

# Hawaii MARINE

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April 4, 2003

## SCUD alerts keep personnel vigilant

**Sgt. Jacques-René Hébert**

*Joint Task Force Consequence Management*

**CAMP DOHA, Kuwait** — "Lightning, lightning, lightning. This is not a drill. Repeat. This is not a drill.

"Incoming SCUDs. Incoming SCUDs. Put on protective mask. Seek cover. Go to MOPP level 4.

"Put on helmet, flak vest, and Load Bearing Vest. Remain stationary. Do not move.

"Wait for instructions from PA system."

Like an Orwellian voice coming from above, the announcement shattered the early afternoon calm March 27, warning Camp Doha's military and civilian personnel of approaching Iraqi missiles.

"The first time I heard it, my feet were actually moving faster than my body, trying to get me to the bunker," remembered Capt. Deborah Bornhorst, a communications coordinator for the Combined/Joint Task Force Consequence Management. "I kept thinking, 'Could this actually be the one to hit us?'"

The familiar sound rings in



Sgt. Jacques-René Hébert

**Corporal Rodolfo Avitia, a force protection specialist from Combined Joint Task Force Consequence Management at Camp Doha, Kuwait, blows away dirt and dust from his gas mask, March 29, after using it steadily throughout more than a week of continual SCUD alerts. The task force, consisting of U.S., German, Czech, Slovak, Romanian and Ukrainian forces, works with Kuwaiti emergency response forces when responding to a nuclear, biological or chemical-related incident.**

the ears of some service members, long after the "all clear" alert has been received.

"I'm used to the alarms now,

but I haven't become complacent," said Lt. Cmdr. Lya Theodoratos, a civil engineer with the task force. "I react to

each alert as if it's the real thing. It's irrelevant whether or not the alarm is false. It takes only one missile to create a tragedy."

Each time the announcement is made, scores of military personnel are sent scrambling to concrete and sandbag bunkers, desperately donning their gas masks and protective suits. Once inside, they wait. An impact is always a possibility.

For the last week, it has been a blur of such announcements for service members in Kuwait.

"As soon as the first day was over and we had four alerts, I knew they would be a lasting fixture throughout the war," said Army Sgt. Angela Oliver, a task force computer technician. "Since that first alert, we've had at least one alert a day."

Though some alerts prove to be false, others are accurate, warning personnel of missiles launched from Southern Iraq. As of yet, 13 missiles have headed toward Kuwait, only to be thwarted midair by Patriot missiles.

Luckily for coalition troops in Kuwait, the Patriots — effective in the first Gulf War —

*See SCUD, A-5*

## Rad. Bn. lends support in Operation Iraqi Freedom

**1st Lt. Debera R. Gomez**  
*Special to the Hawaii Marine*

**CAMP COMMANDO, Kuwait** — Lieutenant Colonel Mark Aycock, commander of 1st Radio Bn., and Sgt. Maj. Juan D. Williams, battalion sergeant major, have joined forces to prepare and support a total of more than 300 Marines for their personal and professional journey in support of Operation Iraqi

Freedom.

For 1st Radio Bn., augmented by more than 40 Marines from 2nd Radio Bn. in Camp Lejeune, N.C., the deployment is part of history: this is only the third time in 1st Radio Bn.'s history that the unit has deployed as a battalion.

In addition to being responsible for deploying a unit not typically deployed as a battalion, Aycock is proud to say that his

unit is supporting forces all across the battlefield, in Iraq and Kuwait.

Currently, one-half of Radio Bn.'s total strength is forward deployed in direct support of the ground attack. The other half is in direct support of those Marines to ensure they have the most up-to-date information and that their logistic and administrative needs are met as required.

"The Marines serving in the country of Kuwait provide just as much of a service as those who have crossed the berm and are now in Iraq," said Aycock. "It is imperative that these Marines and Sailors understand that their role in this war is just as important as those who are in Iraq. They still have a vital mission to accomplish.

"The Marines and Sailors of the 1st Radio Battalion are well

trained and led by some of the finest small unit leaders. I am confident that they will deal with the rigors and stress that comes with being in a combat environment."

In addition to ensuring that the Marines and Sailors have received the training to best prepare them physically, Navy Chaplain (Lt.) Jeffery Han has

*See RADIO BN., A-6*

## Help wanted to clean Kailua Beach

An Earth Day celebration will be held Sunday at Kailua Beach, where Marines, Sailors and family members stationed aboard MCB Hawaii, are invited to volunteer their time to help keep Kailua Beach beautiful.

Military and civilian volunteers from the surrounding community will meet at the Kailua Beach Pavilion at 9 a.m. and begin cleaning the beach until 11 a.m. Volunteers will be treated to a free lunch, raffles and T-shirt giveaways.

## SMART Center opens here

**Cpl. Jason E. Miller**  
*Press Chief*

Accompanied by Lt. Gen. Edward Hanlon, commanding general of Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico Va., Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, commanding general of MCB Hawaii, gathered with key officials March 31, to dedicate the opening of the brand new Sports Medicine and Reconditioning Team Center aboard the base.

The SMART center will serve as a rehabilitation, care and information center for Marines and Sailors stationed aboard the base who require special medical attention, information and needs which weren't previously available at the Kaneohe Bay Branch Medical Clinic.

It's really something



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

**Key leaders in developing the new SMART Center symbolically untie a maile lei to officially open the facility for use.**

special to be able to come out to Hawaii and be here for the dedication of this medical center," said Lt. Gen. Hanlon. "My hope is that, in the future, every Marine Corps and Navy base will have its own SMART Center."

Lieutenant Gen. Hanlon spoke on the importance of keeping

Marines healthy and combat ready at all times. With the advent of the new center, Marines aboard MCB Hawaii will be better able to meet that standard.

Brigadier Gen. McAbee, along with Lt. Gen. Hanlon and Capt. Joseph

*See SMART, A-6*

## Exercise to test WMD reaction time, Thursday

**Staff Sgt. Robert Carlson**  
*Public Affairs Chief*

The Crisis Management Team aboard MCB Hawaii is scheduled to exercise the installation's ability to react to a Weapons of Mass Destruction incident Thursday.

In addition to the MCB Hawaii agencies involved in the Crisis Management Team, Lethal Breeze 03 will include integration of representatives from the Joint Rear Area Coordinator, Hawaii State Civil Defense Agency, the FBI, Castle Medical Center and Tripler Army Medical Center.

A scenario-driven field exercise, Lethal Breeze 03

will help refine procedures for dealing with a chemical or biological incident, and will further increase the anti-terrorism and force protection readiness of the installation.

The exercise will include a mass casualty drill, after which participants will apply their skills to respond to the WMD incident.

While the priority of force protection and anti-terrorism agencies is to prevent any type of Weapons of Mass Destruction incident, conducting exercise Lethal Breeze will further improve measures in place to protect U.S. interests, service members, civilian employees, family members, facilities and assets.

# MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

## BASE CHAPEL POSTS SERVICES

In addition to its regularly scheduled services, the Base Chapel aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, will now be open Monday - Friday, with private prayer available Wednesdays and Thursdays until 8 p.m. An all-faith service will be held every Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

The community is invited to attend the following Holy Week services.

April 12

- Roman Catholic Mass at 5 p.m.

April 13, Palm Sunday

- Roman Catholic Mass at 9:30 a.m.
- Protestant Worship at 8 and 11 a.m.

April 17, Holy Thursday

- Roman Catholic Mass at 5 p.m.
- Protestant Worship at 7 p.m.

April 18, Good Friday

- Stations of the Cross at 11:45 a.m.
- Solemn Good Friday Service at 5 p.m.
- Protestant Service at 7 p.m.

April 19, Holy Saturday

- Roman Catholic Vigil Mass at 5 p.m.

April 20, Easter Sunday

- Sunrise Service at 6 a.m. at the Rifle Range
- Roman Catholic Mass at 9:30 a.m.
- Protestant Services at 8 and 11 a.m.

## PWM CLOSSES UNTIL MAY

The Pacific War Memorial aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, will be closed to all ceremonies, parades and visitors until late May, due to construction.

Improvements underway include seeding the turf, building a parking lot, and improving the irrigation system.

Questions regarding use of the Pacific War Memorial should be directed to Master Sgt. Willie Currie, G-3 chief, MCB Hawaii, at 257-8819.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Crisis Hotline	521-4555
Child Protective Service	832-5300

## Hawaii MARINE

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# IN THE CG'S MAIL BOX



BRIG. GEN.  
MCABEE

(Editor's Note: See page B-2 for more information regarding child care opportunities aboard MCB Hawaii.)

I am a mother of three small children and have utilized the Hourly Child Development Center for more than two years now. I can say that, without a doubt, it's the single best service offered to families aboard MCB Hawaii, because it is a service that so many families utilize.

It is getting increasingly difficult to find a time when it is able to take even one of my children.

In learning the YMCA was relocating, I was hoping the HCDC would finally be able to expand, in order to offer services to all the families that need and have been trying to obtain them.

Though it seemed like an obvious necessity to me, I was surprised to learn that it does not look like it was given much consideration.

I am aware that the HCDC loses money, but doubt there is a more utilized resource, which makes its funding and expansion so important.

With so many of our military personnel supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, it is crucial for spouses to have a child care resource available to them. With the HCDC as busy as it is — it often is not.

Furthermore, the wait list for the

CDC is often a year or more. It is important that military parents receive the help they need in taking care of their families.

The HCDC is also a way to help families deal with the "no-sibling" policy at the medical clinic.

Please help this base support its families by giving much consideration to expanding the Hourly Child Development Center.

Respectfully,  
Autumn Stewart-Campbell

Dear Ms. Stewart-Campbell,

I have been asked by the commanding general to research and respond to your e-mail since your recommendation falls under my staff's responsibility. He appreciates that you have taken the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

Thank you for your kind and thoughtful comments regarding our hourly child care program.

As you mentioned, the Armed Services YMCA offices will move from its present location (Bldg. 575) to a building near the CREDO facility, in late May 2003. Following that move, the base Headstart program will move to the space vacated by the ASYMCA.

Headstart is a preschool program for 3 and 4 year olds and currently serves 76 children. The Headstart move is required, as its current location (Bldg. 1391), the Family Gym and the Seven-Day store will be demolished, this year, to make way for our new Youth Activities Center that will be constructed during 2004.

Don't worry, though, we have not forgotten the hourly child care program. We fully agree with you in that we need to make more hourly child care space available for our military families.

The long-term plan is an addition to the current facility; however, to meet the immediate requirement, we will expand our hourly care spaces by establishing a plot program that uses in-home "Family Child Care Hourly Only Homes." These homes will be dedicated solely to hourly child care. In fact, the first "Family Child Care Hourly Only Home" will open in June 2003.

In the interim, our staff will work with you to find times that are available for all three of your children. Again, thank you for the insightful comments and thank you for participating in the "CG Mail" program.

Mr. William B. Lindsay  
Assistant Chief of Staff, MCCS

(Editor's Note: Letters of any length may be trimmed and edited in the interest of good taste and brevity.)  
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](http://www.mcbh.usmc.mil/command/cgmail.htm).

# NMCRS provides war assistance

## Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Press Release

Navy and Marine Corps personnel and their families often suffer severe personal and financial hardships during crises such as the current Iraq war.

The current deployment of significant forces to the Middle East has increased the need for Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society assistance, as family financial situations deteriorate due to increased expenses from separation and other family adjustments.

Sustained combat operations could significantly increase the Society's workload and severely impact the Society's financial resources.

In partnership with the Department of the Navy, the Navy-Marine Corps

Relief Society administers funds that provide financial assistance to Navy and Marine Corps personnel and their families. Primary emphasis is given to ensuring financial support is available to military families as their needs require.

In the current environment, this financial support might include, but is not restricted to, support for family members visiting seriously ill or injured active duty service members — hospitalized in or outside the United States — and support to defray the costs associated with active duty funerals.

The Society also provides children of active duty Sailors and Marines killed in combat with financial support to help them complete their college education.

The Navy-Marine Corps

Relief Society applauds and appreciates the groundswell of public financial support to members of our Armed Forces who are currently going in harm's way to protect the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans.

While the Society neither solicits funds nor partners with any private or public company to solicit funds, it is pleased to be available to accept voluntary and spontaneous contributions from individuals, corporations, and organizations.

Contributions to the Society are fully deductible. Although sponsored by the Department of the Navy, the Society receives no funding from the government and is not part of any government-funded compensation or assistance program.

One hundred percent of donations to the Society

will result in financial support to Navy and Marine Corps families.

Donation checks should be made payable to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (or simply use the acronym "NMCRS.")

Contributions should be mailed to:

Navy-Marine Corps  
Relief Society  
Iraq War Assistance  
P. O. Box 791297  
Baltimore, MD  
21279-1297

Online donations, credit card contributions, and donations by payroll deduction are not available.

Direct questions regarding Iraqi war assistance to Mr. John Alexander, the Society's director of Communications at (703) 696-4904. E-mail him at [alexande@hq.nmcrs.org](mailto:alexande@hq.nmcrs.org).



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 Staff Sgt. Robert Carlson, press chief at the Public Affairs Office, at 257-8840, for more information.

# Changes to intranet help provide trouble-free troop deployments

Lance Cpl.  
**Monroe F. Seigle**  
Combat Correspondent

The Navy Marine Corps Intranet was recently modified to make it easier for deploying Marines to move from a garrison setting to a combat setting without trouble.

The NMCI is designed to provide a network that encompasses all of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Currently, Navy squadrons aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, have made the transition to NMCI. The entire Marine Corps is scheduled to make the final transition by Sept. 15 of this year.

Kaneohe Bay Marines conducted a variety of training evolutions, prior to the transition that began Feb. 21, to test the capabilities of the NMCI during an initial 10-day de-

ployment. The training proved that the NMCI is fully capable. Other testing lasted for a month and assessed the difficulty of integrating the system from one deployment to the next.

Besides the easy transition from location to location, the typical user will notice the standardization of hardware and software, and the ability to interface with a central help desk if problems arise.

"The deployable testing provided an excellent opportunity for MCB Hawaii G-6, and the tenant commands, to get a better understanding of the NMCI-deployable process," said Gunnery Sgt. Terrance Braxton, NMCI staff noncommissioned officer in charge, of G-6.

"This is a great opportunity for MCB Hawaii to have this testing done on K-Bay."



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Corporal Kim Marmara (foreground), a supply noncommissioned officer in charge with CSSG-3, completes test events of the NMCI.



Sergeant Aaron Dobson, an NBC instructor at Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii, teaches JROTC cadets the importance of a chemical suit in an exposed environment, as well as how to properly wear them when faced with a deadly situation.

## Castle's JROTC samples the Corps

Story and Photos by  
**Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle**  
Combat Correspondent

Students from Castle High School's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps came aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, March 24 - 26 to get firsthand knowledge about life in the Marine Corps.

The cadets' stay at the base was a busy one, as every morning the youngsters woke up at 4:30 a.m. and performed physical training, followed by a uniform inspection after their morning meal.

During their first class of instruction, the anxious cadets learned about first aid that is used in a combat situation. Shortly afterward, they conducted the Marine Corps physical fitness test.

"I wanted these kids to learn teamwork and to build their self confidence," said retired 1st Sgt. Pete Thornton, the Marine instructor for the JROTC program at Castle. "This is a chance for them to chal-



Kalani Benedito, 16, an 11th grader at Castle High School, gets first-hand experience with a protective mask.

lenge themselves and learn to be good, respectable citizens."

Although the students were busy learning new skills most of the time, they were also afforded some time for recreation. They participated in a bowling tournament before returning to the barracks and retiring for their first night.

March 25 was an even busier day for the JROTC students. After a live demonstration of the Military Police working dogs, the challenge of learning water survival skills awaited the eager cadets.

At the base pool, their first task was to swim 50 meters. After all the cadets had successfully completed the required distance, they learned how to "abandon ship."

In the exercise, students were challenged to climb aboard a 10-foot high diving board then plunge into the water below. After the dive, they had to stay afloat for three minutes.

"This is the first time some of these kids have done anything like this," said Thornton. "They are getting a good taste of what is going to be expected from them in boot camp and in the Marine Corps."

The final day at K-Bay was by far the busiest. After their normal 4:30 a.m. wake-up, the tired warriors found themselves in a weight room strengthening their minds and bodies with the ever-present 1st Sgt. Thornton — only to be led to the K-Bay obstacle course afterward.

"They loved the obstacle course," said Thornton. "Most of them were tired from the last couple of days, but they all put their hearts into [the O'Course] and pushed each other through."

"They utilized a lot of teamwork and motivation; they did their best, and that is what we can ask of them."

Before the future devil dogs returned home to their families, they received one final taste of life in the Corps. Just like the Marines and soldiers in Iraq, they found themselves wearing field protective masks when learning the dangers of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons in a combat zone.

During the NBC block of instruction, they were able to ask several questions as Sgt. Aaron Dobson, NBC instructor for Headquarters

See JROTC, A-4

## WORD ON THE STREET

### "What do you do to combat drunk driving?"



"I pass from senior enlisted to junior that drunk driving is not permissible, nor will it be tolerated."

2nd Lt. John Massel

S-4 officer  
1st Radio Bn.,  
Marine Forces Pacific



"I would take the keys from them, if needed, or establish a designated driver before leaving."

Lance Cpl. Kori Brown

Rifleman  
Bravo Co., 1/3



"A designated driver is the best choice in that situation."

Lance Cpl. Lenin Moreira

Gunner  
Alpha Co., 1/3



"I give them a brief before liberty and constantly inform them of the consequences for drinking and driving."

2nd Lt. Juan Reyna

OIC, Storage  
CSSG-3



"I am providing other alternatives that include activities for Marines to enjoy, which do not include going out and drinking."

Capt. Skylar Mallicoat

Commanding officer  
Weapons Co., 3/3



John Donahue, 18, a senior and the company commander for the JROTC program at Castle High School, surfaces from the water after taking a 10-foot plunge.



Several Marines fall into a deep sleep after being put in a trance by a professional hypnotist.



Above — Corporal Jose Duran, a pay clerk with Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii, wears a jester's hat and believes he is age 4.

Left — Hypnotist Master Sgt. Bryan McDaniel gets 2nd Lt. Amy Mueller, S-4 officer, Headquarters Bn., to sing "I'm a little tea pot," as a 4 year old.

## Once they're hypnotized, the truth comes out

Service members learn the sobering facts, dangers of a deadly combination

Story and Photos by  
**Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle**  
Combat Correspondent

"You are listening closely to my voice, and your body is relaxing while you stare into the light."

"The tension is leaving your body and you are getting sleepy as you stare into the light."

Welcome to the world of hypnotism, where grown-ups think they are 4 years old, again, and others feel intoxicated without consuming a drop of alcohol.

Master Sgt. Bryan McDaniel, a Marine air command control

system operator for Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity, MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., and a professional hypnotist, came to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, March 24, to bring laughter and a moment of sobering truth about the realities of drinking and driving.

His message was clear — drinking and driving is murder on our streets.

His performance took place at the base theater, and several Marines were eager to be "subjects," as McDaniel referred to them throughout the show.

After hypnotizing the subjects, he first told them they had bet all their money on a horse race and would be millionaires if their horse won.

Their reaction was incredible. They jumped to their feet and



Five Marines are hypnotized to believe they are the Village People, and they perform a wacky version of the hit song "YMCA."

began yelling the number of their horse at the top of their lungs.

After they learned they had lost; a cold silence set in.

"I am not going to tell my

husband about this," said one Marine, after she thought she had lost all her money.

The audience responded with a unconcealed and hearty laughter, but a sobering dose of

reality flooded the theater when the Marines were hypnotized to believe they had drank several strong alcoholic beverages. They were faced with an ever-present dilemma.

"Who wants to go to Honolulu tonight?" McDaniel asked.

Several volunteered, and they were led to believe they were involved in an accident. The driver was told that he had killed his two passengers because he was driving drunk.

The stone-cold look on his face was indescribable when he was asked what he was going to tell the victims' families.

"I wanted Marines to see the results of drinking and driving under the influence of alcohol," said McDaniel. "Their reactions were the same as reality."

### JROTC, From A-3

Bn., MCB Hawaii, explained to them the different types of gas masks and how to properly use them.

"These kids came because they want to be here," said Thornton. "You don't find very

many students like these. They were pushed to the limit and they enjoyed it."

"This is for the students of Castle High that are new to JROTC, to learn the leadership traits and values of the Marine

Corps," said John Donahue, 18, the company commander for the JROTC cadets and a senior

at Castle High School. "Our goal was to pass on the leadership traits and allow them to

learn the value of teamwork between the junior and senior cadets."

# Golden Eagles assist in rescue near Guam

**Lt. j.g. Robert A. Arreola**  
*Patrol Squadron 9*

On March 5, Crew 10 of Patrol Squadron 9, a P-3C Orion squadron, was called upon by the Pacific Rescue and Coordination Center Guam to assist in search and rescue efforts of a 21-foot skiff, 600 nautical miles off the southern coast of Guam.

The skiff was reported overdue on a trip from Weno Island to Losap Island. Onboard the skiff were three local civilians traveling between islands when they depleted their fuel supply and began to drift out to sea.

Although deployed in Japan, VP-9's Crew 10 was launched to Guam to help a Coast Guard C-130 in its search of the skiff.

For five days the crew conducted a search of designated areas believed to be where the sea current would have carried the skiff. Each day the crew would fly a ladder search covering an average of a thousand miles using visual and radar equipment.

As each day passed, the search efforts became more critical due to the lost crew's exposure to the elements and limited supplies.

Flying nine-hour profiles, the crews of the P-3C and C-130 worked their assigned areas diligently in the hope of some sign of the skiff.

On the fourth day of the search, the Coast Guard C-130 was able to locate the skiff in distress, but required assistance from the P-3C due to the C-130's fuel constraints. The P-3C crew was able to positively identify the skiff and confirm the passengers were in good health.

The P-3C crew, led by Patrol Plane commander, Navy Lt. Gary Washburn and tactical coordinator Lt. j.g. John Greer, safely coordinated two smoke marker deployments to allow the nearby rescue ship a reference point in order to conduct a successful recovery of the skiff crew members.

Once again, the planning and coordination efforts between the Coast Guard and the Navy P-3C allowed for the successful search and rescue effort.

## SCUDS, From A-1

have been significantly upgraded.

According to the Army, the new Patriot Advanced Capability missile has increased effectiveness against tactical ballistic and cruise missiles, through the use of advanced hit-to-kill technology.

After launch, a proximity fuse detonates the high explosive warhead, sending the approaching enemy missile into oblivion.

It's a reassuring

thought, indeed, when the Kuwait skyline seems filled with Iraqi missiles.

"I feel a lot safer with the Patriots nearby," said Bornhorst, a Lima, Ohio, native. "I can sleep easily knowing they're close — until, of course, another alarm goes off in the middle of the night."

As Operation Iraqi Freedom continues, the potential for Iraqi missiles to be fired toward military personnel in Kuwait grows.

Alarm after alarm has set the troops on edge,

wondering if one will connect. Time will tell if the service members will leave unscathed.

In the early hours of March 29, an Iraqi missile slipped through U.S. defenses, striking a large shopping mall. A spokesman for the Kuwaiti information minister said Kuwait believes the missile was a Chinese-made "Seer-sucker."

Nevertheless, service members aboard Camp Doha retain their faith and optimism in the timeliness of the alarms

and the defenses against such attacks.

"We're probably safer here than anywhere else," said Marine Lance Cpl. Julio Montalvo, an administration clerk stationed at Camp Doha. "We're surrounded by Patriot missiles and service members that are well-trained and prepared for whatever the war holds in store for us."

"We came here to free the Iraqi people, and a few missile attacks aren't going to throw us off from that mission," Montalvo added.



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

**Third Marine Regiment Super Squad winners from Charlie Co., 1st Bn., 3rd Marines, proudly display their trophy on the steps of their regimental headquarters, where they were recognized by Col. Joseph V. Medina, commanding officer, Tuesday. The squad now advances to the division super squad competition.**

**RADIO BN., From A-1**

provided classes on combat stress and fatigue to prepare them mentally and spiritually. He focuses on the emotional toll that combat stress induces upon Marines and Sailors on a daily basis, compounded by lack of sleep, lack of communication with family and friends, and lack of personal support from family and friends.

"I have found that all the Marines and Sailors band together, forming a family structure to provide emotional support in tough situations.

"The classes that I have given to the Marines and Sailors teach them to deal with the stressors within themselves and their peers. They also teach these Marines and Sailors supporting those forward in Iraq to deal with their 'fight or flight' instinct.

"This natural instinct to either protect themselves or flee the area is normal when faced with a highly stressful environment.

"The Marines and Sailors have done an amaz-

ing job dealing with these stresses, always remaining focused on their work and continuing on supporting their overall mission."

Despite the continuing threats facing the Marines and Sailors deployed, morale remains high. Recently, Radio Bn. received correspondence from the children of the Base Chapel at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. One note reads, "Dear Marine, I thank you for fighting for our freedom. I am sorry you had to leave your family. I hope you are safe. You mean a lot to me."

Sometimes just knowing that they have the support from those at home, even those that they don't personally know, can be just enough to get them through the trials of the day to come.

One e-mail message that was addressed to one of the officers with Radio Bn. was posted on the read board for all to see.

"Please tell your Marines how proud we are back home of the sacrifices they are making. None of us

want war, but when it comes, you Marines have always paid the price for freedom — even for those who find it difficult to appreciate it. Keep up the good work men and women of America, for you are indeed, the last best hope for freedom and security. Our prayers and thoughts are with you."

Even though mail is slow and days are long, Radio Bn. has banded together to deal with the things that most people only read about in the news or hear about on CNN.

Of the Marines and Sailors he currently calls his own, Aycock said, "I consider it a privilege and honor to serve with these Marines and Sailors and will soon not forget what they have done for our battalion and the Marine Forces they are tasked with supporting.

"Their focus remains on supporting their fellow Marines, regardless of the dangers. They are truly exceptional people that you should be proud of — great Americans that deserve the very best we have to offer."



**KOKUA  
@  
KAILUA**

**Earth Day Celebration  
Beach Clean Up**  
Meet at Kailua Beach Pavilion  
Sunday, April 6, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

*Come support Representative David A. Pendleton and*

*Castle Medical Center  
Boys & Girls Scouts of America  
Round Table Pizza  
Mike McKenna Ford Dealership  
The Deli  
Cinnamon's Restaurant  
Hardware Hawaii  
New Tech Imaging  
Hawaiian Sun Products  
14th Coast Guard District  
Kailua Rotary Club  
Boston's North End Pizza  
and many more...*

*to promote a beautiful Kailua.*

**SMART, From A-1**

Moore, commanding officer of Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor, symbolically untied a Maile Lei to officially open the Sports Medicine And Reconditioning Team Center for busi-

ness.

"I've worked with all kinds of elite athletes and sports professionals," said Capt. Moore, but there is nothing more rewarding to me than working with the men and women of the United States Marines."