

Whiting Tower

Sixty-Six Years of Aviation Training News



Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, FL

Forging Wings for the Fleet

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Bin Laden Buried at Sea from USS Carl Vinson

By Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Osama bin Laden received a Muslim ceremony as he was buried at sea, a senior defense official said in Washington, D.C., May 2.

The religious rites were performed aboard the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) in the North Arabian Sea and occurred within 24 hours of the terrorist leader's death, said the official.

"Preparations for at-sea [burial] began at 1:10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time and were completed at 2 a.m.," said the official.

The burial followed traditional Muslim burial customs, and bin Laden's body was washed and placed in a white sheet, said the official.

"The body was placed in a weighted bag. A military officer read prepared religious remarks, which were translated into Arabic by a native speaker," the official added.

Afterward, bin Laden's body was placed onto a flat



U.S. Navy file photo of the USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70).

board, which was then elevated upward on one side and the body slid off into the sea.

The deceased terrorist was buried at sea because no country would accept bin Laden's remains, a senior defense official said.

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Defense Department officials are sure it was the body of bin Laden. CIA specialists compared photos of the body with known photos of bin Laden and said with 95-percent certainty it was the terrorist leader, a senior intelligence official said.

In addition, bin Laden's wife identified the al-Qaida leader by name while the strike team was still in the compound, said the intelligence official.

CIA and other specialists in the intelligence community "performed the initial DNA analysis matching a virtually 100-percent DNA match of the body against the DNA of several of bin Laden's family members," the official added.

PWD teaches students about conservation



University of Florida/Extension Agricultural Agent John Atkins explains to some of the second graders the value of snakes to the environment and how to recognize potentially dangerous ones. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Tim Mosso.

By Ensign Tim Mosso, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field hosted sixty second graders on April 29 for the base's second annual Wildlife Ecology Field Day. The students, from Bagdad Elementary School, experienced a day of hands-on activities designed to foster respect, appreciation, and understanding of the Northwest Florida environment.

The youths gathered at NAS Whiting Field's publicly-accessible Clear Creek Nature Trail, where a greeting party of Whiting personnel and local community facilitators had prepared a unique welcome. Live honey bees, Forest Rangers, an insect anatomy workshop, and a guided nature walk highlighted a morning of engaging education.

NASWF Command Master Chief Rafael Rosado welcomed the children and encouraged them to learn from their outdoor experience. He urged the children "above all,

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General speaks to flight students at NAS Whiting Field

By 1st Lt. Andrew Dobson, NASP PAO

Maj. Gen. Jon Davis, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing commanding general, showed up to Whiting Field one recent morning hoping to get a ride in a TH-57B before a winging later that afternoon at which he was the speaker.

Weather delayed his flight so the general, not one to stand idly by and wait, chose to spend his morning speaking with the flight students of the helicopter training squadrons of Whiting's South Field.

He spoke about many things with the student aviators, ranging from his excitement about the newer platforms the Navy and Marine Corps have acquired, to the humanitarian efforts going on in Japan. But he had one message that he conveyed to everyone he spoke with: "Be happy, but never be satisfied. The guys that work the hardest are the ones that enjoy their careers the most. Your hard work will pay off, I promise you."

The general emphasized the importance as leaders of not "dropping your pack" once you have acquired your wings of gold. "Your Sailors and Marines deserve your very best. You don't just show up to the flight line with a shiny new aircraft that works because it just appeared there," said Davis "So take care of them and they'll take care of you"

At the ceremony, the general told those being winged, "You are entering a Navy and Marine Corps that have never been busier, so be ready. I'll leave you with this, I believe good officers do three things: they know their stuff, take care of their people and are persons of character."

The ceremony recognized the completion of flight training of 22 student naval aviators and two exchange officers from Saudi Arabia.



Maj. Gen. Jon Davis, 2nd MAW commander, speaks to flight students at NAS Whiting Field. The general emphasized the importance of leadership to the junior officers in their careers and taking care of the Sailors and Marines they will command. Photo by 1st Lt. Andrew

Ec-nomics

Recycle More Cans

It may not be immediately obvious, but one of the benefits of recycling is saving fuel that would otherwise be used to extract and process virgin materials. A typical family consumes 182 gallons of soda, 29 gallons of juice, 104 gallons of milk, and 26 gallons of bottled water a year, and all those containers add up! Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours -- or the equivalent of half a gallon of gasoline. So if you recycle two cans a day that would save 365 gallons of gas a year.

When it comes to plastic, recycling saves twice as much energy as burning it in an incinerator. And the 29 billion water bottles we use a year require 17 million barrels of oil to make, enough to keep a million cars going for twelve months. We also use 25 billion Styrofoam cups a year, which are difficult to recycle. The energy saved from recycling one glass bottle is enough to run a 100-watt light bulb for four hours or a compact fluorescent bulb for 20 hours. Savings: 365 gallons of gas equivalent per year.

See www.thedailygreen.com for more tips.

This Week in Naval History

May 4

1917 - First Navy ships, Destroyer Division 8, arrive at Queenstown, Ireland, to provide convoy escorts against German U-boats.

1942 - Battle of Coral Sea, first carrier vs. carrier battle, begins.

1945 - Japanese attempt to land on Okinawa repulsed; kamikaze attacks damage 6 U.S. Navy ships.

1961 - Cdmr. Malcolm D. Ross, USNR, and medical observer Lt Cmdr. Victor A. Prather Jr., ascended in two hours to over 11,000 feet in Strato-Lab 5, a 411-foot hydrogen filled balloon launched from the deck of USS Antietam. This was the highest altitude attained by man in an open gondola. Tragically, Prather drowned during the recovery.

1994 - Operation Restore Hope begins in Somalia.

May 5

1944 - USS Comfort is commissioned in San Pedro, CA; first ship to be manned jointly by Army and Navy personnel.

1948 - VF-17A becomes first carrier qualified jet squadron.

1961 - CDR Alan Shepard Jr. makes first U.S. manned space flight. Flight of Freedom 7 (Mercury 3) which lasted 15 minutes and 28 seconds reached the altitude of 116.5 statute miles with a velocity of 5,134 mph.

1980 - USS Robert E. Peary (FF 1073) rescues 440 Vietnamese refugees from disabled craft south of Thailand.

News and Notes

Army of Hope Summer Camp - The Florida Elks Youth Camp is providing a six day sleep away camp FREE to the dependents of active military because they care. The camp will run from July 31 to Aug. 6 and is available to all dependents of active military ages 9 to 16. The program provides a recreational camp where children can just be a kid for a week. Contact 800-523-1673 extension 249 for an application.

Blueberry Bash - The ARC Santa Rosa, Inc., 2nd Annual "Blueberry Bash" will be held on Sat, Jun 25, 2011, 0800-1400. They are located at 6225 Dixie Road, Milton. To kick-off the event, a 5K Fun-Run will begin at 7 a.m., with check-in at 6 a.m. To register on-line, visit www.imathlet.com. You can also download the registration form at www.thearcsantarosa.org/documents. Registration is \$25.00 and includes a "Blueberry Bash" t-shirt. Refreshments will follow the run. Late registration fee will be \$30.00 after Jun 4, 2011. This promises to be a family event with many children's activities, including: Petting Zoo, Horseback Rides, Jumpers, 3-Story Slide, Games and more! A variety of Arts and Crafts and other vendors will be on hand, as well as an array of Fun Food items to enjoy! There will be various local entertainment performing throughout the day! Blueberry plants and fruit will be available for purchase! For additional information, please contact Mr. Debbie Goss at dgoss@bellsouth.net or contact The ARC Santa Rosa at 623-9320.

Revive with Adrian - First Baptist of Milton, and Immanuel Baptist Pace are sponsoring an event, "Revive with Adrian" on Saturday, May 14. Revive with Adrian Despres is a revival on Saturday, May 14, at 6pm for the heart, mind, soul and body. This event is for men & women. Adrian Despres is the team chaplain for the University of South Carolina football team and is one of the most inspiring evangelistic speakers in the country. "Revive with



Family Fun in the Sun

A mini-train brings children and their families to Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Child Development Center's family fun and picnic day. The April 29 event serves as the capstone to the facility's month of the military child recognition. The day also included a bounce house, pedal cars, as well as food and refreshments. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Tim Mosso.

Adrian Despres" will be at First Baptist Milton and is sponsored by the men's ministries of First Baptist Church Milton and Immanuel Baptist Church Pace. For more information and for tickets (\$10) contact: www.fbcmilton.org (623-3122) or www.paceimmanuel.org (994-6152). Visit Adrian at www.adriandespres.com

Fly In & Chili Cook-off - AMS Aviation will be hosting it's 1st Annual Aviation Fly-In and Chili Cook-off Competition, 1100-1700, Sat, May 21, 2010, at Peter Prince Airport in Milton. Bring your best chili recipe to be entered into the competition! There will be prizes for first, second and third place recipes, as well as the Peoples' Choice Chili! There will also be music, activities, static displays, door prizes and airplane rides galore! Please contact Mr. Joseph Toomey, 623-4704, for additional information.

Troy Alumni Golf Tournament - The local Alumni Chapter for Troy University will host its 3rd Annual "Trojan Tribute" golf tournament May 13 at A.C. Read Golf Course. The event will have cash prizes for the top three teams as well as a new car for a hole in one on the specified hole. Add to that four prizes for closest to the pin, and two longest drive awards, plus many extra door prizes. The event will kick-off with a 12:30 Shotgun start, and have a dinner after the tournament. Participants will have a chance to get a photo with Troy's head football coach Mr. Larry Blakeney. Coach Blakeney is the third highest tenured coach in all of college football. Please call 458-4722 for more information or to reserve a slot. You can also email questions to dbdurham@troy.edu.

Navy Federal Credit Union 5K - Navy Federal Credit Union will hold a 5K run Saturday, May 21 beginning at 8 a.m. The event will begin and end in Seville Square and will benefit the Armed Forces Relief Trust. Please call Carla McKeag at 912-0962 for more information or register online at www.IMathlete.com.

Present Laughter - Pensacola State College presents The Hit Comedy Play "Present Laughter" written by Sir Noel Coward, May 20-22 and 27-29. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. with 2:30 p.m. Sunday matinees. All shows are at the PSC Ashmore Fine Arts Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 for with special senior and student pricing at \$8., PSC students have free admittance.



Gardening for Victory

The Navy Exchange crew shows of their Victory Garden April 29. The small plot will compete against other gardens on the base in variety of produce, healthiness of the plants, garden aesthetics and quality of produce to claim bragging rights on the base. The largest vegetable category has been picked as the zucchini squash. Prizes will include a travelling trophy and banner. Plans are in the works for a produce cooking contest later in the summer. Call Mike Flournoy at 665-6119 for more information or to add your division to the list of competitors. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Upcoming Events

May 5-7, 0900 - Family Fun and Fitness Fest - NEX Park Lot
May 6, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
May 13, 1600 - Military Appreciation Day - Sports Complex

May 20, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
May 30 - Memorial Day
June 3, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Center classes

VA Representative - Friday May 6 & 20 (Call for Appointment), 8 a.m. to Noon - 623-7177.

Resume Writing - Monday May 23, 8 to 10 a.m. - 623-7177

This class will assist you in efficiently creating an effective resume. Learn how to handle sticky resume situations like military-to-civilian transition, age, employment gaps, layoffs, and career change. Learn to use your resume as a marketing tool. Class will be held at the housing community center.

How to Apply for a Federal Job - May 23, 10 a.m. to Noon. 623-7177

Is it worth your while to invest your time and effort in searching and applying for a federal job? If your answer is yes, then you need to attend this class in order to learn how to prepare the best application possible. You will learn how to read an announcement, analyze core competencies for language, analyze vacancy listings for keywords, and how to apply for jobs. Class will be held at the base housing community center.

Family Info Night - May 24 6 to 8 p.m. 623-7177

Developing Your Spending Plan - May 26, 1 to 3 p.m. 623-7177

This class is NOT designed to tell you what to do with your money. This class will challenge you to think before you spend. There is no patent on the right way to handle your money, but there are better ways to get your dollar's worth. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room.

Job Interviews at FFSC

The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center is teaming with West Corporation for some on site interviews for talented people to begin careers in the customer service industry.

The company will hold interviews at the Fleet & Family Support Center May 9 & 16 from 10 a.m. to noon.

West Corporation is hiring full time, customer service representatives who are able to answer incoming customer calls and provide wireless or cable phone support. Agents would also be trained in resolving technical issues relating to high speed internet service.

West has a large call center in Pensacola, located just two miles south of Interstate 10. Approximately 1,000 people work for the company currently. West employees perform customer service for the nation's premier wireless provider and the leading provider of cable products and services.

Friendly, computer literate problem solving people are being sought to assist with incoming calls only. Pay is \$11.00 - \$11.50 per hour, after 90 day employment period. Nine dollars per hour is paid through classroom training period. West Corporation is a Military Spouse Top 10 Employer and a GI Jobs Top 100 Employer. Interested applicants may apply on-line at www.westemployment.com.

Call the FFSC at 623-7177 for appointments.



Saturday May 14th, 2011
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

2nd Annual Brewton Spring Fly-In

Car Show Motorcycle Show and Ride

- * Car Show Details TBA
- * Remote Controlled Airplanes
- * Cessna * Power Parachutes
- * Pitts * Gyros * Helicopters
- * Crop Dusters * Bi Wings
- * Harleys * Gold Wings
- * Customs * Choppers
- * Classic Cars * Hot Rods



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205 Airport Drive, Brewton AL 36426
(251) 867-9997
brewtonairport@yahoo.com



Greater Brewton Area Chamber of Commerce
(251) 867-3224



Conservation

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leave no trace,” when enjoying the trails.

“It was as perfect a day as you could have asked for a nature walk,” he noted following the event.

Rosado co-led a short hike with Ron Cherry the Natural Resource Manager at Whiting Field Environment and Public Works. Cherry hopes that the children used their trail time as an opportunity to broaden their awareness of nature’s relevance to their lives.

“We talked about the different trees and how the live oak, in particular, played a key role in our nation’s history. The USS Constitution, ‘Old Ironsides’, was built of the same live oak, and local forests once provided this hardwood for the Navy,” Cherry explained.

He juxtaposed this history lesson with an overview of Whiting’s effort to conserve resources for the future.

“We talk about recycling here at Whiting and at home, and we hope the kids will encourage their parents to recycle more,” Cherry added.

The young guests were treated to an array of engaging lessons by experts in local ecology. Forest Rangers from the Florida Department of Forestry highlighted the importance of human stewardship in conservation efforts. Forest Ranger Jason Gates stressed the importance of actively man-



A live bee colony commands student attention while beekeeper Ernest “Peaches” Peach advises his guests to treat all swarms as dangerous. “If you see a swarm, run,” Peach advises. The growing phenomenon of Africanized hybrid bees demands all swarms be treated as potentially aggressive. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Tim Mosso.

aging fire in local forests.

“Are all fires bad? No... our tractor cuts growth to prepare a controlled burn... fire is a tool we use to manage vegetation,” Gates explained as he showcased a Forestry Department bulldozer. “We also use helicopters to fight fires,” he noted as a Training Wing FIVE TH-57 Advanced Training helicopter passed overhead.

The University of Florida Santa Rosa County Extension Service energized the event with a contingent of environmental experts. The UF/Extension Service, which focuses on natural and agricultural science, organized hands-on educational activities in conjunction with local 4-H Club

volunteers. Children rotated through a series of mutually-reinforcing workshops facilitated by UF/Extension personnel.

Poisonous snakes were the highlight at the reptile pavilion. UF/Extension Agricultural Agent John Atkins intrigued and educated the second-graders with a series of stuffed and mounted snakes. Atkins emphasized that only six of Florida’s roughly 67 species of snake are venomous, and he encouraged children to have a safer summer by recalling “the big six” rather than all 67 – diamondback rattlesnake, canebrake rattlesnake, pygmy rattlesnake, copperhead, coral snake, and cottonmouth.

Beekeeper Jim Peach reemphasized Atkin’s focus on safety through awareness. Peach’s guidance focused on common-sense responses to bee swarms, bee stings, and the growing phenomenon of Africanized hybrid swarms. His co-presenter, Master Beekeeper Roy Smith expounded the vast role of the honeybee in producing America’s food supply, “there are 140 commercially available varieties of honey in the United States, but that’s just the beginning.

“You would not have the hamburger if you did not have the honeybee,” Smith enthused. He added that every component of a hamburger, either directly or indirectly, depends on pollination by honey bees. Smith elicited a round of giggles when he noted the critical codependence between honeybees and local cotton farmers; “without the bee, a lot of us would be naked!”

Mike Donahoe, an entomologist with the Extension Service, further focused on the immediate intimate link between local residents their smallest neighbors. He helped provide a quick overview of the insects they might have seen



Naval Air Station Whiting Field Command Master Chief Rafael Rosado shares a light moment with a young guest. Rosado welcomed sixty second graders from Bagdad Elementary School to Whiting’s Clear Creek Trail for the command’s annual Wildlife Ecology Field Day. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Tim Mosso.

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Conservation

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on the trail. Children were taught basic insect recognition through a marshmallow insect construction workshop.

“I want the kids to have respect but also to understand the value of insects to their environment, the bees for example,” he said.

Taylor Lyons, 6, found Donahoe’s message easy to digest.

“I think the favorite part was where we made little marshmallow ants,” she stated enthusiastically.

UF/Extension Service 4-H Agent Vickie Mullins stressed the value of giving children early exposure to environmental science; “kids are always open to new ideas. What they learn today at Whiting is backed by an educational curriculum we [UF/Extension Service 4-H and US Department of Agriculture] provide teachers... we hope they leave with a greater appreciation and respect for their environment.”



Master Beekeeper Roy Smith shows a variety of honey samples, but he calls this a mere glimpse of the spectrum; no fewer than 140 varieties are commercially available. Smith added that honey production is only a fraction of the honeybee’s contribution to mankind; pollination of produce and livestock feed are essential to the human food supply. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Tim Mosso.

Case lot sale turns into full family fun

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

The Commissary and Navy Exchange are teaming up for a fun-filled three day sale May 5-7 that not only fills up the two stores, but will spill out into the parking lot as well.

A few times a year, the Commissary holds case lot sales with special prices on bulk items, but this time, they wanted to turn the sale into an event. Throughout the three days the two stores will host give-a-ways, special drawings, some food tastings and more.

The commissary has been handing out flyers with sale items listed, but the outdoor tent will include such staples as: canned green giant vegetables, crunch and munch popcorn, Lysol products, Fischer snacks, Jenos’s pizza products, and hundreds of other items.

The Navy Exchange will have sale prices on their fitness apparel, athletic shoes, GNC products, Lite fitness exercise equipment and many other products. Additionally, they are also setting up a Honda SMART Trainer motorcycle simulator to one of the large screen TVs in the store to give patrons a chance to practice motorcycle riding in a no-risk environment. The simulator can produce up to 17 different riding environments.

The Fleet and Family Support Center will be on hand to pass out information and promotional items about the programs and classes they offer. FFSC will also be distributing toys from Operation Military Kids program. The toys are for children of active duty and reserve military families.

Finally, coca cola is sponsoring a basketball hoop give-a-way, and a scavenger hunt with prizes from Coke.

NAS WHITING FIELD

Family Fun & Fitness Festival

May 5, 6, & 7

Special Savings and Events at your Commissary & Navy Exchange

COMMISSARY

CASE LOT MIX & MATCH SALE!

- Hungry Jack Potatoes 35% off
- Jolly Time Popcorn 43% off
- Betty Crocker Pouches 48-60% off
- Fischer Snacks 38% off
- Jeno's Pizza 34% off
- Come & Get It! 40 lb Dog Food \$13.99
- Lysol Products 48% off
- Green Giant Vegetables 41% off
- Crunch & Munch 50% off
- Schick Razors 85% off
- Shampoo & Cond. 39-44% off

Come to the Whiting Field Commissary for complete Price List!
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- 20% off Clif Bars & Power Bars
- 20% off GNC Products
- 20% off Lite Fitness Exercise Equipment
- 10% off Camelbak Hydrating Packs
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- Nutritional Bar Samples