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NAVY SELECTS TEAM TO REBUILD NAVWAR

Manchester, Edgemoor chosen to redevelop 70-acre Navy campus

BY JENNIFER VAN GROVE

The United States Navy has selected a development team led by San Diego-based Manchester Financial Group and McLean, Va.-based Edgemoor Infrastructure and Real Estate to replace its obsolete NAVWAR facilities and remake the rest of the 70.3-acre military campus in San Diego's Midway District with private development.

The selection brings to an end a more than yearlong, tightly controlled competition for the expansive property, which consists of two large parcels straddling Pacific Highway.

The parties expect to soon enter into an exclusive negotiating agreement, or ENA, which opens the door for the first time in the lengthy process to robust dialogue between the federal agency and its new partners. The contract will also outline the tasks required to complete a transaction.

"We've been tracking this for a long time. We had a successful project with the Navy on the previous building, the Broadway project," Ted Eldredge, the president and CEO of Manchester Financial, told The San Diego Union-Tribune. "This is another opportunity to develop a key piece of property in San Diego."

Owned by the Navy since the mid-1990s, the Naval Base Point Loma, Old Town Complex — commonly known as NAVWAR — is home to the military's Naval Information Warfare Systems Command and Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific divisions. The groups represent a mix of 5,000 full-time and contract cybersecurity professionals who currently work in World War II-era hangars that are said to be past their useful life.

In November 2022, the federal government issued a solicitation for the long-term lease and development of the property. The Navy is offering the land for "in-kind" consideration, meaning it expects to exchange the land for new NAVWAR facilities, identified in SEE NAVWAR • A6



K.C. ALFRED U-T

THE ULTIMATE GOAL

Point Loma Nazarene University holds a parade on campus Monday to celebrate its women's soccer team, which won the NCAA Division II championship last month. Students lined the route as the players rode on the back of a flatbed truck. PLNU defeated Washburn University of Kansas 1-0 on Dec. 9 to win the university's first NCAA title in any sport.

ISRAEL: MILITARY SHIFTING GAZA CAMPAIGN

Officials say they hope to complete transition to new phase this month

BY PATRICK KINGSLEY, ADAM ENTOUS & EDWARD WONG

Israel said its military is starting to shift from a large-scale ground and air campaign in the Gaza Strip to a more targeted phase in its war against Hamas, and Israeli officials have privately told their American counterparts that they hoped the transition would be completed by the end of January, U.S. officials said.

Israel's disclosure came as Secretary of State Antony Blinken was expected in Israel to press offi-

cially there to curtail their campaign in Gaza and to prevent the war from spreading across the region, particularly in the aftermath of an Israeli strike last week that killed senior Hamas leaders in Lebanon and as Hezbollah said one of its commanders was killed in a strike in the country.

Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, the chief spokesperson for the Israeli military, said the new phase of the campaign involved fewer troops and airstrikes. U.S. officials said they expected the transition to rely more on surgical missions by smaller groups of elite Israeli forces that would move in and out of population centers in the Gaza Strip to find and kill Hamas leaders, rescue hostages and destroy tunnels.

ISRAELI STRIKE KILLS ELITE HEZBOLLAH COMMANDER

■ A5 • Israel launches strikes into southern Lebanon against Hezbollah, killing one of its senior commanders.

"The war shifted a stage," Hagari said Monday in an interview. "But the transition will be with no ceremony," he added. "It's not about dramatic announcements."

He said Israel would continue to reduce the number of troops in Gaza, a process that began this month. The intensity of operations in northern Gaza has already begun to ebb, he added, as the military shifts toward conducting one-off raids there instead of maintaining wide-scale maneuvers.

Israel will now focus instead on Hamas' southern and central strongholds, particularly around Khan Younis and Deir al Balah, said Hagari, adding that he expected more aid and tents to be let into Gaza.

U.S. officials said they believe the number of Israeli troops in the northern part of Gaza has dropped to less than half of the some 50,000 soldiers that had been present as recently as last month during the height of the campaign. The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive issue.

Still, Israeli officials have made clear to U.S. officials that, while they hope to complete the transition by the end of the month, the SEE ISRAEL • A5

UNITED FINDS LOOSE BOLTS, OTHER ISSUES IN GROUNDED BOEING 737s

Hundreds of flights canceled as airlines prepare to inspect jets

BY NIRAJ CHOKSHI & MARK WALKER

United Airlines said Monday that it had found loose bolts in panels to its Boeing 737 Max 9 jets that are similar to the part of an Alaska Airlines plane that blew out during a flight Friday, adding to growing safety concerns about the Max 9.

The disclosure followed reports that Alaska Airlines had been warned three times about problems with cabin pressure on its plane. Those warnings were significant enough that the airline decided the plane could no longer be used on flights to Hawaii.

United found the loose bolts in the panels, known as plugs in the industry, after starting to take out seats and sidewall liners to inspect the part this weekend, the airline said Monday. The plugs are placed where an emergency exit door would be if a jet had more seats.



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD VIA AP

National Transportation Safety Board representatives retrieve the door plug that blew off Alaska Airlines Flight 1282 from the yard of a Portland, Ore., teacher's home on Monday.

A door plug suddenly flew off the Alaska Airlines plane Friday during a drop in cabin pressure about 10 minutes after takeoff from Portland, Ore., subjecting passengers to howling wind and forcing pilots to quickly return to the airport. The door plug, phones, toys and other personal items all streamed out of the hole in the side of the plane and fell across the city.

Airlines have canceled hundreds of flights as they prepare to inspect nearly 200 aircraft that will be grounded until regulators and company officials decide they are safe. Alaska Airlines used 65 Max 9 planes, about 20 percent of its

fleet, and United used 79, more than any other airline and about 8 percent of its fleet, according to Cirium, an aviation data provider. Some passengers' travel plans could be disrupted for days.

The Federal Aviation Administration sent instructions to the airlines Monday on how to carry out the inspections, although Alaska and United said they were waiting on additional approval from the FAA to begin.

Officials led by the National Transportation Safety Board are focusing on, among other things, the installation and inspection of the plug.

SEE BOEING • A6

COURT DEBATES REQUIREMENTS FOR NOTIFICATION OF HEARINGS

Arguments reflect broader disputes over immigration system

BY ABBIE VANSICKLE

WASHINGTON

The U.S. Supreme Court appeared divided Monday over what counted as proper notice for the government to give to people facing deportation hearings.

The argument, which lasted nearly two hours, centered on whether immigrants living in the country illegally should be allowed to challenge deportation orders if their initial notice to appear in court failed to list a time and date for the hearing.

The dispute focused on how to interpret federal immigration law, but the broader debate over the

country's immigration system, in which record numbers of migrants are entering the country, took center stage from the start.

The lawyer for the government, Charles McCloud, contended that a decision in favor of the immigrants living in the country illegally "threatens to unsettle hundreds of thousands" of deportation orders the courts have issued for "nearly three decades." He predicted "an avalanche" of cases "could be injected back into the immigration system."

The lawyer representing the immigrants in the two consolidated cases, Easha Anand, argued that the government was "flouting the plain text" of federal immigration law by failing to give people court notices citing the date and time of their hearings.

Despite the government's ar- SEE COURT • A6



DAVID J. PHILLIP AP

SPORTS

MICHIGAN WINS CHAMPIONSHIP

■ D1 • No. 1 Michigan completes a three-year climb to a national championship by beating No. 2 Washington 34-13 in the College Football Playoff title game.

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