

freedom FLYER



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• cnic.navy.mil/philadelphia

NSA's Temporary Gym Comes Online

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Matthew R. White, NSA Philadelphia Public Affairs

NSA Philadelphia opened its temporary fitness center in Building 27C, April 30.

The temporary location offers patrons many of the amenities the permanent Fitness Center has, including an aerobics room with plenty of classes offered to its customers. While there was no space to include basketball or tennis courts in the temporary location, outdoor courts are available for use across from Building 9 on the east side of the base.

Ample parking is available on the south side of Bldg 27C between the building and the baseball fields.

All lockers in the temporary gym are day use only and users are reminded that locks left on lockers overnight will be cut.

Building 8 repairs are expected to take approximately eight to nine months with a return to Building 8 tentatively scheduled for late 2012.



The Battle of Midway

Turning Point in the Pacific

Reprinted from the August 1942 issue of ALL HANDS (edited for length)

Early in June, near the island of Midway, about 1100 miles to the west of Pearl Harbor, units of our Army, Navy, and Marine Corps joined action with a strong Japanese Invasion Fleet.

At about 9 a.m., June 3, Navy Patrol planes reported a strong force of enemy ships about 700 miles off Midway, proceeding eastward. Nine U.S. Army B-17 Flying Fortresses based on Midway immediately were ordered to attack the approaching enemy. The Japanese force was composed of many cruisers, transports, cargo vessels, and other escort ships. The Army bombers scored hits on one cruiser and one transport, which were left burning.

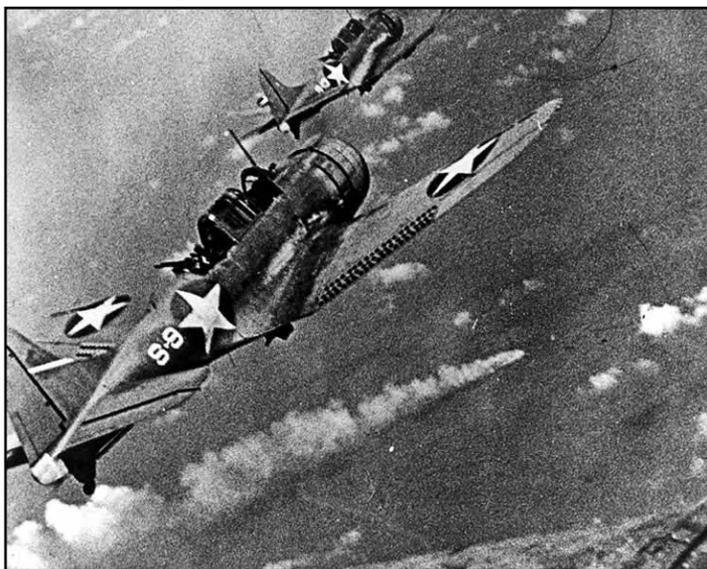
On June 4, Army and U.S. Marine Corps planes took to the air from Midway to attack the enemy. Four Army torpedo bombers attacked two enemy aircraft carriers through a heavy screen of enemy fighter protection and a curtain of anti-aircraft fire. One torpedo hit on a carrier is believed to have been made. Two of the four bombers failed to return.

Six Marine Corps torpedo planes attacked the enemy force in the face of heavy odds. It is believed this group scored one hit on an enemy ship. Only one of the six planes returned to its base.

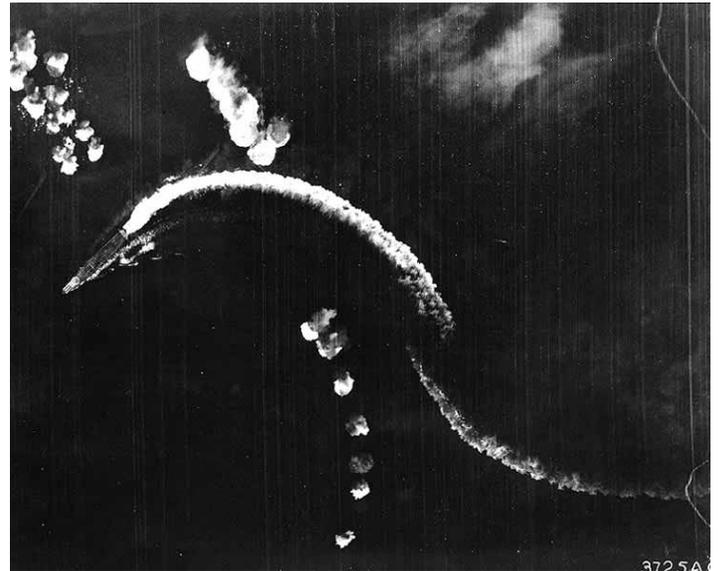
Sixteen Marine Corps dive bombers attacked and scored three hits on a carrier, which is to have been the Soryu. Only half of the attacking planes returned. A group of 11 Marine Corps bombers made an attack on enemy ships and reported two bomb hits on an enemy battleship, which was left smoking and listing.

A group of 16 U.S. Army Flying Fortresses carried out high-level bombing attacks, according three hits on enemy carriers. One carrier was left smoking heavily.

Shortly after the USMC planes had left Midway, the island was attacked by a large group of enemy planes. They were engaged by a badly out-numbered USMC fighter force. The fighters and anti-aircraft batteries shot down at least 40 of the enemy planes. As the result, the damage to the installation was not disabling.



SBD "Dauntless" dive bombers from USS Hornet (CV-8) approaching the burning Japanese heavy cruiser Mikuma to make the third set of attacks on her, 6 June 1942.



Japanese aircraft carrier Hiryu maneuvering during a high-level bombing attack by USAAF B-17 bombers, June 4, 1942.

Our carrier-based aircraft were launched and were proceeding to the spot where the enemy's previous course and speed would have placed him had he chosen to continue the assault. Unaware of the enemy's course, one group of Navy planes searched along the reported track to the southeast until shortage of gas forced them to abandon the search. Some were forced down at sea.

Another flight composed of fighters, dive bombers, and torpedo planes concluded that the enemy was retreating. Fifteen torpedo planes from this group located the enemy and proceeded to attack at once without protection or assistance of any kind. Although some hits were reported by radio, and some enemy fighters were shot down, the total damage inflicted in this attack may never be known. None of the 15 planes returned. The sole survivor of the 30 officers was Ensign G.H. Gay Jr., who scored one torpedo hit on an enemy carrier before he was shot down.

Other torpedo planes proceeded to press the attack after the enemy had been located. In spite of heavy losses during these attacks, the torpedo planes engaged the attention of the enemy fighters and anti-aircraft batteries to such a degree that our dive bombers were able to drop bomb after bomb on the enemy ships without serious interference. Navy dive bombers scored many hits and inflicted upon the enemy the following damage: The Kaga, Akagi, and Soryu, aircraft carriers, were severely damaged. Gasoline in planes caught on their flight decks ignited, starting fires which burned until each carrier had sunk. Two battleships were hit. One was left burning fiercely. One destroyer was hit and is believed to have sunk.

Shortly after this battle, a force of about 36 enemy planes from the damaged carrier Hiryu attacked the U.S. aircraft carrier Yorktown and her escorts. Eleven of 18 Japanese bombers in this group were shot down before their bombs were dropped. Seven got through our fighter protection. Of the seven, one was disintegrated by a surface ship's anti-aircraft fire; a second dropped its bomb load into the sea and plunged in after it; while a third was

Continued on next page...



Memorial Day Ceremony

Story by Margaret Kenyon-Ely, Naval Supply Systems Command Public Affairs

Military and civilian audience members sat in rapt attention during the annual Naval Support Activity (NSA) Philadelphia Memorial Day Ceremony on May 17 as a former embedded reporter recounted tales of his experiences with the troops on the front lines.

Keynote speaker Andrew Lubin, hailing from Bucks County, Pa., stressed the importance of remembering what the Memorial Day holiday is really about as he began his powerful remarks.

"I don't know about you, but I've always felt that Memorial Day is an overlooked holiday, with a concentration on the start of the summer season rather than honoring the Marines, soldiers, sailors, and airmen who were killed in defense of our great country," stated Lubin, a member of the Marine Corps Combat Camera Association who has embedded 14 times with Marine, Army, and National Guard troops in Afghanistan, Haiti, Iraq, Guantanamo Bay, and Beirut.

"There are a lot of combat vets here, so you know what I'm talking about. It's all about comradeship; the bond with the man to your left or to your right, and that's a bond that'll never be broken," he added.

Lubin recounted a cargo flight from Camp Leatherneck up to Kandahar that was suddenly designated a "Dignified Transfer," the bringing home of the body of one of the U.S. young men killed in action, as well as the ultimate story of sacrifice made by a U.S. Marine artilleryman who served with his son at An-Nasiriyah in

2003.

"As Americans, it is our duty to acknowledge their valor, patriotism and willingness to serve, risking the ultimate sacrifice for the common good... We must continue to remember, freedom is not free," said DLA Troop Support Commander Rear Adm. David F. Baucom, U.S. Navy, in his opening remarks that kicked off the ceremony.

Other highlights of the event included a POW / MIA Remembrance and wreath laying ceremonies. In addition, NAVSUP Weapon Systems Support Operations Director Capt. Duke Heinz, SC, USN awarded a Commander's Coin to Lubin after Baucom's presentation from DLA Troop Support.

Sponsored by the Philadelphia Compound Veterans Committee the Memorial Day Ceremony also featured a POW/ MIA Remembrance Ceremony by retired COL Siegfried Honig, USA, President, Philadelphia Flag Association; posting and retiring of the Colors by the Compound All-Service Color Guard; performance of the National Anthem by LaTosha Wray, DLA Troop Support; Taps played by Chief Petty Officer Michael J. Grant, USN, NSA Philadelphia Funeral Honors Division; bagpiper Michael Ferguson, DLA Troop Support; Invocation and Benediction by Jackie Baxter, NAVSUP Weapon Systems Support/Co-Chairperson PCVC; and Master-of-Ceremonies Bill Eves, DLA Troop Support/Chairperson PCVC.

See photos on page 5

Midway *Continued from Page 2*

torn to shreds by machine gun fire from U.S. fighter planes. Four enemy bombers escaped after scoring three hits.

Shortly afterward, enemy torpedo planes attacked Yorktown. Five succeeded in launching torpedoes, and Yorktown was hit and put out of action. The damage caused a list which rendered her flight deck useless. Her aircraft, however, continued operating from other U.S. carriers.

While this attack on Yorktown was in progress, some of her own planes located the carrier Hiryu in company with battleships, cruisers, and destroyers. Our carrier planes immediately attacked this newly-located force. Hiryu was hit repeatedly and sank the following morning. Two of the enemy battleships were pounded severely by bombs and a heavy cruiser was damaged severely.

A U.S. submarine scored three torpedo hits on the smoking carrier Soryu as the enemy was attempting to take her into tow. Soryu sank during the night.

U.S. Army bombers delivered a heavy bomb attack on the crippled and burning ships. Three hits were scored on a damaged carrier (probably Akagi); one hit was scored on a large ship; one hit on a cruiser was left burning; and one destroyer was believed sunk.

In the afternoon of June 5, Army Flying Fortresses attacked

enemy cruisers again and scored three direct hits upon one heavy cruiser. On the return trip, one of these planes was lost; a second was forced down at sea 15 miles from the Midway. All except one of the crew of the second plane were rescued.

Between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m., U.S. carrier planes attacked one group which contained the heavy cruisers Mikuma and Mogami and three destroyers. At least two bomb hits were scored on each Japanese cruiser. Both sank.

On June 6, the U.S. destroyer Hammann was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine. Most of her crew were rescued.

Repeated attempts were made to contact the remainder of the Japanese invasion fleet but without success. The battle was over.

The following is a recapitulation of the damage inflicted upon the enemy during the battle of Midway.

Four Japanese aircraft carriers, the Kaga, Akagi, Soryu, and Hiryu were sunk. Three battleships were damaged by bomb and torpedo hits, one severely. Two heavy cruisers, Mogami and Mikuma were sunk. Three others were damaged, one or two severely. One light cruiser was damaged. Three destroyers were sunk and several others were damaged by bombs. At least three transports or auxiliary ships were damaged, and one or more sunk.

The Battle of Midway was a complex and widespread action involving a number of engagements lasting more than three days and nights. Even our active participants in the numerous attacks and counter-attacks are unable to give an accurate account of the damage inflicted by any group in the many individual and unified attacks of our Army, Navy, and Marine Corps personnel.



SafePractices

From the NSA Philadelphia Safety Office

Motorcycle Safety Awareness

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month and the Navy is joining forces with other organizations to get the message out to drivers and bikers alike, to “share the road” with one another. The goal of this campaign is to lower the number of crashes involving motorcycles. In Fiscal Year 2012 (as of 10 May 2012), 7 Sailors and 2 Marines were killed in motorcycle fatalities. Losing our Sailors and Marines is tragic and has a devastating effect on families and a negative impact on morale and readiness. Training and leadership continue to make a positive change but there is still room to do more. We must continue to be actively engaged in what our Sailors and Marines do off duty and strive to get 100% of our Motorcycle Riders, military and civilian, identified and trained. On NSAP, the POC for the Motorcycle Safety Training is Lt. Cmdr. Brian Schons, who can be reached at brian.schons@dla.mil or (215) 737-3692.

As the weather improves, more and more motorcyclists are hitting the roads. And with that in mind, pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers of all vehicles, including SUVs, passenger cars and trucks, need to be extra attentive and make sure they ‘share the road.’ A motorcycle is one of the smallest vehicles on our roads, often hidden in a car or truck’s blind spot. Every driver needs to aggressively look for them before changing lanes or merging with traffic.

Motorists should perform visual checks for motorcyclists by checking mirrors and blind spots before they enter or exit a lane of traffic, and at intersections. Pedestrians should also get into the habit of scanning for motorcyclists who might be hidden by other traffic.

Motorcyclists also have responsibilities. They should obey traffic rules, be alert to other drivers, never ride while impaired, and always wear a Department of Transportation-compliant helmet and other protective gear.

Tips for drivers to help keep motorcyclists safe on our roadways:

- Remember, a motorcycle is a vehicle with all of the rights and privileges of any other motor vehicle.
- Always allow a motorcyclist the full lane width—never try to share a lane.
- Perform a visual check for motorcycles by checking mirrors and blind spots before entering or exiting a lane of traffic, and at intersections.
- Always signal your intentions before changing lanes or merging with traffic.
- Don’t be fooled by a flashing turn signal on a motorcycle – motorcycle signals are often not self-canceling and riders sometimes forget to turn them off. Wait to be sure the motorcycle is going to turn before you proceed.
- Allow more following distance - three or four seconds - when behind a motorcycle so the motorcyclist has enough time to maneuver or stop in an emergency.
- Never tailgate. In dry conditions, motorcycles can stop more quickly than cars.
- Never drive while distracted.

Tips for motorcyclists to increase their safety:

- Avoiding riding in poor weather conditions.
- Wearing brightly colored protective gear and a DOT-compliant helmet.
- Using turn signals for every turn or lane change, even if the rider thinks no one will see it.
- Combining hand signals and turn signals to draw more attention to themselves.
- Using reflective tape and stickers to increase visibility.
- Positioning themselves in the lane where they will be most visible to other drivers; and
- Never driving while impaired.

Help share in the responsibility of keeping our roadways safe and do your part by safely sharing the road.



Employee Spotlight Aaron Mitchell

Aaron Mitchell, who hails from Burlington, N.J., joined the NSA community as the Police Instructor in July, 2011. Mitchell trains the Master-at-Arms force, police, reservists, and auxiliary security force team to ensure they are proficient at their duties.

“I like having the opportunity to help especially the younger guys understand not only what they need to do but why doing their duties the right way is important,” Mitchell said.

Mitchell served in the Air Force and was stationed at McGuire Air Force Base as part of their security forces. As part of his duties there he worked in the armory and on range operations.

After getting out of the Air Force he wanted to stay local to his hometown and so came to work for NSA Philadelphia.

In the short amount of time he has been here, Mitchell has impressed those who have seen his work and instilled confidence in those around him.

“He is very knowledgeable in the field of law enforcement, especially being young in his career. He has been given all the right schools to get him started and his Air Force Security background helps out tremendously. Along with his knowledge he portrays exemplary classroom presence and the ability to get the points across,” said Don Kratz, Non Guard Services Site Manager.

Kratz also said he is struck by his work ethic and ability to get things done without supervision.

“Since reporting onboard as the Police Officer Instructor he has been full steam



ahead with training,” said Kratz. “[He has been] updating and writing Standard Operating Procedures, Pre-Planned Responses, and instructions. Police Instructor Mitchell is extremely reliable and self motivated,” he added.

Around the Base



Far Left: Lt. Col. Gary Seifert, Veteran Guard 3rd Regiment Infantry, Pa. National Guard, stands guard over the POW/MIA table as its contents and meaning is read to the crowd during the Philadelphia Compound Veterans Committee Memorial Day Observance, May 17, 2012.

Left: Andrew Lubin, keynote speaker for the Philadelphia Compound Veterans Committee Memorial Day Observance, speaks about his experiences embedded with troops during the War on Terror.



The Compound All-Service Color Guard Posts the Colors during Philadelphia Compound Veterans Committee Memorial Day Observance.



NSA Classifieds

VANPOOL Dependable Door-to-Door-Vanpool Service in the Turnersville, Williamstown, N.J. area.
Work # 215-697-9601.

MWR/ITT Information

Fran's Hangar Bay is open for business Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 1600-2000.

NSA-PHILADELPHIA ITT
Picnic at Clementon Park & Splash World
Saturday, July 21
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
www.clementonpark.com
Something for Everyone!
Five-Hour All-You-Can-Eat BBQ!
Buffet Menu: Charbroiled Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Garden Salad, Pickles, Potato Chips, Ice Cream Novelties, Soda.
\$27 per person includes admission to Clementon Park & Splash World plus a five-hour All-You-Can-Eat BBQ Buffet!
Tickets are available through the NSA Philadelphia ITT Office. A major savings from gate prices!
Family rides, thrill rides & water slides!
For more information, call David Carter at ITT Office 215-697-5499, email david.carter@navy.mil

FREE!
NSA PHILADELPHIA
BEAT THE HEAT
5K RUN AND WALK
THURSDAY, JUNE 21
11:30 A.M. AT THE MWR PICNIC PAVILION
Proper PT gear must be worn at all times.
ELIGIBILITY: Active duty, retirees, eligible family members, reservists, DoD civilians and contractors.
REGISTRATION: Preregistration is encouraged. Entries may be returned to the Fitness Center or faxed to 215-697-9044.
For more information, contact Joe Malak at 215-697-2069 or joseph.malak.ctr@navy.mil

Free Classified Ads

The Freedom Flyer will publish free listings of personal items for sale by personnel of the Naval and Defense Activities at Philadelphia. Such items and services must represent an incidental exchange between personnel on the installation and not be business operations. Ads are limited to 15 words, include Command/Code, one per employee, and photos are highly encouraged. Work extensions may only be used on car and van pool ads. All others must use a home or cell phone number. Ads are printed on a space available basis.

Send submissions to MC2 Matthew White at matthew.r.white2@navy.mil.

Commanding Officer
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Deputy Site Manager NSAP
Dennis Donahue

Site Manager PNY
HTCS (SW) Charles Brautcheck

Editorial Director
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