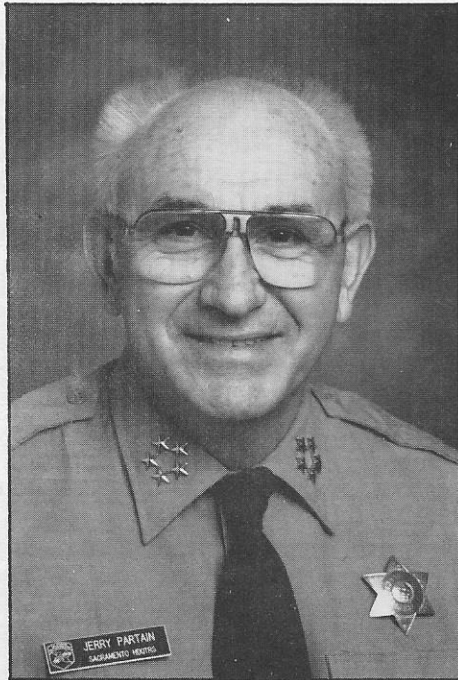




See story on pg. 4

Photo by Darren Read, Butte Ranger Unit

AUGUST 1987



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Here at CDF we are always stressing the need for fire safe practices out in California's wildlands. Many of you have seen the destruction that wildland fires have done to thousands of acres of what once was beautiful, scenic land. Now, with summer in full swing and vacation time on the minds of most, there is one more thing that I would like you to consider as you and your family head for the beaches, mountains, lakes and recreation areas of California; Litter.

The litter problem in California is getting worse! Check these facts:

- Litter has increased 24 percent along California's highways since 1974.
- 57.8 percent of littering is deliberate.
- 80 percent of deliberate littering is done by people 30 years of age and under.
- 72 percent of this group is male.

I know that litter isn't a subject you'd expect to be reading about in the *Communiqué* but the California Waste Management Board has asked for help in bringing the message home. *California is at its best when it's clean.* And, while it may seem insignificant at the time, each one of us has the ability to keep it that way.

So, as you head out with the family for your summer vacation please remember to be fire safe and to pick up after yourselves when you're out there.

Have a safe and litter-free summer.

JERRY PARTAIN
Director

DIRECTOR HONORS EIGHT CDFers)

Director Partain recently presented eight CDFers with Sustained Superior Accomplishment Awards for their contributions to the department of exceptional job performance over *at least* a two-year period.

Forester III Hal Slack, who works in the Resource Management section in Sacramento, was honored for his efforts in utilizing the electronic data processing system to streamline maintenance, retrieval and manipulation of Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) and Forest Practice Act enforcement data. His work has greatly improved the efficiency of these programs.

Budget Officer Craig Anthony of the Sacramento Budget Office was awarded for his work over the last three years as project leader in the design and development of CDF's automated field accounting system. His work on the task force evaluating CDF's fiscal management problems with the 84/85 budget was also a factor in his nomination for the award.

Gloria Deroo, associate governmental program analyst in Sacramento, was honored for her work as Fire Protection's administrative officer. She was responsible for implementing a system of budget management and expenditure analysis for Fire Protection's \$42 million budget. Deroo also spent time (much of it personal) developing and conducting a formal administrative training program for technical and senior management staff.

State Archeologist II Dan Forester was presented with the award for his work managing CDF's Archeological Pro-

gram. He expended much personal time and effort conducting training sessions for timber company foresters and the general public on the managing of California's cultural resources. Foster's work has earned him the respect of CDF staff, landowners, professional foresters, loggers, environmentalists and Native Americans.

Fire Prevention Officer Dan Krader of the Humboldt-Del Norte Ranger Unit was honored for his work in fire and law enforcement throughout Humboldt and Del Norte counties. He was personally responsible for the apprehension and successful prosecution of several arsonists and at least two felony arson convictions in the last four years.

Forester II Bill Krelle who works at the Magalia Nursery was presented with the award for changes he has initiated that have significantly improved seedling production and quality. In addition he implemented contract seedling production which has resulted in more efficient utilization of nursery bed space.

Forestry Cook II Chuck Williams of the Butte Fire Center was honored for his work on numerous emergency incidents over the years. He has earned the respect and admiration of CDF, and CCC staff, as well as emergency managers and staff of other state, local and federal agencies.

Heavy Fire Equipment Operator Bob Harvey of Tehama-Glenn was awarded for work beyond his normal duties, in the areas of equipment maintenance and repairs, faulty construction and road maintenance. His efforts have resulted in considerable savings to the Tehama-Glenn Ranger Unit. Additionally, bulldozer safety classes conducted by Harvey have resulted in increased overall dozer safety.

CAL-ORE-WASH SILVICULTURAL COMPETITION

By: Forester III Cliff Fago

California recently reclaimed the Cal-Ore-Wash Silvicultural Trophy for having the fastest growing ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on state forest lands in 1986. The trophy was presented to Director Partain by Art Stearns, Supervisor of the Washington Department of Natural Resources at the Western State Foresters' meeting in Santa Cruz on June 15, 1987.

Each year CDF, the Washington Department of Natural Resources, and the Oregon Department of Forestry submit

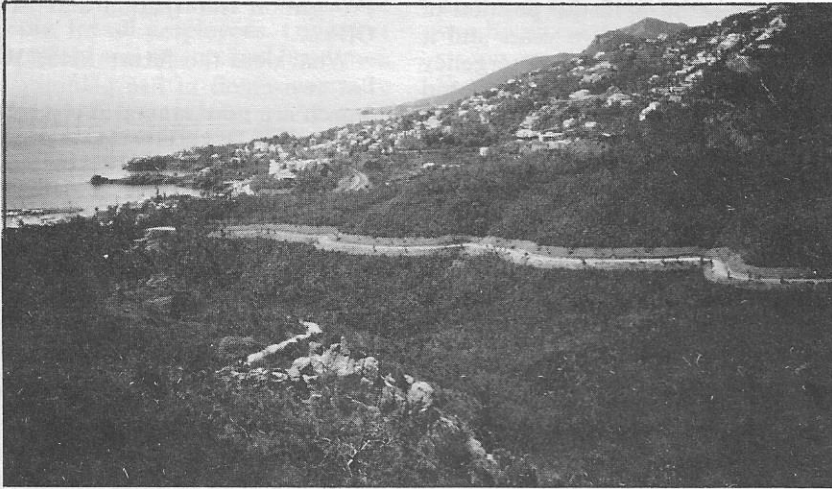
documentation of the fastest growing Douglas-fir and Ponderosa pine they can find on their state lands. The leader on each tree is measured (a leader is the uppermost growth on a tree and represents the current year's height growth.)

California's winning entries were a Douglas-fir on Jackson State Forest with 67.5 inches of 1986 height growth and a ponderosa pine on Boggs Mountain State Forest with 38 inches of new growth for a total of 105.5 inches. The State of Washington placed second with entries totaling only 94 inches. Washington has dominated the competition, winning five out of the last seven years. California's only other first place was in 1984. Oregon has never placed first.

The redwood trophy was crafted in California's Conservation Camp Program in 1980.

FIRE PROTECTION IN EUROPE

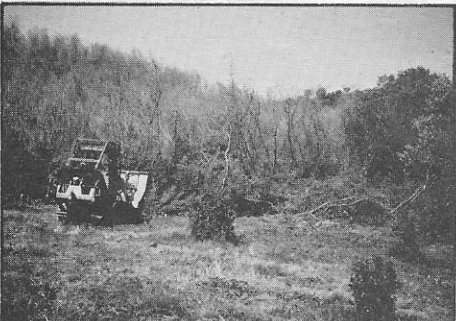
These photos were taken during Director Partain's recent tour of fire agencies in Europe (see July Communiqué for story), and show some of the ways in which other countries handle their wildland fire and resource problems.



A fuelbreak is cleared through this frost-killed mimosa near Grasse in Southern France.



The watercannon on this Italian fire engine reaches out 150 meters (492 feet).



Roadside brush clearing in the hills above Nice, France.

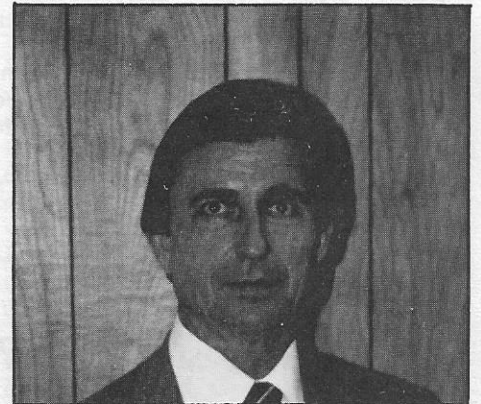


A rotating head, with heavy chain sections attached, is used to clear brush in France.



Trainees at the National Fire Academy in Rome compete to erect jointed, 32-foot ladders.

FIRE PREVENTION'S LOSS



Sacramento's Fire Prevention Section recently lost Fire Prevention Information and Education Officer Jack Wiest to a promotion just across the hall in Fire Protection. As of June 1, 1987, Jack took over the chief of fire planning and research position left by Ray Stewart, newly appointed Ranger-in-Charge of Shasta-Trinity.

During his four-year stay in Fire Prevention Jack spent a lot of his time on the creation and implementation of such programs as Smokey and the Pro's, the current Mass Media Program with Manning, Selvage, and Lee, Skytypers, and the Interagency Fire Prevention Committee.

"That job was the highlight of my career, so far," said Jack. "It allowed for a lot of innovativeness and creativity and I think CDF's Fire Prevention Program has benefited greatly from that."

Even though Jack will miss his fire prevention work he says that there are a lot of new things to be learned in his current position. Fire Protection is constantly working a variety of projects which Jack will now be keeping track of, including the California Fire Economic (CFES) Simulator. This computerized system will allow CDF to locate or relocate resources (i.e., stations, equipment, and personnel) according to the amount and type of fire activity expected in an area. The system should be ready for implementation before the 1988 Fire Season.

Other planning projects include the Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS), computerization of Fire Protection's entire fire statistics recording system, the preparation of responses to a Department of Finance study that was recently released.

"There's a lot to keep tabs on," Jack said, but he intends to get a good grasp on all of it.

Jack joined CDF in 1960 as a seasonal

(Cont. on pg.4)

(Cont. from pg.3)

firefighter with the Butte Ranger Unit. Soon after he spent two seasons as a lookout, before taking the fire apparatus engineer exam (then forest fire truck driver) and spent a brief time with Shasta-Trinity.

In 1964 Jack became a permanent CDFer as an FAE in Butte. He remained there until 1972 working his way up to

fire captain. He promoted to fire captain specialist in 1972 and transferred to the Lake-Napa Ranger Unit. Two years later he moved south to San Bernardino as a ranger I where he held the position of training officer. Two more years and it was back to Butte as the Emergency Command Center Chief. Jack promoted to state forest ranger II in 1977 and joined

the Tulare Ranger Unit as administrative officer for six years.

In 1983 he made the big move to Sacramento's Fire Prevention Section as Fire Prevention Information and Education Officer.

What does the future hold? Well, the last two chiefs of fire planning and research are now ranger-in-charge so who knows.

VIP news

BUSY VIP'S IN NYP

Under the leadership and guidance of Volunteers in Prevention (VIP) coordinator, Fire Captain Charlie Jakobs and fire prevention assistants Jeff Harter and Barbara Easter, the Nevada-Yuba-Placer (NYP) Ranger Unit VIP's have been more than their usual busy-bee selves.

During the past school year NYP VIP's presented Fire Safety Programs to 63 kindergarten thru third grade classes and 40 preschool and day care centers.

VIP's also participated in the first annual "Nevada County Child Safety Day" with 11 other agencies. Displays and events promoting child safety ranged from finger printing to fire safety demonstrations.

The Nor-Cal I-80 Control CB Club (all VIP's) conducted their 16th Annual Memorial and Labor Day roadside safety breaks at the Gold Run rest area on Interstate 80. VIP's provided tired motorists with refreshments and vast assortment of fire prevention material. Even Smokey squeezed the event into his busy schedule.



Following appearances at numerous parades, demonstrations and events Smokey hoped to catch a quick nap before the fair season.

NYP VIP's have been busy planning and constructing displays for each of five fairs in the ranger unit. CDF personnel

along with the U.S. Forest Service will again assist the VIP's during the 19-day state fair run in Sacramento. With their help Smokey will be able to reach thousands of fair goers with his fire prevention message.



NYP VIP's set up this display for Child Safety Day

Forestry features

ON THE COVER

LPG FIRE LIGHTS UP OROVILLE

by: State Forest Ranger I Bill Holmes

On Monday, April 6, at 6:03 a.m., CDF/Butte County Fire Department (BCFD) responded to an explosion and fire at the Koppers pole treatment plant in Oroville. Ultimately, 12 engines, one squad, one air utility, three volunteer compa-

nies and six chief officers were committed to the incident.

Koppers Company treats wood products under pressure with a solution containing 90 percent liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), 5 percent Pentachloride (Penta) and 5 percent Isobutyl Ether. Koppers has been one of EPA's targeted companies for the Superfund clean up for sometime. Firefighters have always felt a chill down their spine when they drive by the plant because of the known toxicity and explosiveness of the plant. A previous fire in 1963 leveled the plant.

On this date, a plant employee mistakenly pushed a valve control button at the wrong time sending liquid LPG out of a 30,000-gallon work tank through a small mixing tank, blowing the valve off the top and sending liquid LPG into the atmosphere. The employee suffered only a minor burn on one finger.

At 6:11 a.m., CDF/BCFD Battalion Chief Bill Holmes arrived at the scene and was met by Koppers employees who reported an injured worker at the site. A massive amount of fire was showing with flames reaching 150 feet in the air. Staging was established 1000 feet from the

(Cont. on pg.5)

(Cont. from pg.4)

fire at the west gate to the plant. Chief Holmes made a primary search for the injured employee and a reconnaissance. Upon returning to the west gate, he was met by the plant supervisor who was able to account for all employees. Objective #1, life safety and rescue, had been met. Objective #2 was to provide exposure protection and evacuation.

The fire was burning out of the top of a mixing tank and was being fed by two 30,000-gallon LPG work tanks and one 60,000 gallon LPG treatment tank. The LPG solution is pumped back and forth between the work tanks and the treatment tanks through the small mix tank which adds more Penta as needed. There was direct flame impingement on one LPG work tank and the LPG treatment tank. A silo containing several thousand pounds of pure Penta was engulfed in flame and was not visible until much later. A Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion (BLEVE) appeared imminent.

A decision was made by Chief Holmes not to take direct action but to evacuate around the plant. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) and Oroville City Fire and Police cordoned off a half-mile radius area around the plant. CDF/BCFD personnel evacuated residents and businesses which included a Louisiana-Pacific lumber mill and hardboard plant adjacent to Koppers.

At 6:33 a.m., Division Chief Hawkins arrived and assumed command. Chief Holmes was assigned as operations section chief. The command post was moved further back to a knoll overlooking the plant. Fire units were standing by expecting an eventual explosion and fire the magnitude of which would have leveled Koppers and started many other fires.

The plant manager and engineer were in the command post with their material safety data sheets and were extremely helpful and informative to the incident command and operations chief. Without their presence the situation would have been impossible to fully assess.

Two plant personnel who were volunteer firemen were allowed back in to activate the emergency fire pump, the deluge system over the LPG tanks, and to turn off the plant electrical power. In addition, they were able to turn off a valve leading from the LPG treatment tank to the fire. Without their efforts, things could have been much worse. The LPG product in the work tanks eventually expended itself and the fire went out. All units were released around noon.

There were no injuries to firefighters or civilians, with the exception of the plant worker.

However, the fire was only the begin-

ning. Public concern over the smoke column containing possible cancer causing dioxins and furans from the burning Penta became the big issue. The smoke column was rising 2,000 feet in the air and was being carried off and dispersed by a strong north wind. A decision by the Butte County Health Officer not to evacuate beyond what had been done was criticized.

At the direction of State Health Director, Ken Kizer, Butte County Health Director Chester Ward sent out an advisory to all citizens down-wind to leave their homes until test results came back and determined the area safe. Firefighters and citizens were sent to the Butte County Health Office and were screened by State Health Department personnel who took blood and urine samples.

There were many public meetings involving concerned citizens and the agencies involved. Eventually a special investigative committee was formed by the Board of Supervisors to look into any wrongdoing by the agencies involved.

In the final analysis, the CDF/BCFD was found faultless and, in fact, was commended for the job they did and the decisions they made. The Butte County Health Officer who had made the decision not to evacuate downwind and had taken the most public flack, was exonerated. No contamination was found outside the plant; however, high levels of Penta in the soil around the fire area were found. Several pairs of turnout boots and leather boots were disposed of because of possible contamination. These were worn by officers, investigators and firefighters who had gone in after the fire unaware of the fallout contamination.

At this writing, decontamination of the fire area is just beginning. All soil must be contained and sealed on site because there is no place to send it.

The photo on the cover was taken by VIP photographer Darren Read. A video tape taken by an Oroville City Volunteer was also taken and was quite useful to EPA and State Health.

CDF IS CHANGING ITS STRIPES/

By Carol Harnsberger

...Among other things. For instance, sedans that used to be the familiar forest green color will now be white with red stripes. CCVs (crew carrying vehicles) are changing from green to red. Aircraft, which used to be lime yellow, will now be white with red stripes.

But wait. Too much change is unsettling. The rest of the fleet, engines and pickups, will remain fire engine red, of course. And, as in the past, bulldozers and heavy equipment will still be yellow.

Why the changes? Though most of CDF's fleet of sedans and administrative vehicles have been green for years, a manufacturer's decision to discontinue the trusty forest green color has forced a change. Butte Ranger Unit is the first to display the new approved markings for sedans. Sacramento Headquarter's Fire Protection section has acquired a sedan patterned after the Butte prototype, and a few more are on order.

Arriving at the final color decision wasn't easy according to Bill Teie, Chief of Fire Control Operations in Sacramento. Despite the pressures to select another shade of green following the vendor's "no special color" edict, or to choose a fire engine red instead, white with red stripes prevailed and was approved by Director Partain.

Of course, as with most changes it won't happen overnight. CDFers will be seeing the new colors and markings gradually as older vehicles are replaced.

MILESTONES

We're still toying with the idea of creating a "little sister" to the *Communiqué* in the form of "Milestones," a brief tabloid that will include all sorts of little tidbits about CDF and its employees; however, without your support it just can't be done.

So far, we have heard from exactly "O" CDFers as to what they think about this project. In case there is some confusion out there let me explain what we're talking about. "HFEO Joe is getting married, Fire Captain Bill just retired and is heading out in his motorhome... Ranger-in-Charge Bob and his wife just had a baby, Region Chief Tom just turned 65, have you heard the one about..., you should have seen the one that got away... SFR II Don was just elected to...". Milestones would give you the opportunity to share some of this kind of stuff with your pals down in Riverside now that you have transferred to Redding and vice-versa.

I know that somewhere out there someone is thinking this is a good idea because I've had calls from you in the past on these same issues. I need to hear from you because you are the ones who are going to supply us with the facts, stories and anecdotes to fill a one or two-page "Milestones."

Drop either Karen Terrill or myself, Lisa Boyd, a line or give us a call and let us know what you think, PLEASE!!

PRE-FOURTH WARNINGS



Dick Day, deputy director, Fire Protection, stresses the importance of being fire safe in the wildlands to prevent destruction like the residents of Pebble Beach recently experienced

We got through the Fourth of July without any MAJOR fires. Of course, we know that the reason for this is the fantastic job all of you are doing out in the field catching, containing, and controlling all those fires while they're still small. However, some credit has to go to the media for covering events like the one pictured here.

On June 29, CDF, the Office of Emergency Services, and the State Fire Marshal's office worked together to demonstrate fireworks safety and fire safe practices before the big Fourth of July weekend. Both "safe and sane" and illegal fireworks were displayed and discussed. A dry grass field nearby was used as an example when a "safe and sane" firework was lit among the grass. Fanned by low winds, the flames took off instantly, clearly illustrating the danger of all fireworks in wildland areas.

Engine 4577 from Amador-El Dorado joined OES and local fire crews as a backdrop for cameras, and backup in case flames got out of hand.

IT'S A TEST!

Come on out there, we know that you know the answers to these questions! They ran in the June Communiqué, page 10.

So far we only have two answers (#8 and #11) both from Dennis Turco, fire prevention coordinator with the Oregon Department of Forestry. (We have also been told unofficially that the answer to one of these questions isn't fit to print!)

- 1) What is a *Vectrograph* used for and briefly describe how it is used?
- 2) An *Atometer* is used to measure what?

3) In *turpentine* what do we mean by *turn*?

4) What is the main characteristic of NGR stain?

5) What is the key factor in using a *hotskiway*?

6) When we use the operation of *scrupper nailing* what are we working on?

7) A _____ refers to a long tooth level arm used to turn logs on a sawmill carriage?

8) *Out-planting* refers to: Removing seedlings from a nursery or plant-

ing bed, for transportation to, and planting in, a reforestation site.

9) A *timber compass* will indicate magnetic north (True) (False)

10) What is *Huber's Formula*?

11) As a logger we would describe a *flag* as a: Dead limb or a limb with dead needles, on a green, standing conifer.

12) Define a *Fetch* as part of the terrain?

13) An *Anemotrygograph* is used to record what?

We're waiting to hear from you!

FIRE STATS '87

Comparison to date: (thru July 19, 1987)

	<u>FIRES</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
1987	5,590	22,529
1986	4,443	23,606
1985	5,234	204,658

MAJOR ACTIVITY

<u>Ranger Unit</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Cont.</u>	<u>Size</u>
Madera-Mariposa RU	Merced Falls	6-25	6-26	300
Lake-Napa RU	Haswell	6-26	6-26	310
Marin County	Big Rock	7-3	7-4	465
Humboldt RU	Huffman	7-5	7-7	70
San Bern. NF	Nelson	7-6	7-6	120
San Diego RU	Carrizo	7-12	7-13	300

RANGERS-IN-CHARGE IN HUMBOLDT

The Humboldt-Del Norte Ranger Unit recently established a photo gallery of past rangers-in-charge. Mounted in custom made 8" X 10" oak frames, the collection will preserve a part of CDF history.

The photos date from 1921 to the present and have been placed in the CDF-USFS emergency command center's newly constructed conference room.

Special thanks for contributing their time and energy towards this goal go to Ray Clar, former chief deputy state forester, Ed Poe, retired CDF, Cliff Chapman, Humboldt-Del Norte Operations Chief, and Fire Captain "A" Charles Garrison. Stop by and take a look next time you're in the area.

"COYOTE BASE"

On May 27, 1987, the Sonoma Ranger Unit shook out its incident base and invited just about everyone to watch.

The event, called "Coyote Base" gave the ranger unit a change to use its incident base and work the bugs out, as well as allowing other fire services, cooperating agencies, and public officials to walk through and participate. The Coyote Base operation included all resources that could be involved in a real incident. Set up on 11 acres at the Sonoma County Airport the event included hose lay, hand line, and mobile attack demonstrations.

The Sonoma Volunteers-in-Communication (VIP's) ran the communications section for CDF and had their Packet system set up to transmit hard copy between the base and the ranger unit headquarters. Also on display and in use was the Amateur Television (ATV) system from the Santa Clara Ranger Unit. (Look for more on the ATV system in an upcoming issue.)

The day was climaxed by a fire set up by Copter 106 using its Automatic Ignition Device. The fire was then doused with pin point accuracy by Tanker 90 and finished off with water drops by Copter 106.

Cooperating fire agencies were invited to display their equipment and respond

ed with a wide variety of apparatus. Included were a heavy dozer from the California National Guard, a Hazardous Materials Response Truck from the city of Santa Rosa, Guerneville FPD brought their new 75' Telesquirt and Penngrove showed off their new triple combinatin engine. The National Weather Service set up a Climatronics mobile weather station providing global weather information. In all more than 25 pieces of equipment were displayed.



Sonoma Ranger Unit VIP's man the ATV system and PAC equipment.

Lunch was supplied by the Black Mountain Kitchen Crew serving over 330 roast beef meals from the Sonoma Kitchen trailer.

When all the excitement died down, a critique was held and then the incident base was broken down and returned to Santa Rosa Headquarters.

The exercise was well worth the effort and judging by all the complimentary letters the Sonoma Ranger Unit received was appreciated by those who attended.



Alma Helitack 106 with its first waterdrop.

TWO NEW CDFers!



LuRetta Fairman, and her constant companion Radish, joined CDF on July 1, 1987, as part of the Resources Agency Management Training Program (RAMTP).

RAMPT allows participants to acquire "hands on" experience in areas such as budget and fiscal planning, legislation,

public information, personnel, affirmative action and resource management. LuRetta will spend eight months with CDF and eight months with two other agencies as part of the two-year program.

In addition to these training assignments, participants attend Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) classes in management principles and techniques, and take part in field trips, seminars, and other special programs.

LuRetta has been working with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the past four years, so she and her guide dog, Radish, (LuRetta has been blind since age six due to cancer of the retina) are a familiar sight here in the Resources Building.

She is currently a computer programmer (programmer II). "I got into computer programming because of the part of me that likes things very concise and mathematical," said LuRetta. As a matter of fact, when she first started her college education LuRetta intended to study, and then teach math. However, at that time there was an over abundance of teachers so she turned towards her other interest, human services. LuRetta now holds a degree in philosophy and a masters in ministry.

LuRetta says that the FAMTP opportunity came along at just the right time. "Although I still thoroughly enjoy computer programming, I felt ready to go in another direction."

LuRetta will spend her eight months working in the CDF Legislative Office. she will be learning the legislative process and, analyzing and tracking bills.

Trips to the State Legislature to listen in on the proceedings, and the testimony of fellow CDFers have kept LuRetta and Radish busy. LuRetta says that she's enjoying her training and Radish isn't complaining either.

You may be curious as to how LuRetta can study and analyze bills, as well as attend legislative sessions, with her disability. Well, she seems to be prepared for just about any assignment given to her.

On LuRetta's desk sits a machine that looks like a small typewriter. It's called a brailer and it allows LuRetta to make notes, take messages, or write down anything she needs, only as you guessed, it prints out in brail rather than in letters. LuRetta refers to it as her "pen and pencil."

She also has a "talking terminal". This is keyboard and terminal with a voice that can read outloud whatever has been

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entered on the screen.

LuRetta has a "reader" as well, who comes in on certain days to record legislative bills, background information and reports into a tape recorder. LuRetta can then play the tapes back at her convenience.

Last but not least is Radish, a five-year old Labrador retriever that has been with LuRetta for three years. "Radish is LuRetta's second guide dog (she still has her first one, retired, at home).

Getting a guide dog was something that LuRetta didn't do for a long time. She says that using a white cane gave her

a feeling of independence. But, several factors eventually changed her mind. "Dogs take care of lot of things for you," Radish is a good size dog and even though she's been trained to be gentle with people, there is still a protective instinct in Radish towards her owner, just as there is in many of your own pets.

It's amazing to see Radish and LuRetta working together. There isn't anywhere that they can't go. If you're up in Sacramento within the next eight months you'll probably see LuRetta and Radish in the hallways or elevator, so be sure to say "hi."

(Just a note:

Your first inclination will be to put your hand out and pet Radish because she's going to look at you with her big brown eyes and wag her tail. But, when LuRetta puts the harness on Radish knows it means work time. Distractions from her work could cause Radish to put LuRetta in a dangerous or tricky situation. To avoid this be sure to ask LuRetta before petting Radish or wait until she's back in the office and the harness is off. It's all part of Radish's training.)

Camp Log

HUMBOLDT FIRE CENTER

By Fire Captain Richard Hill



This month's article is about one of only two fire centers left in the state, beautiful Humboldt Fire Center (HFC). Like its co-center in Butte, HFC is jointly run by CDF and the California Conservation Corps.

At one time, there were seven fire centers throughout the state providing personnel to CDF and to other agencies for fire, flood, and other disasters, in addition to day-to-day work projects.

But it wasn't always like it is today. Let's go back in time about 35 years. . .

The date is August 16, 1954, and High Rock Conservation Camp (Camp #II) opens as a 60-man adult inmate camp under its first CDF ranger, Jack Cloward. Jack is with High Rock until 1959, when the camp is expanded to 80 men and receives its second ranger, Jack Cullumber, who oversees the camp's operations until 1966.

Sometime in 1966, High Rock gets its third ranger, Moe Estrada. During Moe's stay Governor Ronald Reagan created the Ecology Corps as an alternative service for conscientious objectors, and High Rock became Humboldt Ecology Center.

In 1973 Humboldt got its fourth and present ranger, Doyle Metheny. In December 1978 the Humboldt Ecology Center closed its doors and reopened in January 1979 as the Humboldt Conservation Center. Another name change followed and we are now the Humboldt Fire Center.

Today Humboldt Fire Center houses 70 residential corpsmembers plus it has one nonresidential crew of approximately 15 "corpies" in Eureka, and two "satellites," one in Forest Glen and another next to Leggett Valley Forest Fire Station. These two facilities house between

20-30 corpsmembers each. HFC also has interns employed with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), Caltrans, and other agencies.

The two "satellites" work on salmon restoration, a project funded by DFG. These crews have restored 400 miles of streams on the north coast over eight years. The Eureka nonresidential crews are trained in both fire fighting and flood control work. They make up 40-60 trained people, in addition to HFC's 70 fire fighting personnel.

Crews from HFC also work on the salmon restoration project but their major emphasis is on project work for agencies such as DPR, Caltrans, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, Humboldt County, and public nonprofit community organizations. Weott, Garberville and other Humboldt-Del Norte Ranger Unit forest fire stations benefit from a variety of improvement projects while corpsmembers pick up valuable job skills under the guidance of fire captains and fire apparatus engineers.

Some of the ongoing or recently completed projects include:

- Building a redwood playground for Beginnings School.
- Renovation of the drip system at the Fernwood Seed Orchard (the old Fernwood Helitack Base), in preparation for making it a tree nursery.
- Making redwood signs for State Parks, CDF, CCC and other local agencies and community groups.
- Operation of a sawmill and woodshop, milling lumber and producing wood products for HFC and DPR.
- Building the USFS "Visit Smokey and His Friends" rest area and exhibit at the Fernadale Fair Grounds in Humboldt County.
- Renovation, repair and building of new runs and shelters for the Humboldt County

(Cont. on pg.9)

(Cont. from pg.8)

Humane Society.

- Renovation and reconstruction of historic buildings in the towns of Mendocino and Elk and surrounding area.

- Repair and new construction of Caltrans

maintenance buildings in Mendocino and Humboldt Counties.

- Building new State Parks trails and water tanks and construction of the Burlington State Park visitors' center.

HFC operates five crews: four are supervised by fire captain (B's) and are available for immediate dispatch for any emergency year round.

In flight

AN IMPORTANT "PART" OF THE AIR PROGRAM

by: Air Operations Officer III Don Rominger

Probably one of the least known, but one of the most important aspects of the Aviation Management Program is the Aircraft Parts Service Center (APSC) in Fresno.

The APSC supports CDF's entire fleet of aircraft, (S-2, O-2, UH-1FD, C-337, and the Beach Baron), by stocking over 300,000 parts worth \$36 million. A staff of five CDF employees and six student assistants manage the facility.

The CDF staff is made up of Office Technician Jo Carey, Senior Account Clerk Gil Parent, Jim Eiland, material and stores supervisor II, Ruben Venegas, assistant aircraft parts manager mechanic, and Aircraft Parts Manager Jay Martinak. This is a far cry from the Mid-70's when the APSC's only staff member was a fire captain who opened the gates for the contractor. At that time, the facility consisted of only a small building and outside storage. Today, the facility consists of a 25,000 square-foot warehouse and one-acre storage lot.

Because it was obvious that the facility had grown way beyond the initial staff's capabilities, the manager's position was recently upgraded to air operations officer II (equivalent to a state forest ranger II). This was done in order to recruit personnel with experience in managing large, complex aviation operations. Jay Martinak, one of our former helicopter pilots, was hired because of his extensive management background. Jay still helps out as a relief helicopter pilot and with call-when needed airplane and helicopter inspections.

The APSC is unique to CDF in the quantity, type, and value of parts stocked, and the fact that the staff must not only stock, ship and receive these parts, but also purchase parts both commercially and through the military. They must also develop, solicit, and contract for the overhaul and repair of these parts.

An interesting aspect of the military purchasing is the high priority assigned

to the CDF by the Department of Defense. Because we are an emergency fire-fighting organization utilizing excess and leased military aircraft, the Department of Defense has assigned a priority to us that is exceeded only by active military units. Our purchasing authority is higher than any other federal agency, even the National Guard.

The APSC is also unique to the aviation industry because of the parts themselves. They consist of everything from complete airframes (31) to four cent gaskets (thousands). In between there are parts such as \$90,000 transmissions, \$70,000 gearboxes, \$60,000 engines, \$850 bolts, and \$6 brake pucks. It takes 88 pucks to make one S-2 brake — that is over \$500 in pucks per brake. An overhauled S-2 brake costs \$9,000.

Nowhere in the industry does any warehousing operation have to ship, receive, and overhaul such a wide variety of old and new military and commercial aircraft parts. Additionally, nowhere in the industry does a warehousing operation have to track parts by serial number within the warehousing environment.

To do all of this accounting, tracking, and processing, the APSC relies extensively on EDP. They use an IBM System 34 (128 megabytes) and state-of-the-art software. The software is the same used by Boeing and Cessna aircraft companies for their warehousing operations.

The APSC also subscribes to Western Union's Telex/Easy-Link system. This enables them to receive hard copy orders for parts, which minimizes the chance for errors, such as number transpositions — a common error in verbal orders. The system also cuts down on time. Prior to the EasyLink system, both receipts and purchases were done by phone. As you might guess, a 200 line item order could take several hours by phone. The Easy-Link considerably minimizes these probabilities.

Another capability provided by the EasyLink System is the Inventory Locator Service. This system allows the APSC to literally search worldwide for parts — including foreign military, governments, agencies, and vendors. This is a highly beneficial capability considering that some of our aircraft, and/or their various components have been out of production for over 20 years.

As you can see, the APSC plays a very important role in keeping the department's aviation program 'in the air,' and the personnel there are proud to be part of the CDF firefighting team.

Your health and safety

OFFICE EXERCISES FOR STRESS AND FATIGUE FROM VDTs

By: Manuel Roman, Jr., health and safety officer

As most persons are aware, the use of video display terminals - (VDTs) has become quite common in the work place. As with all technological innovations there are associated "down sides." As a social psychologist, I have a keen interest in studying the effects of technological changes on the work force with emphasis on human behavior.

A most recent phenomenon is the

(Cont. on pg.10)

physiological effects of VDTs on the work force. To counteract some of these effects, exercise physiologists and physical fitness consultants have developed basic exercises which have been proven to be effective in addressing stress and fatigue.

The following exercises, which have won the approval of the American College of Sports Medicine, were developed by Fitness Consultant Denise Austin. They are not meant to make you fit and certainly do not take the place of regular, continuous aerobic exercises - swimming, running, bicycling - three or more times a week.

What will these exercises do? They will combat the stress and strain of everyday work, especially if your work requires you to labor at a VDT all day. Today, between 10 and 15 million American workers use small computers to do their jobs. By the end of the century, sociologists predict that as many as 50 million workers will use VDTs regularly. Maybe by then we will have a better understanding of the kind of lighting, furniture and rest breaks required to help a worker satisfactorily perform his/her work without negative health effects. These studies are called ergonomics.

Currently, constant VDT users have voiced various health complaints, including eye strain, back strain, fatigue, mental stress and neckache. To help address these work effects and prevent other body breakdowns, you may want to try some of the following exercises:

o Knee Ups. Relax in your desk chair. Bend your knee toward your chest, and pull your leg toward your chin with both hands. Hold for a while. Keep breathing. Repeat with other leg.

o Back Offs. Back feeling tight? Sit on your chair. Let your body relax forward, between your knees, as far as it will go. Enjoy the stretch. Straighten slowly and repeat.

o Quick Quads. Sit up straight in your chair. Bring your legs together in front of you and slowly lift them up as high as you can. Hold and breathe. Then relax and repeat.

o Cold Shoulders. Many of us hold tension in our neck and shoulders. To ease that tension, slowly roll your shoulders forward five to 10 times in a circular motion. Use your full range of motion. Then repeat and roll in the opposite direction.

o Neck and Neck. Let your head drop forward so your chin is pressing toward your neck. Slowly, bring your head back and raise your chin as high as you can. Let your head drop slowly to the right, then the left. Slowly swivel your head to the right, then the left. Try not to be stiff-necked about this. Relax.

o Mid-upper Back Stretch. Raise your right arm and use your left arm to grasp the right elbow toward your left shoulder. Feel

the stretch? Hold and enjoy. Then relax and repeat.

o Pectoral Stretch. While seated, place your hands behind your head and stretch your upper body over to one side, then the other. Go slowly and stretch fully.

o Windmill. Much as you did it in P.E. calisthenics, but seated. First, push your chair back a little. Arms out perpendicular from your torso, bend and reach right hand to left foot. Alternate and repeat, taking care not to knock your head into the desk or keyboard.

o Side Stretch. While seated, interlace your fingers. Lift your arms over your head. Keep your elbows straight. Bring your arms backward as far as you can, then over to the left, and over to the right. Really focus on the stretch. And smile.


o Eye-cercise. Take a vision break. Long hours spent on the computer can take its toll on your ciliary muscles, the ones that help

your eyes focus. All that work keeps the muscle contracted, and the more it is kept in a contracted state, the harder it is for you to focus.

o To keep your ciliary muscles flexible and responsive, try alternately contracting and relaxing them. To do that, after 15 minutes or so on the VDT, pause and turn your eyes away from the computer screen. Focus on far target - a spot on the ceiling, a mark on the floor - for a while. Then focus back on the screen. Do that once or twice and continue working.

Remember - not all persons may be able to do all these exercises nor can they be done at all work sites. As with all exercise, use discretion and see your physician prior to exercising if you are not in good health or have experienced medical problems (i.e., lower back pain or injury).


Mark your calendar



*You are invited to the
Twenty Year Anniversary*

CDF FIRE ACADEMY

October 29th and 30th 1987



October 29th

1830-2000 Reception and Registration

October 30th

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast

0900-1230 Continuous Demonstrations and Tours of the Facility, Fire Grounds, Labs, and Equipment

1230-1330 Program - Celebrities, Ceremonies, Dedication

1330 Barbecue Western Style

Some rooms will be available for CDFers and family

DUE BY OCT 19, 1987

RSVP 4501 Hwy 104, Jone, Ca 95640

Name _____

No. in party _____ Phone # _____

Will attend Reception _____ Barbecue _____

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(Cont. from pg.10)

Looking for a good showing of CDF marathoners to participate in Fresno in November 1987 in Sacramento in December 1987, and in Los Angeles in March 1988, so all you runners interested get in touch with Louis Phillips at (209) 728-2654 after 7 p.m.



The Fifth Annual CDF "Ride Around Lake Tahoe" is scheduled for Monday, September 28, 1987. If you are planning to do this ride, then tune up your physical conditioning.

If you are interested, contact either Bill Krelle (916) 873-0400 or Dave Adams (916) 322-0126 for registration and more information. Be sure to call by September 11, 1987 if you plan on doing the ride. Permission must be obtained from the State of Nevada to ride on their turf if the group exceeds a certain number.

Communique

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

George Deukmejian, Governor
Jerry Partain, Director

Lisa Boyd, Editor

Dave Rodriguez, Graphics
Vera Fava, Personnel Transactions

Deadline: 5th of each month
Phone: (916) 445-9920

Kudos

To Ranger-in-Charge Dave Mack and the crew at the Felton Station for coming to the aid of South County Fire on two separate incidents, from Hank Schmidt, acting chief, South County Fire Department.

To CDF Legislative Program Manager Carol Williams Bryant for being named one of the Outstanding Women in the Sacramento area for 1987 by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

To Volunteer Chief Bud Edwards and engineer Dave Murphy who were awarded firefighter of the year resolutions at the recent Fire Service Games in Butte County.

"RIVERSIDES"



As you know the "Riversides" won the annual CDF Softball Tournament in May, but we didn't have a photo to show you at the time, so here they are:

Front row, l to r: Donna Kidd, Kathy McGowan, Mike Sowards, Mica Avila, Jane Driscoll, and Brenda Seabert.

Standing, l to r: Larry Kid, Jr., Acie Avila, Julie Downing, Dave Driscoll, Dan Allen, Anthony Salas, and Don Cockrum. (Not shown: Teresa Sowards)

Good job Region III! See you next year.

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