

April 22-28, 1996



Joint Civilian Orientation Conference 59 will begin April 22 in Washington, D.C., and end April 28 at Camp Pendleton, California (located about one hour north of San Diego). The conference will visit the Pentagon and military bases of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

Each day you will have the opportunity to talk to, eat with and observe military personnel. Each evening, a social function will provide additional time for informal discussions with members of the host commands. JCOC 59 will be fast-paced and rigorous. Each day's schedule will be full.

Monday, April 22 -- Washington, D.C.

Conference registration is between noon and 4 p.m. at The Rtiz-Carlton, Tyson's Corner, McLean, Virginia. After brief organizational meetings, JCOC 59 will begin with an evening reception and dinner hosted by the Secretary of Defense.

Tuesday, April 23 -- The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

You will meet with Service Secretaries, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior Department officials and also visit the National Military Command Center and learn how we monitor military activities as they happen around the world. The purpose of this day is to provide you an overview of defense and national security issues, and the issues affecting each of the Services. In the afternoon you will depart Washington, D.C., from Andrews Air Force Base aboard an Air Force aircraft, enroute

to Norfolk, Virginia, less than an hour's flight. The Navy portion of JCOC will begin with a reception on board a U.S. Navy ship pierside. You will stay overnight in a local area hotel.

Wednesday, April 24 -- Naval facilities in Norfolk, Virginia

The next day you will be flown onto the deck of the Navy's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the USS Theodore Roosevelt, which will be operating just off the Virginia coast. You will make an arrested landing in a C-2 "Greyhound," a fixed wing, propeller driven aircraft. While onboard you will observe up close the launch and recovery of tactical aircraft, discuss flight operations, learn about the role of the carrier battle group, and witness how more than 5,000 sailors live and work aboard their "floating city." After lunch at sea, you will experience a catapult-assisted takeoff and be flown back ashore for port tours of a nuclear-powered attack submarine and a surface combatant to complete your day with the Navy.

Later that afternoon, you will take a four and a half hour flight aboard a U.S. Air Force aircraft to the home of the Air Force's Air Warfare Center, Nellis Air Force Base, located near Las Vegas, Nevada. While enroute, you will have an opportunity to observe an inflight refueling operation. Once at Nellis, you'll head directly to the Officer's Club, where many of the base's senior leaders will join you for dinner. You'll spend the night at a nearby hotel.

Thursday, April 25 -- Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada

The next morning, you'll eat breakfast in the Nellis dining hall with several of the base's junior enlisted members.

Pighter and bomber pilots from all over the world train at Nellis. Immediately after breakfast, you'll experience the same multimedia debriefing they receive after a day of combat training over the Nellis ranges. You'll also tour the base's Threat Training Facility where you'll see aircraft, missiles, tanks and other military equipment captured from enemy forces as far back as the Korean conflict. Following lunch with junior officers, you'll head to the flightline to get an up-close look at the fighters and bombers made famous during Desert Storm. The final stop of the day will be at the hangar serving as home to the Air Force's aerial demonstration team, the Thunderbirds.

You will depart Nellis in the afternoon on an Air Force aircraft enroute to Fort Lewis, Washington, about a two hour flight, during which you may have another opportunity to witness an inflight refueling operation. You will be greeted at a welcoming reception and stay overnight at a local hotel.

Friday, April 26 -- Fort Lewis, Washington

Today you will experience a soldier's day in the field to the fullest as you drive an M1 Abrams tank or the Army's High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV), actually fire state-of-the-art weapons, observe the artillery capabilities of the M109A3 Howitzer gun/weaponry, and eat Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) alongside soldiers in the field. Fort Lewis is the home of I Corps...America's Corps. At the end of the day, you will have stood shoulder to shoulder with the soldiers of America's Corps.

After you have seen the capabilities of your I Corp's soldiers and their equipment in action, you will board an Air Force aircraft and fly to Camp Pendleton, California, about a two hour flight. You will be greeted by the U.S. Marine Corps at a reception and then stay overnight at a local hotel or military lodging facility.

Saturday, April 27 -- Camp Pendleton, California

Your visit to this sprawling 125,000 acre base with 17 miles of California coastline will be hosted by the warfighting I Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF). After breakfast with your Marine Corps hosts, you will receive a short operational brief which will review many of the MEF's current operations.

Your day will he highlighted by interaction with the young Marines of the MEF and opportunities to drive equipment and fire weapons systems. You will cruise along coastal Pacific waters on an air-cushioned landing craft, ride over rough terrain in a light armored vehicle, and observe an exercise of Marine Corps combat service support (logistics) capabilities. You will also see a demonstration of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force in action as they conduct urban operations in a state-of-the-art "Military Operations in Urban Terrain" facility.

The JCOC farewell reception and dinner will be held that evening, after which you will remain overnight at the same hotel.

Sunday, April 28 -- Camp Pendleton, California

JCOC 59 ends with a mid-morning brunch. You will have the opportunity to ask questions about your experiences and provide feedback about your impressions. Transportation to the San Diego airport will be provided immediately following the conference. For planning purposes, please do not book your return flight earlier than 2 p.m. local time.