

KAREN

On Tuesday

Have you ever wondered what the Defense Department does with its shredded documents?

They're not ones to encourage government waste, despite all those expensive toilet seats, so Defense is eager to put the finely shredded strips to good use. **Jane Weinberger**, the Defense secretary's wife who publishes children's books in Maine, uses the shredding to pack the books from her Windswept House in Mount Desert, Maine.

That was publisher **Malcolm Forbes** who landed in Waterville, Maine, in his private helicopter the other day. He left his yacht, the Highlander, in Camden Harbor, and flew to Waterville to meet with a Colby College geology professor to inspect and negotiate the purchase of a naval station and seven Navy ships. Not full-size Navy vessels or even 151-foot yachts like the Highlander, of course, but miniatures. The publisher checked out the miniature navy to determine if he wanted to add it to his collection of 115,000 miniature soldiers on display in his museum, Palais Mondoub, in Tangier, Morocco. **Harold Pestana**, the Waterville professor, already has sold Mr. Forbes a 1,400-character army and an armored train modeled on one used in Egypt in 1882.

The 200-piece, hand-cast, hand-painted miniature naval station that the publisher examined the other day includes a 4-foot battleship complete with a crew of 90, two submarines, two torpedo boats, an armored cruiser and an armored troop transporter. (Not a single minesweeper to lend to **Cap Weinberger**.) He was most intrigued by a handful of young sailors learning flag signals by a rack of miniature ships, a scene based on a picture in a 1940s children's book called "Wonder Book of the Navy." The entire fleet is modeled after British sailors in the 1890s.

He collects miniature soldiers because it brings back memories of his childhood when he and his brothers played with them on the

carpet at home. And anyway: "They're not too expensive to feed, and you don't have to replace their uniforms." It's refreshing to folks in Waterville to learn that even Malcolm Forbes worries about stretching the dollar to feed an army.

Effi Barry, the mayor's wife, has retired from the public relations biz. She's resigned from JAM, where she earned \$45,000 a year. Her pals say she plans to return to school as a full-time student at Johns Hopkins University. She has an undergraduate degree from Hampton Institute and a master's degree from City College of New York. But those degrees were in home ec and health education. Now she wants to study Serious Stuff. One friend says she applied for student financial aid, but no confirmation on that either.

George and Barbara Bush entertained 100 or so state legislators at their Kennebunkport cottage on the Maine coast the other day. Barbara hosted a homey house tour for the gang, which not only included a look at the rock ponds filled with salt water but also the antiqueless bedrooms. The antiques were swept to sea in the 1978 hurricane. Toys were strewn all over. Not from a hurricane, of course, but it's a summer house and grandkids visit. And about the bedroom, "While you're there, please pick up," instructed the vice president's wife.

After a chicken dinner chez Bush, the state pols were handed a packet of literature hyping George for Prez. They couldn't help but wonder why anyone would want to leave Kennebunkport for the White House.

There's been dissension for weeks now among the ranks in the **Simon** presidential campaign regarding the roles of two of **Paul's** former colleagues in the House, national campaign manager **Floyd Fithian** and finance director **Bob Edgar**. There's a move to get rid of both within the campaign. Antagonists say they're not pros. In a first step, **Brian Lunde**, political director turned executive director, is now calling the day-to-day shots. Former Congressman Fithian will devote his time to fund raising.

Tom McMillen look out! **Mike Dukakis'** presidential bid got a boost in Minnesota, an early caucus state, the other evening from Celtics forward **Kevin McHale**, a native Minnesotan. Gov. Dukakis, the 5-foot-8 starting point guard for his 1951 high-school basketball team, shot baskets with the 6-foot-10 Mr. McHale. The Duke went 7 for 12 while Mr. McHale went 1 for 4. "He's found his range," joked Mr. McHale, a Dukakis supporter.

— **Karen Feld**