

New Marine Facility named for Chester W. Nimitz

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The new \$1 million oceanographic facility serving the University of California, San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography has been named for the late Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz in action taken by the University of California board of regents.

The six-acre facility will honor Nimitz as an historic naval officer and as a regent of the University from 1948 to 1956.

Located on the bay side of Point Loma in the channel entrance to Shelter Island basin, the facility has been described as one of the world's finest shore bases for supporting oceanographic research.

The facility includes a 32-foot floating pier for mooring vessels of the Scripps scientific fleet, a 150-foot marginal wharf, an administration and staging building, a maintenance shop, an electronics shop, and a warehouse.

The base is home port for Scripps' new ocean-going biological laboratory, the Alpha Helix, and the new oceanographic research ship, Thomas Washington, as well as other research and training vessels.

Admiral Nimitz died in February. As a young officer, he organized the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps unit on the University's Berkeley campus in 1926, and he served as professor of Naval Science and Tactics until 1929. The University awarded him an honorary doctor's degree in 1943.

Scripps Institution has an endowment fund named for Admiral Nimitz, started by the San Francisco Council of the Navy League. It will be used to establish an Admiral Nimitz Lecture at Scripps Institution.

At Berkeley, a student commons room for the Naval ROTC unit on the campus is named for Admiral Nimitz and houses some of his mementos.

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