swim, 10-mile bike ride and 4-mile run.

The organizers of the May 8 event bill the Law Day triathlon as perfect for first-timers and weekend athletes who want to try something different. Experienced triathletes will find it a good, short-course sprint.

Children aged 12 and under can also compete. Their course will feature a 50-yard pool swim, 2-mile bike ride and 1/2-mile run.

Kids 12 years old and under can compete free; teens, 13 to 19, must pay \$8 before April 23 or \$10 on race day. Adults, 20 and over, must pay \$12 before April 23, and \$15 on race day.

Each child will get a ribbon, and the top three overall in each age group will receive medals. All paying participants will get T-shirts. Officials will stress safety throughout the event. Helmets are mandatory for bikers. Participants will not be permitted to wear earphones during the competition.

DLI Staff and students can register at Price Fitness Center. For more information, call 242-2422.

NPS Soft ball Tourney slated

The Navy Postgraduate School will host the 3rd Annual *Cinco De Mayo* Softball Tournament May 1-2. It is open to military teams only. The entry fee is \$150 for the double elimination tournament. The top three finishers will win trophies, as will individuals on the team placing first. The deadline to sign up is April 23. For more information call QMI Ben Martin, 686-2217.

Bats, balls, bases and breaks

By JO2 Doug Stutz

Softball season is right around the corner. Already teams have broken out the bats, balls and gloves. If last year's season at the Defense Language Institute is anything to go by, every team should stock up on ace bandages, ice packs, and at least one pair of crutches.

Silas B. Hayes Hospital at Fort Ord and DLI's PRIMUS Clinic handled a

number of softball injuries, many because the ball fields didn't have breakaway bases.

Sliding players caught up in speed and momentum often found themselves on collision courses with stationery bases.

When an irresistible force meets an immovable

object, something's got to give — frequently a tibia or a femur.

The Institute of Preventive Sports Medicine conducted a study last year which showed that an estimated three of every four softball (and baseball) injuries occur because bases that players slide into don't have breakaway capability.

With all the amateur leagues scattered all over the country, we're talking approximately two million injuries a season from running the base paths.

The American Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Society said that breakaway bases dramatically cut the risk of injuries -- which dramatically reduces health care costs.

The playing fields on DLI, exposed to the wear and tear of time and the elements, might be an accident waiting to happen. Drainage problems, uneven in-fields, and a patchwork outfield can lead to footing difficulties for base runners and er-

atic hops at fielders.

Anyone who has grown up playing on any type of makeshift sandlot, though, doesn't usually stop to consider the condition of the playing surface. The game itself, between the chalk lines, is all that matters -- until a bone parts or a ligament pulls.



Achievement



Photo by Source AV

During graduation ceremonies at the Tin Barn March 25, the graduates above, received the following awards: Commandant's Award, Cat. I, Sgt. Michael S. Durham; Martin J. Kellogg Award, SGT Steve R. Gutierrez; Commandant's Award, Cat. III, SA Christopher R. Christian; Maxwell D. Taylor Award, PFC Janet R. Spear; Provost's Award, Cat. IV, SN Donald M. Hamilton, Jr.; Commandant's Award, Cat. IV, and AUSA Award, LCpl. Donald A. Moore; Provost's Award, Cat. I, SGT Kim Harker; Provost's Award, Category III, A1C Eileen M. Burke; Kiwanis Award, SPC Timothy M. Palmer.



Photo by Source AV

BG Kenneth W. Simpson congratulates COL Vladimir Sobichevsky after presenting him with the Defense Superior Service Medal March 18 in Munzer Hall, as Mrs. Vladimir Sobichevsky looks on. COL Sobichevsky was recognized for service in his last assignment as director of Operations, Special Operations Command, Pacific, a subunified command of U.S. Commander-in-Chief, Pacific. He was responsible for all Special Operations Forces Joint/Combined operations in the U.S. Pacific Command. BG Simpson described COL Sobichevsky as a "superior soldier at the helm of the premier language institute. He is one heck of a warrior, soldier and scholar."

Congratulations

The Arabic Basic Course Class, January 1992- March 1993;
The Korean and Vietnamese Basic Course Classes, April 1992 - March 1993;
and the Spanish Basic Course Class, September 1992 - March 1993,
at the Defense Language Institute graduated March 25, 1993
at the Tin Barn

Guest speaker: Carl Erickson, supervisor, DLI Special Forces Spanish and Portuguese Curriculum

Development Project

Honors and Awards

- Commandant's Award, Category I:
Sgt. Michael S. Durham
- Commandant's Award, Category III:
SA Christopher R. Christian
- Commandant's Award, Category IV:
LCpl. Donald A. Moore
- Provost's Award, Category I:
SGT Kim Harker
- Provost's Award, Category III:
A1C Eileen M. Burke
- Provost's Award, Category IV:
SN Donald M. Hamilton, Jr.
Maxwell D. Taylor Award:
PFC Janet R. Spear
- Martin J. Kellogg Award:
SGT Steve R. Gutierrez
- AUSA Award:
LCPL Donald A. Moore
- Kiwanis Award:
SPC Timothy M. Palmer
- Korean Consul General's Award:
CW2 Monte A. Littlefield
- Donor Book Awards:
PFC Shane E. Cawood,
PFC Andrew V. Cook
- Arabic Faculty Book Awards:
PFC Casey R. Alt,
LCpl. Joaquin R. Legorreta,
SSgt. Jeffery A. Shoemaker
- Korean Faculty Book Awards:
PFC Steven A. Padilla,
PFC Byron D. Thigpen
- Vietnamese Faculty Book Awards:
A1C Eileen M. Burke,
SPC Timothy M. Palmer,
PFC Stephen P. Rothrock