

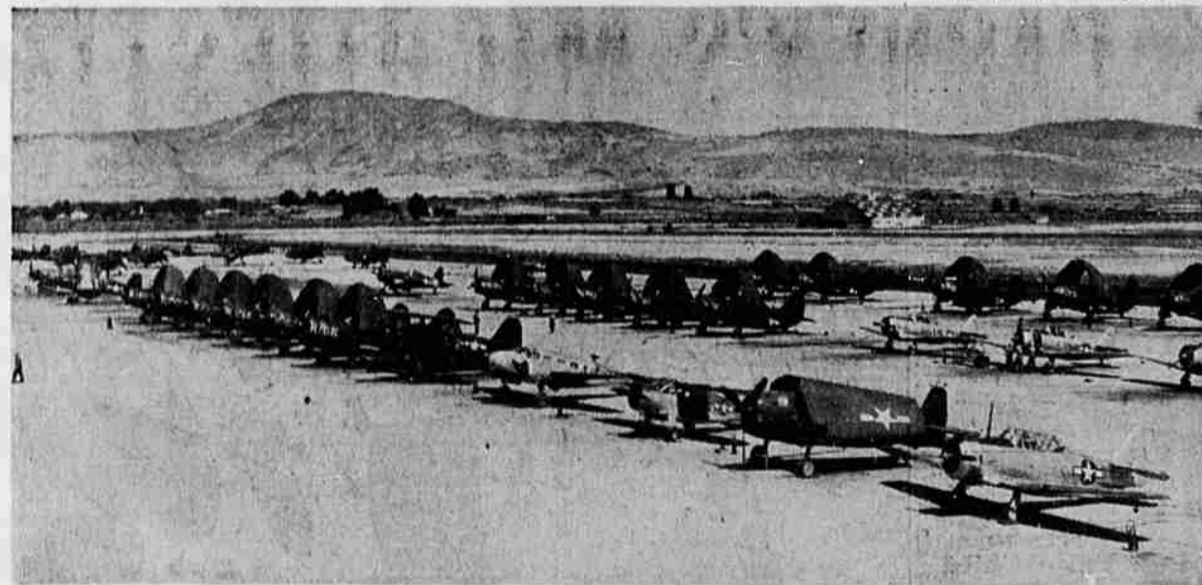
# Navy Gives Uncensored Glimpse of Klamath Naval Air Station



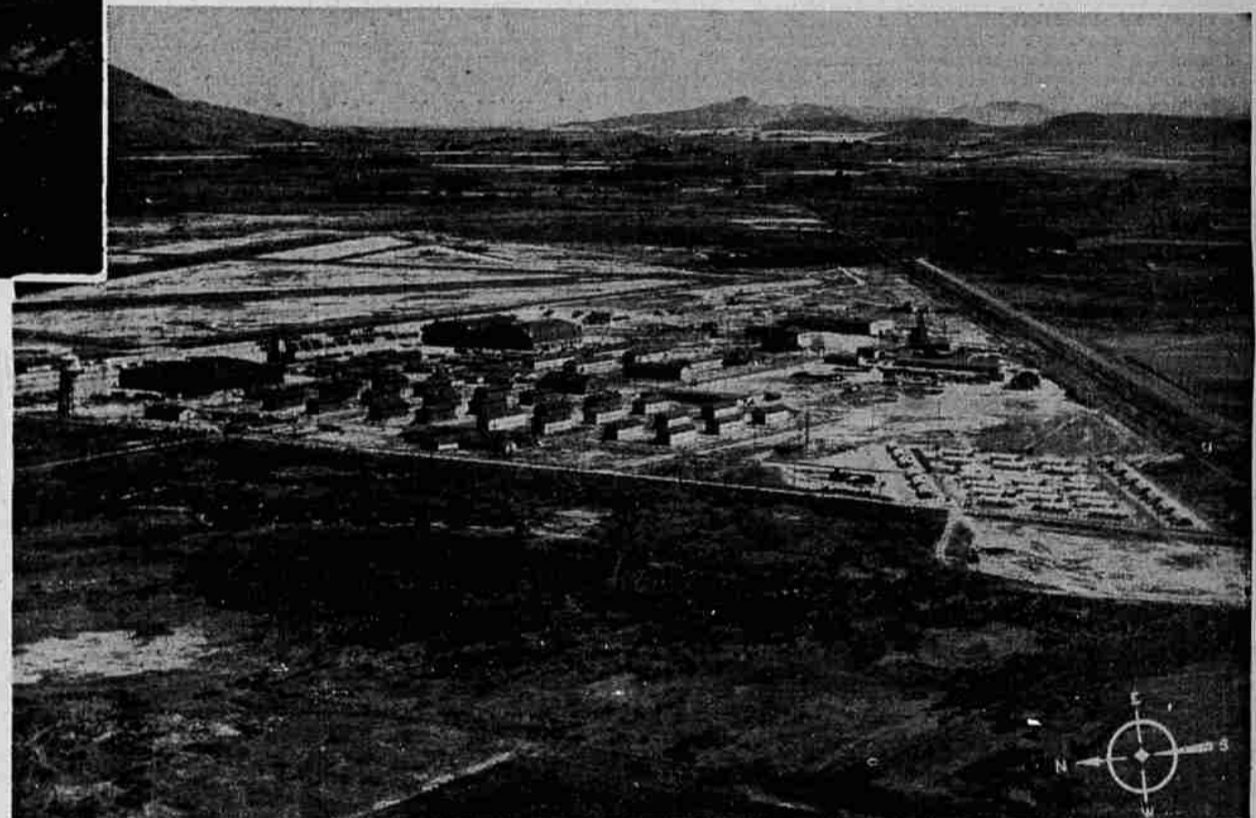
A vertical air view of the whole naval air station with the runway is pictured above. The long diagonal runway is nearly a mile and a half long and two others are almost a mile long. This view is taken from an altitude of 14,500 feet. —Official U. S. navy photo.



A new F4U Corsair fighter is being towed from the hangar to the line by one of the many small vehicles in use about the station. —Official U. S. navy photo.



Above is a general view of the parked planes on the apron looking north. In the background is the old hangar for the city airport. Four types of planes are used for training at the air station and other planes are ready for the benefit of CASU or station business. —Official U. S. navy photo.



An aerial view of the Klamath naval air station is shown above in a photo previously restricted for publication. At the lower right can be seen the Homoja huts, housing for temporary personnel and at the left of the triangular-shaped base are the big hangars. The runways are at far left. —Official U. S. navy photo.

## Air Station Victory Boost Told On Navy Anniversary

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loons every day to determine velocity and direction of the wind and the humidity. Large maps are made from the reports sent in by radio, teletype and from the balloon findings of this station. From these maps, pilots are able at a glance to tell what the weather will be like at any point along the coast. Stretching out in front of the tower is the apron where the planes are parked between flights. The large concrete expanse measures 4800 by 400 feet. The runways, criss-crossing the field, are also measured in figures that amount up to miles. The longest runway, 7100 feet, crossed the field diagonally, and two other runways measure almost a mile in length. Large white numbers are painted on the end of the runways, helping the pilots to identify them when coming in for a landing.

**Beehive**  
From the top of the tower can be seen a clear view of the planes as they taxi up to the apron and are checked. The field is a veritable beehive of activity with jeeps buzzing about the station and the bright red crash trucks at the end of each runway in use. They are ready at a second's notice to be at any designated point on a runway to combat fires and help a pilot out of a plane in case of a crash. In the large hangar, CASU or the carrier aircraft service unit, takes care of the planes, services them, and keeps everything in working order. CASU is an entity in itself and has its own

commanding officer and executive officer.

Two other large hangars that have been under construction for some months are nearing completion.

### Ranges Set Up

Since aerial gunnery is a major part of the training received by the men stationed at the Klamath station, ranges in isolated sections of the southern Oregon and northern California country play an important role in this training. Two gunnery ranges are situated for aerial practice, one embracing 1,426,000 acres east of Lakeview and another which covers 550,000 acres between Klamath Falls and Lakeview. Floating targets are maintained on Clear lake, Goose lake and on Drew's reservoir. The rocket range near Dorris is also used for gunnery practice. An auxiliary air station is maintained at Lakeview to provide facilities for the use of the pilots of this station while on gunnery runs.

And on the field in Klamath Falls are pistol and shotgun ranges where navy men sharpen their skill with weapons. From the armory of the station, it was learned that each pilot is allowed about 3500 rounds of .50-calibre shells during his course of flight instruction. About 25,000 rounds of the shells are used every day at the local naval air station. On the targets away from the field, water bombs are used.

### Survival Shack

Also in a separate building is what is known as the "survival shack." In a room are shown all the different types of equipment used to outfit the life-

rafts that are put in use when the plane crashes on the water.

Among the ingenious devices to be found on one of these rubber boats are the reflector screen which will reflect radar rays and enable a drifting raft to be found more easily, "desalting" equipment for use in obtaining drinking water from salt water, fishing equipment, clever signal mirrors and many more inventions to help a man get along on a life-raft.

Men are thoroughly trained in methods of ditching a plane

when it crashes and are taught use of the equipment which will get them out of the plane and away from it in the shortest time possible.

In another separate building is the parachute loft where the silk and nylon chutes are packed and also where they are hung.

### Four Types

Four types of planes are flown at the local air station. They are the TBF or torpedo bomber, the SB2C or dive bomber, the F6F fighter plane and the F4U fighter bombers.

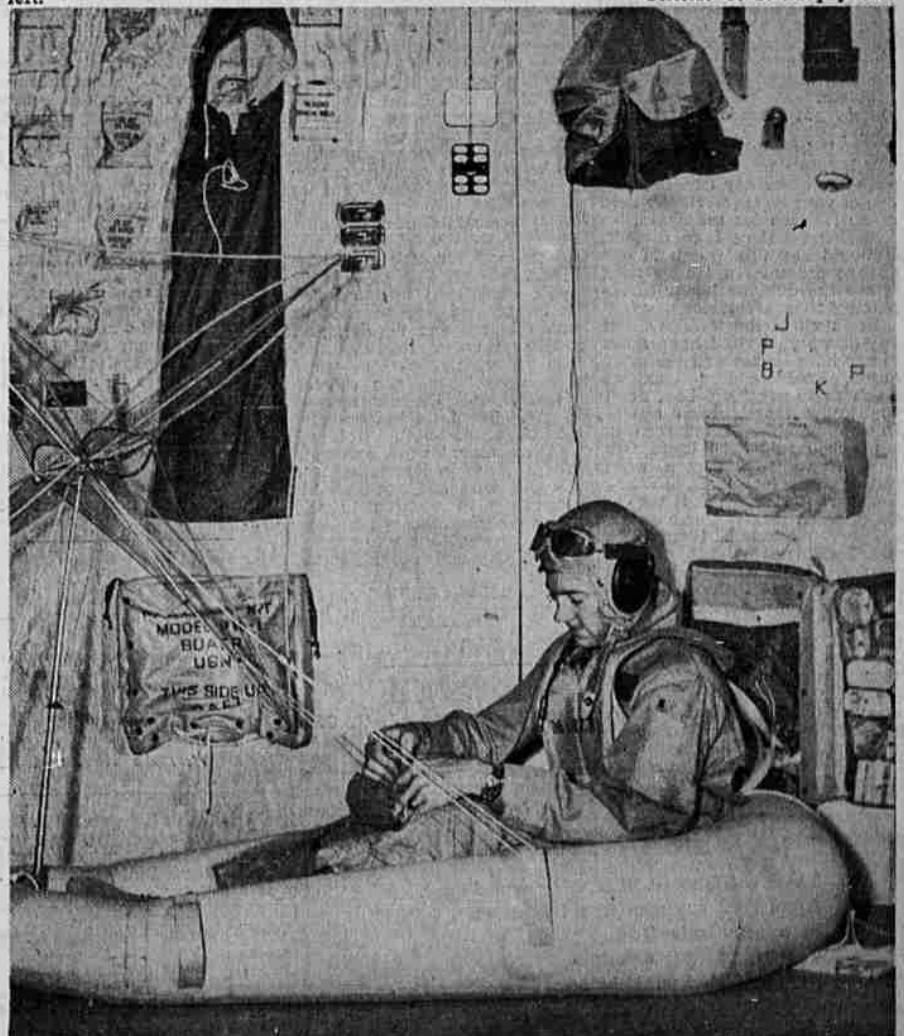


In the huge hangar at the naval air station, a new engine is being placed in a Corsair fighter, or F4U. Left to right are E. T. Garvey, AMM 3/c, R. M. Butler, AMM 2/c, H. Erickson, AMM 2/c, and G. Dolce, S 1/c. —Official U. S. navy photo.

In addition to the flight training units, the station is equipped with a large dispensary, mess halls, recreation hall, which also serves as a church and theatre, and the barracks and living quarters for the men and women stationed there.

At the station are 450 officers and men attached to the station itself, 909 men and 34 officers in CASU, and 125 men and 159 officers in air group 5 now stationed here.

Cmdr. P. L. Haynes is commanding officer of the station and executive officer is Cmdr. H. G. Atherton. Lt. Cmdr. Huntley M. Turner is commanding officer of CASU and Lt. Frank D. Morgan is executive officer. Head of the ground training unit is Lt. Cmdr. S. A. Congdon.



In the survival shack at the station, pilots and crewmen are given instruction on the methods of ditching a plane if necessary and are also given the opportunity to try out various pieces of rescue and safety equipment. Ens. J. C. Bates investigates a supply kit on the one-man life raft with the radar antenna. —Official U. S. navy photo.