

**Miramar CLF Meeting  
July 17 2008**

**The July meeting of the Community Leaders Forum was held in the commanding officer's conference room on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The CO, Col Chris O'Connor was in the Iraq theater of operations so the meeting began with the guest speaker, LtCol Vernon Graham.**

**LtCol Graham is the Provost Marshall at MCAS Miramar. The Provost Marshall may be thought of as the Chief of Police. However, the Miramar Fire Chief also reports to the Provost Marshall.**

**LtCol Graham's greatest concern is civilian incursion in the vast area of East Miramar. Those thousands of acres east of Miramar's runways lie South of the community of Scripps Ranch and West of Santee.**

**This is U.S. Government property and is off limits to anyone other than authorized personnel. Many civilians either do not realize this, or choose to ignore it and go mountain biking, motorcycle riding, hiking, exploring and yes, vandalizing property that is off limits.**

**People just don't realize that the area is very hazardous. The fire roads are not maintained and people who venture out into the area in their SUVs often get stuck and need to be rescued by Miramar personnel.**

**There is an old Atlas Missile site on the property that is filled with hazardous material. The Provost Marshall's office is concerned with possible loss of life, people getting lost in some very inhospitable terrain, encounters with natural predators, incursion into some Indian sacred burial grounds that are in the area, theft of government property, etc. Of course they are concerned with fire and people wandering into the weapons storage facilities.**

**Most civilians do not realize this, but if you are caught encroaching in East Miramar, you will find that it is not in your best interest. You will be turned over to a civilian magistrate who can level a \$10,000 fine for unauthorized entry into government property. So be safe, be smart and stay out.**

**Mr. Tony Guinn, the Assistant Airfield Operations Officer briefed us on the air operations for the past month. Total air operations, which include both fixed wing and helicopter operations, totaled 6,640 compared to 5,847 for the same month last year.**

**Noise complaints were up significantly for the month of June with 53 noise complaints recorded. This was in part due to the increased tempo of operations, but mostly caused by summer weather wherein a temperature inversion in the atmosphere reflects the noise over a greater distance. In some cases, noise from the airfield can be heard 10 or 15 miles away as if it were right overhead. This phenomenon occurs every summer. Additionally, during the warmer months, many citizens have their windows open.**

**The flight route that had the most use (most overflights) was the Julian departure route. This route passes right over Rancho Bernardo. The base received seven noise complaints from residents who live under this flight track, but none of the complaints came from Rancho Bernardo.**

**The date and time of the next Miramar CLF meeting has yet to be determined. The base is already preparing for the fall air show. I will file my next report following the next meeting.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Jeffrey C. Frederick**