

Hawaii MARINE

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Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Brigadier Gen. McAbee and retired Lt. Gen. Bowser unveil the name of the new MCB Hawaii lodging facility.

The Lodge opens

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

After more than a year of digging, constructing and remodeling, the temporary lodging facility, now known as The Lodge at Kaneohe Bay, opened its doors Wednesday to military members, DoD civilians and their guests. In a ceremony on opening day, Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, commanding general of MCB Hawaii, helped dedicate the building.

The building, which is dedicated to retired Lt. Gen. Alpha Bowser, is one of very few buildings on any military installation dedicated to a still-living veteran. His retirement rank of lieutenant general and his reputation as an outstanding warfighter, leader of Marines and long-standing member of the base community led to the new facility being dedicated in his honor.

A crowd of guests and dignitaries was on hand to witness the opening of one of many new improvements on Kaneohe Bay. Brigadier Gen. McAbee and Lt. Gen. Bowser exchanged gifts and cut the ribbon to signify the opening of The Lodge.

The new lodge will now have 74 living spaces available for use to those who are eligible.

"This lodge will make a positive impression on Marines who are newly arriving to the base," said

Brig. Gen. McAbee, during the ceremony.

"This is just one of many new projects that we're working on to improve the quality of life for the Marines and Sailors here at Marine Corps Base Hawaii."

The project, which cost a total of \$7.2 million, was built totally of nonappropriated funds.

The money that Marines and Sailors have spent while on base funded the construction, said Brig. Gen. McAbee. "Not one cent came from the taxpayers."

Lieutenant Gen. Bowser, whose name graces the facility, entered the Marine Corps in 1932 and fought in both World War II and the Korean War. He received numerous awards including the Legion of Merit with Combat V and two gold stars, the Bronze Star with Combat V and a gold star, and the Distinguished Service Medal.

The Lodge is located just past the main gate on the right when entering from the H-3.

For reservations or more information on The Lodge, call 254 - 2806.



LT. GEN. BOWSER

XO becomes a guardian angel

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.
Combat Correspondent

HONOLULU — While eating at a Honolulu restaurant called Gaucho Grill on the evening of March 22, Maj. Michael R. Brown, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 executive officer, saved the life of Brad Barnett, a vacationing friend from the mainland.

Brown and his wife were enjoying the evening out with several friends at the recently-opened restaurant when tragedy almost struck.

Like everyone else at the table, Barnett was having a pleasant conversation eating some hard-crust French bread when a piece of the bread got lodged in his throat, incapacitating and choking Barnett.

After a nudge from his wife, Brown saw the look of panic on Barnett's face and instinctively went into action.

"I heard a cough, then my wife slapped me on the shoulder and said, 'Mike get over there and help him!'" said Brown. What happened next took less than 10 seconds.

"Major Brown quickly came over to my side of the table and performed the Heimlich maneuver on me," said Barnett in a handwritten letter expressing his gratitude.

Saying Brown got to Barnett's side of the table quickly might be an understatement.

"I told people to move (out of the way), I tossed aside a chair and I told his

wife Cathy to 'move' as well," said Brown.

Brown then instructed Barnett to stand, which he did immediately.

To look at Brown and his six-foot, three-inch, 210-pound body, it would be hard to envision someone big enough to actually give him trouble in performing the Heimlich maneuver. However, Barnett's six-foot, one-inch, over 250-pound frame tested Brown's Heimlich capabilities.

It took Brown two strong thrusts to dislodge the foreign object from the throat of the choking Barnett, and to everyone's relief, Barnett took a big gulp of air.

Just as quickly as it started, the incident was over. As soon as he could speak, Barnett told Brown he had saved his life. Barnett was back to normal almost immediately, according to Brown.

"We called the doc and he told us as long as there was no irritation in (Barnett's) throat he was good to go," said Brown. The next day, Barnett felt the effects of the brief ordeal on his body. "Today, my ribs are still sore, but it's okay, I'm alive!" exclaimed Barnett.

Not one to take full-credit, Brown thanked his wife for first noticing Barnett choking, and he gave most of the credit to HMH-463 for his first aid training.



BROWN



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

The Defense Messaging System Local Control Center was recognized as the top center in the Marine Corps, continuing the tradition of excellence at MCB Hawaii.

Control Center takes top honors

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

Units aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are constantly receiving awards for excellence in many areas. Recently, the Base Safety Center was recognized as the top safety center in the Marine Corps, the Base Environmental Compliance and Protection Department was named best for preserving natural resources, and the awards keep coming in.

For the second year in a row, the Defense Messaging System, Local Control Center at K -Bay took top awards as the top local control center in the Marine Corps for 2001. The Marines at DMSLCC are basically the electronic mail carriers of the base, said Staff Sgt. Floyd Spaulding, DMS chief of DMSLCC. The unit first provides organizational messaging to units and users aboard MCB Hawaii. They also provide secure network administration for all classified and unclassified mes-

sages to and from the base.

The unit was first among a field of 20 other messaging centers that were eligible for the award.

"It was pretty much the individual efforts of the Marines who work here," said Spaulding. "The team environment, the effort we put into the training and everybody's personal dedication to our mission have landed us on top."

See LCC, A-6

BON APPETIT: 1st Radio's Melgar selected as best chef

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

Before the crowd of VIPs and judges from the chow hall began to gather for their quarterly meal, chefs from the chow hall had already been hard at work for several hours preparing their dishes and setting up displays for the competition.

The Chef of the Quarter competition is held four times a year at Anderson Hall Dining Facility aboard MCB

Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. This time, four Marines and one Sailor were in the running for the title.

This year's winner, Lance Cpl. Gary Melgar from 1st Radio Bn., charmed the judges with a chicken dish that seemed to put a smile on everyone's face in attendance.

Brigadier Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, commanding general of MCB Hawaii, and Rear Adm. Anthony Winns, commander of Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S.

Pacific Fleet, were both on hand to try out the meals of the five eligible competitors.

"This food was good, really, really good, and if it were up to me, I would have chosen all of these chefs as the winners," said Rear Adm. Winns.

Brigadier Gen. McAbee presented Lance Cpl. Melgar with a 96-hour liberty pass over the Easter holiday, along with a trophy and several other prizes for his accomplishment.

"I've never won anything this important in my entire

life," said Melgar. "I'm really happy with the results."

While Melgar may have taken home the award, it was evident that all of the chefs had put a lot of effort into preparing their dishes. Everyone on hand seemed to enjoy the food.

"They all had great food," said Staff Sgt. Brian Church, subsistence chief at Anderson Hall Dining Facilities, and contest judge. "In the end it came down to preparation time and food presentation. It was a really close race."



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Lance Cpl. Gary Melgar was named MCB Hawaii's chef of the quarter, beating out four other Marines and a Sailor.

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

CREDO POSTS SCHEDULE

Marines, Sailors, federal employees or their family members may participate in any upcoming CREDO Personal Growth or Marriage Enrichment Retreat.

Sponsored by the Chief of Naval Operations, the programs support people who desire a more harmonious personal life, as well as growth in their personal and professional relationships.

Meals, lodging and transportation to the site are provided free of charge.

Call 257-1941 or 257-0408 to register for any of the following retreats:

- Personal Growth — April 25 - 28 or May 16 - 19.
- Marriage Enrichment — May 3 - 5.

TRIATHLON AFFECTS TRAFFIC

The cycling portion of Sunday's Lanikai Triathlon 2002 will include a route aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Approximately 300 participants are expected to take part in the event, which will include competitions for men, women and relays. The men's race begins at 6:30 a.m., the women and relays will begin at 7:00 a.m.

The event will include a 750-meter swim (parallel to Kailua Beach), a 20-kilometer bike race (7 miles of which will be aboard Kaneohe Bay), and a 5-kilometer run (clockwise around the Lanikai "loop").

For the biking portion, cyclists will follow N. Kalaheo from Kailua Beach Park, and turn right onto Mokapu Blvd. to enter the base through the Mokapu (back) gate.

On-base, they will ride along Mokapu Road, turn right on Harris Ave., right on Middaugh St. — to the rifle range turn-around, retrace their course to Daly Rd., turn right on Daly Rd. to the turn-around (traffic circle), retrace Daly Rd. to Middaugh St., turn right on Middaugh St., left on Harris Ave., then left onto Mokapu Rd. to exit the back gate and return to Kailua Beach Park via N. Kalaheo.

Provost Marshal representatives will mark the on-base portion of the course Saturday and work check-points along the route during the competition.

Anyone interested in participating in the race may contact race director Raul Torres, at 737-8985 (e-mail: teamboca@lava.net).

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Crisis Hotline	521-4555

Hawaii MARINE

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Public Affairs Director
Public Affairs Chief
Press Chief
Managing Editor
Sports Editor

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Maj. Chris Hughes
Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans
Sgt. Robert Carlson
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— C.G.'S MAIL BOX —

"...Put up a removeable sign that says, 'No left turn'..."

- Submitted by Petty Officer 1st Class Jeff Wilson, VP-47



BRIG. GEN.
MCABEE

"This e-mail is about the daily traffic jam that happens at Mokapu Elementary School. This happens every morning when school is about to start, and every afternoon as school lets out.

The problems that cause or create this traffic jam are the people who drop off or pick-up their children at the parking lot/drop off area, on the side of the school nearest the Marine Corps Exchange and Commissary.

They will drive up to the stop sign to exit the parking lot and sit there for 2-3 minutes, waiting on traffic to clear, so they can turn left and head back towards McDonalds.

I feel that the easiest and quickest fix for this problem is to block off (the left turn — with red cones), so that they can't turn left.

Put up a removeable sign that says "No Left Turn," and set the sign there from, let's say, 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 in the morning, and from 1:30 to 2:30 in the afternoon — thereby allowing only a right turn and traffic flowing at a good pace out of the parking lot/drop-off area.

The only other option is to place a security officer there in the morning and afternoon to direct traffic.

Your checking into this would greatly be appreciated.

Every morning is a mess sitting there and waiting on four or five cars trying to turn left and holding up everybody else.

If they are heading back to housing or to McDonalds, they could turn right and go to the light and drive back by the 7 Day Store to get to their destination."

Thank You,

Petty Officer 1st Class Jeff Wilson,
VP-47

Dear Petty Officer 1st Class Wilson,

The commanding general has asked us to research and to reply to your email of Feb. 15, since your recommendation falls within our staff's

responsibilities. He appreciates you taking your time to participate in our "CG Mail" Program.

You recommended that we initiate a "no left turn" exiting Mokapu Elementary School during peak hours. Your proposal encouraged us to have two experienced traffic management experts from the Provost Marshal's Office and a traffic safety specialist from the Base Safety Center conduct not just one, but three separate traffic surveys during peak hours.

Our analysis discovered that making the exit point from the school a "right turn only" would not significantly improve traffic management and could, in fact, prove to be detrimental to the traffic flow in the area as a whole.

Here's why:

In our three surveys, conducted during the mornings and afternoons, the longest any driver had to wait to exit the school was 45 seconds.

A right turn may reduce the time spent negotiating an exit, but would force drivers to make alternate decisions on how to get east of the school.

Some of the obvious alternate choices would be to take "short cuts" and "U-turns" in some confined spaces in that vicinity (such as the barracks, housing areas, 7-Day Store, etc.), that are not designed or constructed for heavy traffic flow to be combined with heavy pedestrian traffic.

Furthermore, a "right turn only" would increase the congestion at the intersection of Mokapu and

Lawrence.

The increased congestion, compounded with the alternate routing, could actually increase the time someone takes to arrive at his or her destination.

A driver may depart the school more quickly, but would take longer, more confined routes to their final destination.

As a result of your observations, however, we are taking action to replace the stop sign at the exit point, to paint "turn left" and "turn right" arrows, and to expand the student drop off point directly in front of the school.

We believe this will alleviate traffic congestion during peak traffic hours.

Our goal is to make the traffic flow plan at the school as safe and effective as possible, without adversely affecting the overall base traffic plan.

If you have any further questions about traffic management, please feel free to contact the Provost Marshal's Office at 257-3110.

Should you have a further question about traffic safety-related matters, please contact Mr. Bo Irvine, director of the Base Safety Department, at 257-8900.

We thank you for your time and dedication to improve our community.

Sincerely,

Maj. Marc H. Lambert
Provost Marshal
MCB Hawaii
and
Mr. Bo Irvine
Director, Base Safety Department

"The only other option is to place a security officer there ... to direct traffic."

Petty Officer 1st Class
Jeff Wilson
Patrol Squadron 47

The commanding general invites input from the base community via C.G. Mail on the following topics: What are we doing that we shouldn't be doing? What are we not doing that we should be doing? What are we doing that we should be doing better?

Responses should include a recommendation that will help solve the problem and must include your name and return address so that staff may respond.

For more information about how to send C.G. Mail, see the MCB Hawaii C.G. Mail page at www.mcbh.usmc.mil/command/cgmail.htm.



TAYLOR

MCAF welcomes new sergeant major



Sergeant Major Arthur M. Taylor relieved Sgt. Maj. Manuel Garibay Jr. as the top enlisted service member at Marine Corps Air Facility, during a post and relief ceremony at Dewey Square April 5. Taylor arrives after serving as squadron sergeant major for HMH-463. Garibay has been assigned to Marine Corps Recruiting Station Arizona.



GARIBAY JR.



Sergeants and below who dare to become Combat Correspondents and would pride themselves on telling the Marine Corps story can seize the opportunity with a lateral move into the 4341 occupational field.
Contact Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans, base public affairs chief, at 257-8832 or 257-8840, for more information.

56-year-old crash: Not forgotten

Local families remember fallen World War II heroes

Sgt. Roman Yurek
Sports Editor

It was Aug. 8, 1946. A plane carrying eight men in the Army Air Corps was on its way to Oahu from the Big Island.

As the plane approached Fort Hase beach, it caught fire.

It went down into the waters off Mokapu Peninsula.

The fatal crash killed all of the men on board the aircraft. Unfortunately, their bodies nor the remains of the plane have been recovered from the depths of the ocean.

A marker stands as a memorial to those who died in that crash, in remembrance, nearly 300 yards from the entrance to the Rifle Training Facility at Ulupa'u Crater.

The memorial faces the ocean where the plane crashed.

Atop the marker is the name of Army Air



Sgt. Roman Yurek

The Miguel Marker honors the men lost in the 1946 plane crash.

Corps Pfc. Rieco chased the memorial. Beneath Pfc. Miguel's name and picture are the names of the other seven men who also died in the

crash.

Those men were: 1st Lt. Harry Kamis, 2nd Lt. Benjamin Colson, 2nd Lt. Vincent Badolato, 1st Sgt. Joseph Rithig, Sgt. Stanley Kelly and Pfc. Richard Albert, all members of the Army Air Corps.

Every Easter, Miguel's family travels from Leeward Oahu to the base, to spend time at the memorial.

"We have been coming here for the past 56 years," said Barbra Miguel, one of Pfc. Miguel's sister-in-laws. "Every Easter we come here to celebrate Filipino style. We put food and flowers on the marker, and clean the area around it."

Private First Class Miguel's mother as well as the newest additions to the Miguel family come to honor his memory.

They hope that one day soon some of the relatives of all the men who fell will gather to remember the servicemembers who gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving their country.

WORD ON THE STREET

"What should happen to service members who get busted for drugs?"



"...Kicked out. We can't have that type of behavior in the service. ...Especially in my job where your life depends on the person next to you."

Lance Cpl. Zachary Green
Team leader
Bravo Co., 1/3

"I feel that there should not be any tolerance of drug offenders. The military is not a place for that type of behavior, so kick them out."



Tammy Davis
Customer Service Supervisor
MCX



"They should get counseling for the first time and some treatment. After that, if it happens again, then they should be kicked out."

Army Sgt. Renardo Perry
Army Veterinary Clinic

"If a Marine, Sailor or any other service member wants to go as low as to use drugs, then they should not have the right to be in the service."



Sgt. Stan Hawkes
Guide
Bravo Co., 1/3



"You can't trust someone who does drugs. They should get charged to the fullest extent of the crime. The policy is no tolerance, and that is that."

Lance Cpl. Adam Lee Malone
SAW Gunner
Echo Co., 2/3

Alcoholic lifestyle plagued senior officer

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

Alcoholism is a disease that can affect anyone regardless of age, sex or social standing, and military members are not immune to the affects of this disastrous illness.

Preventative measures can be the key to helping a person overcome a substance abuse problem. Hearing stories of how someone afflicted with the problem can sometimes be helpful.

Doctor Jack Matthews, assistant dean of the Command and Staff College, and retired Marine lieutenant colonel, spoke April 3, at the base theater aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, about instances in his life that drove him to alcoholism and his eventual recovery.

The theater was filled to capacity with Marines and Sailors who had come to hear his astounding, and

"In my opinion alcoholism is a disease of the soul."

Retired Lt. Col., Dr. Jack Matthews
Asst. Dean of the Command and Staff College



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Doctor Jack Matthews, retired Marine lieutenant colonel, spoke with Marines about the dangers of alcoholism.

sometimes humorous, stories about life as an alcoholic Marine officer.

"In my opinion alcoholism is a disease of the soul," said Dr. Matthews. "I was at a point in my life where I couldn't stop drink-

ing and I knew I needed to get help."

The doctor's stories carried on about his time in rehabilitation and his days in the Marine Corps after recovery.

At one point, he found himself cleaning toilets with a U.S. Army General, during a field day in rehab.

The speaker easily grabbed the attention of the audience, simply because he was a Marine and stood in the same shoes as many of the Marines and Sailors in attendance.

"If I can help just one person by coming and talking today, this trip will be well worth it," he said.

The doctor left the audience with a definitive sense of what it was like to finally recover after being an alcoholic in the military.

He said he hoped his thoughts and sentiments will help to change the minds of young Marines and Sailors plagued with substance abuse problems.



PH1(AW) TIM TURNER

A U.S. Navy SEAL conducts special reconnaissance on a suspected location of Al Qaeda and Taliban, Jan. 24.

Enduring Freedom still remains 'very dangerous'

Linda D. Kozaryn
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Much has been achieved in the six months since U.S. forces began combat operations in Afghanistan, yet much remains to be done, "and it will continue to be dan-

gerous business in the days ahead," Army Gen. Tommy Franks said today.

"Terrorism remains an international threat, but in fact, the threat will be defeated," he said. "The outcome is not in doubt."

During a teleconference with Washington and Tampa reporters, the

commander of U.S. Central Command noted that April 7 marks six months since the start of Operation Enduring Freedom. He expressed gratitude for the resolve and support of the American people.

See **TERRORISM**, A-4

Chairman JCS discusses Mideast terror

General Myers says there's no plan to send military to the Mideast, such a plan would be 'very complicated'

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — America's top military leader said there is probably an infrastructure behind the terrorist bombings in the Middle East and that al Qaeda is still a viable force.

Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that the events in Israel do not change the goals of America's war on terrorism, during an April 6 CNN interview.

"What we've said from the very start is the goals of the global war on terrorism are against international terrorist organizations, those nation-states or others that support them, and against those who have weapons of mass destruction that might fall into terrorist hands."

General Myers was questioned about Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's statements linking Iran, Iraq and Syria to attacks on civilians in Israel.

"I think what the secretary was saying was that beautiful young lady that was a suicide bomber ... didn't just wake up that morning and decide to put on a bomb costume."

People or groups had to provide the money and the equipment to these men and women who launch these suicide attacks, he explained.

"(The suicide attacks) aren't things people do capriciously," he said. "There's probably a system of support there."

General Myers said there is no plan, and have been no discussions, to put American troops in the Middle East. He said any such effort would be very complicated and would require answers to many questions such as: "Is it a peace-keeping mission? What are the rules of engagement you abide by? What are the command and control arrangements? What do both parties expect out of this? (What's the) duration?"

General Myers said that, worldwide, al Qaeda is a viable force. Yet, the terror organization is decentralized and compartmented with very few key nodes of operation.

Inside Afghanistan, "there are these



PHC JOHNNY BIVERA

At the U.S. Marine Corps Base in Kandahar, Afghanistan, Marines on a Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) prepared to go on patrol, earlier this year, as an AH1W Super Cobra helicopter flew overhead.

pockets of Taliban and al Qaeda that would just love to create instability," he said. Taliban and al Qaeda fighters will do this by taking on any security force — coalition or Afghan — the general explained.

He also expects they will try to disrupt the interim administration in

Afghanistan. However, the U.S. will continue to work against these pockets of terrorists.

General Myers said it is important to continue support for the Afghan government.

"This is the best hope the Afghan people have for a more normal and prosper-

ous life," he explained. "An interim administration has been stood up because we provided the environment in which it can flourish."

A number of U.S. agencies, other countries and international aid organizations are supporting Afghanistan's needs.

The capture of the No. 2 man in the al Qaeda organization, Abu Zubaydah, is an example of the type of cooperation needed.

Led by Pakistan and aided by U.S. law enforcement and intelligence personnel, the capture illustrates that all instruments of U.S. national power are being wielded against terror. He said this type of cooperation is not limited to Pakistan, but is occurring all over the world.

General Myers responded to a question about the United States going into Iraq.

Well, first, let's establish right up front that nobody has said that that's going to be a military mission, nobody has said we're going to do it, and certainly there's been no time frame set up for that, he emphasized.

General Myers pointed out that one couldn't overlay the Afghanistan template onto Iraq.

He said the military situation in Iraq has changed dramatically since Operation Desert Storm, more than 10 years ago.

"Iraq has about 40 percent of the forces it had during the Gulf War," he said.

In contrast, the combat power of U.S. forces has grown. During Desert Storm, about 10 percent of the weapons dropped were precision-guided. In Operation Enduring Freedom, that percentage rose to 60.

"Our capabilities have grown; Iraqi capabilities have diminished," he said. Myers said some comments made by the regional commanders-in-chief — about troops being tired, overextended and depleted — were taken out of context and overplayed.

"This is going to be a long war — this war on terrorism," he explained. "We're in the first chapter of a many-chapter book. We do need to work our rhythm and our pacing, to make sure we have the forces we need to do what the president needs us to do."

"I can assure the American public that we are as ready today as we were Sept 11. And we'll be that way for the foreseeable future as far as I can tell."

General Myers said the U.S. clearly would like to eventually get the leader.

TERRORISM, From A-3

He also thanked America's service members and the coalition of 69 nations — including 35 with troops deployed in the region — for their accomplishments to date.

The commander said the troops' resolve and dedication are "great."

"They know precisely why they're there. They understand their mission, and they're doing it very well," Gen. Franks said. The situation the military men and women found in Afghanistan six months ago, he noted, was a far cry from what it is today.

"On Oct. 7, the Taliban controlled more than 80 percent of Afghanistan, and Afghanistan was a terrorist-sponsored state," Gen. Franks said. "Some 7 million Afghans on that date were reported to be in danger of starving or freezing."

"Women couldn't work, couldn't attend school, couldn't receive medical treatment. The al Qaeda used Afghanistan as a safe haven to plan, encourage and finance global terrorism."

"Today, Afghanistan has an interim government," Gen. Franks said. "The international community has united to give Afghanistan a chance."

"The Taliban is no longer in power. Al Qaeda has been severely damaged. Schools and hospitals have reopened. People in Afghanistan are receiving humanitarian support from international organizations and nongovernmental organizations who are now free to operate across that country."

Today, Gen. Franks noted, about 6,500 U.S. troops are in Afghanistan along with about the same number of coalition troops.

Along with providing stability, they're hunting remaining terrorists and gathering intelligence to help prevent future attacks around the world. They're coordinating humanitarian assistance efforts and helping to open schools and hospitals.

United States and coalition forces have also trained the first 600 members of an Afghan national army, he said.

They will be used to enhance security in the capital city of Kabul. More Afghans will undergo training in the months ahead.

"All that I've described has been, and will continue to be, dangerous," Gen. Franks stressed. "Some have given their lives to this cause. Some have been injured. It will continue to be dangerous business in the days ahead."

United States military officials report enemy forces have distributed pamphlets in one area of Afghanistan offering rewards for killing or capturing Americans, he said.

"It confirms what we've been saying all along," Gen. Franks said. "Afghanistan remains a dangerous place."

"It's a dangerous place for our people to operate," he stressed. "It's a dangerous place for coalition forces to operate, as we all recognize, there are groups of enemy troops still in that country."

"That's why we've all been a little bit reluctant to predict how long our operations to kill or capture those enemy troops are going to go on."

United States military officials have maintained the capability to both enlarge and draw down forces inside Afghanistan, he said. In recent weeks, the number of U.S. troops has dropped by several hundred.

Although it's difficult to predict what's ahead in the next six months in Afghanistan, Gen. Franks said, U.S. and coalition forces will continue to root out remaining terrorists inside Afghanistan.

Working with the international community, U.S. forces will continue to support the training of the Afghan National Army and remain linked with the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan.



Lance Cpl. Chad Simon

As workers continue to clear debris from the World Trade Center site, Staff Sgt. Devin Gaines (left) and Master Sgt. Michael Hurd recite the Oath of Enlistment given by Capt. John Moore April 1. The Marines are stationed at the 1st Marine Corps Recruit District in Garden City, N.Y.

Marines recommit to country and Marine Corps at Ground Zero

Sgt John Neal
1st Marine Corps District

NEW YORK — A pair of Marines recommitted themselves to their country with a reenlistment ceremony at the remains of the World Trade Center April 1.

With excavation crews at work removing debris from the twin towers, Master Sgt. Michael J. Hurd and Staff Sgt. Devin Gaines took the oath of enlistment for two and three more years of active duty service.

Both Marines are stationed in Long Island with the 1st Marine Corps District recruiting command.

"I wanted to see with my own two eyes the message that was sent to my country on Sept. 11, so that when the next Marine becomes a casualty in this war on terrorism, I will remember what I saw and there will be no doubt in my mind as to why he or she gave his or her life," said Hurd.

Hurd, the logistics chief for the 1st Marine District, already has more than 18 years of service in the Marines and was promoted to his current rank the same day, in an earlier ceremony.

"This reenlistment will be the most memorable of them all, and I dedicate it to the family members who lost their loved ones on Sept. 11," he said.

Hurd says he visited the World Trade Center a week before the attacks, and was taken aback by the difference between what he saw then and what remains now.

Like many Americans, he was at home when the first plane struck. After watching the horrors of Sept. 11 on live television and having the opportunity to reenlist where the war against terrorism began, Hurd says his outlook on service in the Marine Corps has

changed only slightly.

"This has only reinforced my beliefs of what the Marine Corps stands for: protecting our way of life."

1st Radio Bn.

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal:

Staff Sgt. Joshua L. Paddock
Sgt. Ben V. Bradford III
Sgt. Lawrence C. Goss
Sgt. Jeremy M. Hinkhouse
Sgt. Ryan S. McDonald
Sgt. Andrew D. McKnight
Sgt. Sean M. Nakao
Sgt. Monica P. Vega
Cpl. William D. Tokiwa
Cpl. William J. Willhite
Lance Cpl. Clinton W. Larrabee

Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal:

Gunnery Sgt. Kent W. Carlson
Gunnery Sgt. Youssef B. Carpenter

SALUTES

GUNG-HO



Petty Officer 1st Class Richard A. Ralston
Sgt. Timothy L. Shields

Meritorious Service Medal:

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Fred J. Zauner
1st Sgt. David R. Slack
Master Gunnery Sgt. Jeff C. Covington
Gunnery Sgt. Christian J. Chekroun
Gunnery Sgt. Lloyd L. Whetstone

Certificate of Commendation:

Sgt. John M. Hennagin
Petty Officer 2nd Class Honey Dhaliwal
Cpl. Ryan W. Christensen
Cpl. Micheal P. Levesque
Cpl. Tanner H. Wuthrich
Lance Cpl. Timothy L. Bradshaw
Lance Cpl. Jeremy D. Rose
PFC John K. Kavan

Meritorious Masts:

Cpl. James Haugh
Cpl. Nathan M. Landon
Cpl. Denny C. Sanchezcasilla
Lance Cpl. Hector A. Alcazar
Lance Cpl. Enrique M. Lazo
Lance Cpl. Casey A. Petosky
Lance Cpl. Robert D. Whitham

MILITARY BLOTTER

Traffic Court

A total of 124 traffic citations were issued.

The Blotter

-In separate incidents, two Marines were arrested by the Honolulu Police Department for contempt

of court, processed and held on \$1,000 bail, a Sailor on \$500 bond.

-In separate incidents, a Marine and two Sailors were involved in traffic accidents while backing and failing to maintain sufficient distance from a vehicle.

-A civilian employee re-

ported larceny of government property after noticing that person(s) unknown had stolen two 12 volt Interstate batteries.

-A Marine was apprehended by the Military Police Department for driving on base suspension.

-A Sailor reported larceny of private property af-

ter he noticed that person(s) unknown had stolen the license plate and inspection sticker off of his motorcycle.

-Two Sailors were apprehended for assault after an argument turned physical.

-A Marine was apprehended for DUI by MPD.

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

Warfighting Lab tests the 120mm mortar

Sgt. Ken Griffin

*Marine Corps Air Ground
Combat Center*

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, Twentynine Palms, Calif. — A team from the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab (MCWL) was aboard the Combat Center, March 14-22, testing the Rifled, Recoiling, Mounted Mortar (2R2M), in conjunction with 1st Marine Division's Desert Scimitar 2002 exercise.

The MCWL team worked closely with 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Bn.; 2nd Bn., 7th Marines; and other 1st Marine Division units to determine the feasibility of developing a similar version for the Corps, and to help refine what the requirements for that system might be.

The MCWL is currently experimenting with a similar, towed version called the Mobile Fire Support System and nicknamed "Dragon Fire."

The 2R2M, developed by Thomson-Daimler Armaments, is a 120mm rifled mortar internally mounted in a French Mowag Piranha Light Armored Vehicle.

It uses a French army mortar and French ammunition.

It is contained in a powered traverse, elevation and loading system, using computerized vice conventional sights.

The warfighting experiment involved day and night firing, employing

the system for coordinated illumination and Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD) missions, which are used to mark anti-aircraft targets for fixed-wing aircrafts.

Alpha Co., 3rd LAR, provided a mortar team of four Marines to assist with the ammunition and loading portion of the testing.

"It was challenging, but the crews developed the skills to keep up very well," said MCWL senior engineer Rick Lindsey, a retired lieutenant colonel and artillery commander. "We fired a total of 87 rounds in a short period of time for the SEAD missions and received good reports from system evaluators

about the effects on target.

The outcome of the recent warfighting experiment found the 2R2M to be an excellent fire support system, extremely mobile, responsive, powerful and accurate, according to Lindsey.

The field testing found the weapon could be deployed quickly and effectively despite the Marine crew's limited experience with the new weapon system.

"They were professional, hard working and a real pleasure to work with.

"We are particularly grateful for the support of 1st Lt. Scott MacIntire, Alpha Co., 3rd LAR; he was everywhere with support, ideas and enthusiasm."



Sgt. Ken Griffin

Marines from Alpha Co., 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Bn., assist a team from the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab with the 120mm Rifled, Recoiling Mounted Mortar during a fire mission.

LCC, From A-1

To meet the criteria for winning the award, the Marines at the LCC had to provide excellent customer service to the base and its users.

In addition, they were also selected as the unit that had made the biggest advances in the DMS community as they were the first center of their kind to become fully compatible with messaging systems that are new to the Marine Corps.

"It was just a lot of hard work by the Marines," said Spaulding. "In the end it all paid off."