

# Hawaii MARINE

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## It's 'pau hana' time for the 'Big Kahuna'



ILAOA

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

"I know that I'm leaving the Marine Corps, but the Marine Corps will never leave me."

After serving 30 years in the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. Filipino Ilaoa, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay sergeant major, is retiring.

Since 2000, Sgt. Maj. Ilaoa has been a mainstay of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. His appearances at nearly every important event over the last three years have given enlisted Marines from all over the base a representative with whom they can all relate.

"It feels good to be retiring," he said. "When I go, I will not miss the Marine Corps, but I will miss all the people. It's the Marines and the people you meet that really make the Marine Corps what it is."

Sergeant Maj. Ilaoa has served

in many capacities throughout his career in the Corps, however, he cited that his time spent in Somalia, during Operation Restore Hope was the moment that most defined the Marine Corps.

"In Somalia, I saw an artillery battalion perform as an infantry and security battalion as if they were all 0311s. Never had the term 'Every Marines a rifleman' been more true. That was probably the most defining moment in the Marine Corps for me."

Ilaoa also said that during the '90s when all of the services, except the Marine Corps failed to meet their recruiting quotas, it really said a lot for the Marines.

"It showed that we never give up. It showed that we, as Marines, will do whatever it takes to complete the mission. It's what Marines are known for."

While serving as the sergeant major of 9th Recruiting District, Sgt. Maj. Ilaoa also endured one of the most trying times in his career.

"The bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City was a very bad time," he said. "We lost a captain and a sergeant to that, and it really was just a low point."

From the beginning, Sgt. Maj. Ilaoa knew what it took to be a Marine. He was taught respect and leadership at an early age, with his culture playing an important role in the Marine he eventually became.

"My culture played a tremendous role in my Marine Corps career. I grew up in a very family oriented environment, with strong Samoan cultures and customs in which we practiced the

See ILAOA, A-6

## Branch Medical Clinic treating infectious disease

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Jamie Paich**  
*Preventative Medicine, Branch Medical Clinic*

Recently aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, several service members who reported to the Branch Medical Clinic here with suspicious lesions on their body were confirmed to have cases of a bacterial infection, related to "staph," according to Cmdr. Julie Miavez, commanding officer of the BMC.

Staphylococcus aureus, commonly referred to as "staph", is a bacteria that lives on the skin or in the nose of healthy people. Infections caused by staph are usually minor, such as boils or pimples. Some infections can be serious causing pneumonia or surgical wound infections. These infections were commonly treated with an antibiotic related to penicillin, though in the past 50 years the staph bacteria have become more

resistant to this course of treatment. The resistant form of these bacteria are called Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus, or MRSA.

Like common staph, MRSA can be found on the skin or in the nose of some people. Infection is more likely in the hospital or health care setting among those who are elderly or very sick. In the community MRSA has been found to be related to recent antibiotic use, sharing contaminated items, having active skin disease, and living in crowded settings.

In the community, it is usually limited to skin infections, though severe illness has been reported. Most transmission in the community seems to be from people with active MRSA skin infections.

Staph and MRSA can be spread from having close

See DISEASE, A-2

## Pegasus gives SEALS a lift

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

The Navy SEALs (Sea, Air, Land) take their name from the elements in which they operate.

Their stealth and clandestine methods of operation allow them to conduct multiple missions against targets that larger forces cannot approach undetected.

Marines from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 aboard MCB Hawaii, had the opportunity to assist the Navy SEALs from Seal Delivery Vehicle Team 1 aboard Pearl Harbor Naval Station Aug. 6.

The SEALs training is very demanding, both mentally and physically, and by far produces the world's best maritime warriors. SEALs are qualified in diving, parachuting, and are experts in combat swimming, navigation, demolition, weapons, and many other skills related to combat.

Although they are experts in attacking from the water around the enemy's territory, they sometimes find themselves in situations where they must conduct a "dry foot" attack. This is where they fly into the enemy territory and are inserted to conduct an attack.

This was the situation when the high-flying Marines from HMH-463 came into play.

The SEALs were practicing insertion and extraction techniques on an undis-

See SEALS, A-6



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Navy SEALs constantly train for dangerous situations like when Navy SEALs from the SEAL Delivery Team 1 practiced removing a fellow SEAL from a danger zone where he was injured aboard Pearl Harbor Aug. 6.



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

With the incoming Sgt. Maj. David L. Smith looking on, Sgt. Maj. Tunu I. Tupuola remembers his time with 3rd Marine Regiment, as he speaks to the command, family and friends at the post and relief ceremony.

## Regiment bids Tupuola 'aloha'

**Sgt. Joseph A. Lee**  
*Combat Correspondent*

Third Marine Regiment performed a post and relief ceremony for the incoming and outgoing sergeants major Friday, in front of their headquarters building here.

Sergeant Major Tunu I. Tupuola, scheduled to retire tomorrow in a separate ceremony, was bid farewell by his command and troops, as Sgt. Maj. David L. Smith, formerly the sergeant major of 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, took his seat as the new sergeant major of 3rd

Marine Regiment.

After 30 years of active service in the Marine Corps, Tupuola plans to take life easy.

"I just want to relax and enjoy life after the Marine Corps," said Tupuola. "I came in the corps as a grunt, and I'm leaving as a grunt. I wouldn't have it any other way."

At the ceremony, Tupuola spoke to the Marines about taking care of themselves now for a better life and future tomorrow.

"Too often Marines don't realize that they have really messed up until it is too late," said Tupuola. "I want these guys to be

careful with their lives now, and start planning for a great life instead of recovering from a failed one."

Colonel Jeffery J. Patterson, commander of 3rd Marine Regiment, spoke of the sergeant major's ability to look after Marines first and foremost.

"When I first came to this unit, I asked a Marine what he thought of his sergeant major," said Patterson. "The Marine told me that the sergeant major, no matter how busy he seemed, would always have the time to

See TUPUOLA, A-6

# MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

## K-BAY GAS LANES TO CLOSE, MONDAY - AUG. 22

The Kaneohe Bay Gas Lanes aboard MCB Hawaii will be closed for the replacement of fuel lines and valves from Monday, Aug. 18 through Friday, Aug. 22.

To accommodate patrons, the lanes will be open for extended hours Sunday until 9 p.m.

The MC Auto and Firestone store will remain open for business and follow normal business hours.

## POWER OUTAGE TO IMPACT SOME ON WEDNESDAY

Hilltop Housing residents aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, should be prepared for power outages scheduled for Wednesday between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Outages will also affect the Bachelor Officer Quarters on K-Bay.

## LOST AND FOUND ITEMS AVAILABLE AT MPD

If you are missing valuables or other items, contact Lost and Found at the Military Police Department, to see if anyone has turned in the item(s).

Lost items on hand include I.D. cards, bicycles, wallets, keys, cell phones and miscellaneous jewelry. An inquiry log is maintained for all item(s) retrieved.

Call Sgt. Gordon Scott at 257-2103, ext. 315, for prompt assistance.

Also, the Crime Prevention section of MPD is looking for neighborhood watch representatives to get involved in their communities, by taking charge of local neighborhoods. Call 257-2103, ext. 314. or 315.

## 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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## Yard of the Quarter



Lance Cpl. Glenna Dixon

Winners of the Yard of the Quarter gathered at the residence of Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, commanding general of MCB Hawaii, Aug. 12, for an awards ceremony after the friendly competition in yard decoration covering the past three months.

## Troops are set to assist Liberia

### American forces are standing by off the coast on USS Iwo Jima

**Kathleen T. Rhem**  
*American Forces  
Press Service*

WASHINGTON — Roughly 200 more American troops could move into the West African nation of Liberia in the coming days, if rebel forces keep their pledge to move out of the country's capital city.

About 100 American service members are currently in Liberia.

Rebel forces from the group Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy had pledged to move out of Monrovia's main port Thursday.

Then, military forces from the Economic Community of West African States are expected to request help from American forces working for Joint Task Force Liberia, Pentagon officials said today.

About 2,500 U.S.

Marines are standing by aboard the USS Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group off the coast of Liberia. But officials said relatively few of these forces are likely to be called to assist the West African forces, called ECOMIL for "ECOWAS Mission in Liberia."

"Joint Task Force Liberia is in place to assist ECOMIL forces to achieve a stable environment, so that humanitarian assistance can be provided to the people of Liberia and also to facilitate the transition to a U.N.-led international peacekeeping operation," Air Force Lt. Gen. Norton Schwartz said in a Pentagon press briefing today.

Schwartz, operations director for the Joint Staff, explained that such assistance is likely to come in the form of a 150-member ground-based quick reaction force and a port assessment by American military engineers and Navy SEAL divers.

The ECOMIL currently has a 746-man-strong battalion of Nigerian soldiers on the ground in Liberia. These forces are mainly

staged at Monrovia's airport. A second Nigerian battalion is expected to start arriving in country at the end of this week, Schwartz said.

When the second Nigerian battalion is in place, the general explained, the American QRF is expected to move from a ground-based staging area to a sea-based posture.

Even during the short period, this QRF is expected to be in Liberia. Their role will be very limited. The QRF is not there in a security role, Schwartz stressed. They're merely standing by to provide "a reaction capability if something unexpected occurs with regard to an ECOMIL unit, and only to stabilize the tactical situation so that [the ECOMIL forces] can restart their mission."

The first order of business for the ECOMIL troops will be to secure the port to facilitate safe transit of humanitarian goods.

A U.N. World Food Program ship carrying fuel oil and food aid is in the region, Schwartz said. Any assistance the

Americans provide will solely be to ensure the success of ECOMIL's mission, Acting Assistant Defense Secretary for Public Affairs Lawrence Di Rita said during the briefing with Schwartz.

"The objective is to let the Nigerian forces continue with stabilizing key areas of the city that are needed for the reinstatement of humanitarian operations," Di Rita said.

American forces will likely provide an aerial escort for any large-scale movement of ECOMIL forces from the city's airport to the port. Such an escort could come in the form of fixed-wing aircraft, such as Marine AV-8B Harriers, or helicopters, including UH-1N Hueys and AH-1W Super Cobras, Schwartz said.

The general also noted it's likely that ECOMIL units moving to the port would include U.S. Marines in a liaison capacity. Also, U.S. engineers will conduct a port assessment, and SEALs have already begun a preliminary survey of obstacles in the port's waterway.

## 'At Ease, Marine!'



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

The sign posted before the back gate exit of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, serves as a constant reminder to Marines, Sailors and family members that past that point no chanting or yelling is allowed — out of respect for the residents in the community outside the gate.

## DISEASE, From A-1

contact with those infected with the bacteria. MRSA is usually spread from direct physical contact though infection may occur from indirect contact by touching contaminated objects. These objects can be anything an infected person has touched such as gym equipment, towels, clothes, sheets, bandages, etc.

The key to preventing infection with MRSA or staph bacteria is to practice good personal hygiene. This includes hand washing with soap and water not just rinsing with water, keeping cuts, scrapes, and abrasions clean and bandaged until healed, and avoiding contact with other people's wounds and bandages.

MRSA and staph infections are treatable with certain antibiotics. If a person is prescribed antibiotics they should always complete the prescribed course of treatment, even if signs and symptoms of infection disappear. If you think you may have MRSA or staph infection please contact your Primary Care Manager.

(Editor's Note: Information for this article was gathered from the Center for Disease Control and Preventions Web site at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).)

# Island Warriors get ready at Schofield

Story and Photos by  
**Sgt. Joseph A. Lee**  
Combat Correspondent

Sometimes in the Marine Corps, time at home isn't necessarily time away from training.

Though they are home from Okinawa, Japan, for seven months before their next deployment, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, is taking advantage of every training opportunity to keep its Marines prepared.

Golf Co. returned Aug. 7 from 12 days in Schofield Barracks' East ranges, where the company conducted live-fire and maneuver, crew-served weapons live-fire, and other tactical training that combined the use of a great deal of the battalion's assets.

"We try and get this training done once per month," said Gunnery Sgt. Ryan L. Parker, battalion radio chief. "Because of training like this, we are ready to deploy."

For some Golf Co. Marines, this was their first time in the field with the unit since they arrived from the School of Infantry (SOI) after the Fourth of July weekend.

"I thought the training was fun, especially since the [noncommissioned officers] went the extra mile to make it more enjoyable and better training for all of us," said Lance Cpl. Michael Ferguson, machine gunner with Weapons Co. "I remember one night they woke us up in the middle of the night yelling and screaming. When I heard all the yelling I stood quickly to the sound of Vietnamese shouting outside. I didn't know what the heck was growing on."

It is called a stress drill, according to the noncommissioned officers of Golf Co. Stress drills increase the Marines' ability to function adequately in a stressful environment such as combat.

"I had my shoes on the wrong feet," said Pfc. Chad Winegar, machine gunner with Weapons Co. "But my rounds were going downrange, and that is more important than having my shoes on the right foot. I was just glad to be staying up late and getting dirty, 'cause that's what I joined the Marine Corps for in the first place."

According to the tired and filthy Marine, Golf Co. also spent time in an urban assault course at the grenade house, where the Marines advanced their Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) skills.

"I enjoyed cross training with the machine gunners, learning more about facial camouflage application, and practicing with live demolition," said Joshua A. Huizar, javelin gunner with Weapons Co. "This was my first experience with actually setting up demo like TNT and shape charges."

"In SOI, we got to learn all about it, but this was my first time hand-holding the demo, and I really learned a lot from the training."



**Above Left — Lance Cpl. Michael Ferguson, while mounting the .50 caliber machinegun, keeps a watchful eye on the local environment. His assistant gunner, Pfc. Chad Winegar, scans the perimeter. Both are machinegunners with Weapons Co., 2/3.**



**Above Right — A mortarman checks and rechecks his equipment under the supervision of Lance Cpl. David Nichols of Golf Co., 2/3. The Golf Co. Marines dug into a plateau for the last night of their training operation at Schofield Barracks.**



**Lance Cpl. Brandon Hassell, a rifleman with Golf Co., 2/3, digs into his second fox hole of the day on the hilltops overlooking a large ravine. Most of the Marines in Golf Co. were glad to be going home after nearly two weeks, though most also enjoyed their time in the field.**

Lance Cpl. David Nichols, a rifleman with Golf Co., sat on a perimeter mortar location and trained with several Marines on advanced operation with the 60 mm weapon.

"The other night we fired on a location at night, using most of the battalion's assets all together," said Nichols. "Because we had excellent illumination and a view of the impact area, it was quite an impressive sight to see all the

damage that we can do together."

Impressive is the ability of a well-trained Marine infantry unit working its companies together in harmony like a well-oiled machine to get the job done.

"The Marines do a tremendous job out



**Lance Cpl. Joshua A. Huizar, a javelin gunner with Golf Co., puts to use added training he received on facial camouflage application as he blends into the local environment. Huizar was ecstatic to get some hands-on training with live demolition in the field.**

here," said Parker. "They get the training done alongside the other companies so that we can work and communicate effectively in combat."

## Word on the Street

Who is your top pick for the 2003 NFL season?



"...The Packers. They've got a great offense this year."  
**Pfc. Scott Tank**  
Motor transport operator  
Transportation Support Company, CSSG-3



"I've got to say the Broncos and maybe Tampa Bay or the Philadelphia Eagles."  
**Forest Elbeck**  
Electronics technician  
Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Force Pacific



"...The Oakland Raiders. Hopefully, they will make it all the way and pull through."  
**Alan Alexander**  
Kaneohe Bay Commissary



"...The Buccaneers. They have got a great organization."  
**Sabrina Howell**  
Customer service representative  
Marine Corps Exchange



"I think the Buccaneers are going to go back again. Their defense is strong. But I want the Packers to win."  
**Seaman Tyler Watson**  
Line Corpsmen  
Battalion Aid Station  
2/3

# Green grads throw their weight around

**Sgt. Joseph A. Lee**  
*Combat Correspondent*



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Marines train in the mat room of 3rd Marine Regiment's Regimental Schools at K-Bay. The school's instructors train any Marine who walks through the doors at 6 a.m. and 11 a.m. to increase their belt level on their free time.

Green Belt Class 7-03 of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, which graduated from Regimental Schools July 25, demonstrated its skills for the students' unit leaders and other audience members at Dewey Square July 24.

The largest green belt class to ever graduate from Hawaii, Class 7-03 demonstrated for the audience what they learned throughout the 15-day course.

"We wanted to let the unit leaders get a feel for what their Marines have gone through, and what they will be bringing back to their units," said Staff Sgt. Jason Rossman, chief martial arts instructor trainer at Regimental Schools.

The Marines demonstrated body-hardening techniques, followed by a circuit course that included every major group skill from tan belt level through green belt level of martial arts training.

"The 12 different stations in the circuit course allow the students to quickly refresh and constantly train in the areas they have covered over the past two weeks," said Sgt. James Johnson, lead martial arts instructor trainer at the school.

After the circuit course, the students demonstrated the various different fighting styles and different weapons they trained with. The first bout featured two Marines battling with pugil sticks to demonstrate close combat techniques with a rifle and bayonet. The demonstration went on to include stabbing or jousting techniques, fist fighting, and the final ground-fight to show the students' abilities in grappling and sustained fighting abilities.

"These students will be guiding and acting as referees in their

units, so their proficiency level needs to be understood by their commanders," said Johnson.

According to Rossman, the Regimental School here is a satellite school from the main Division School in Okinawa.

"In order to keep our units up to speed with the program here in Hawaii, it is imperative that green belt students can gain their instruction here on island," said Rossman. "If this school wasn't here, units would be forced to send students to Okinawa or California for their training."

The students, ready to test out and graduate the following day, came onto the field highly motivated to show off what they had learned. Some students were surprised at the level of training they had gained throughout the 15 days.

"When the course first started, it was extremely tiring and a bit repetitious," said Sgt. Jerry Carroll, ammunition chief with Combat Service Support Group 3. "As the course went on, though, my body got used to the pain, and I came out wanting more. The class kept the motivation level high the whole way through, so it wasn't hard to stay motivated."

Unlike many other green belt courses, the students of Class 7-03 experienced instructors with various backgrounds that allowed the students to learn extra skills while being trained in very different environments.

"The thing I enjoyed most from the course was the knowledge that our instructors were able to pass onto us. They gave us extra instruction from different fighting styles that provided a variety of counters to moves we learned," said Sgt. Derrannal McDonald, hygiene noncommissioned officer



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

**First Lt. Michael W. Reinke, officer in charge of Regimental Schools, tests for his green belt with lead martial arts instructor Sgt. James Johnson.**

for CSSG-3. "Another advantage to learning from our instructors was their utilization of other training environments like the pool, doing water aerobics. The water instruction was tough, but I think it added a nice touch to the overall training. I think every Marine should take this course."

The instructors at the Regimental School teach belt advancement and additional training every day at Dewey Square from 6-8 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., for anyone who wishes to work on skills or belt advancement.

"We invite anyone of any rank to come out and train, it will only make you stronger," said Rossman. "To attend a green belt course, students must be corporal or above, must be qualified to the gray belt level, be screened by a medical officer and have all pay-grade level PME accomplished."

## SALUTES

GUNG-HO



### SERGEANTS COURSE 05-03

**Honor Graduate, 96.48**

Sergeant B. M. Famer  
I Co., Marine Support Bn.

**Second Place, 94.25**

Sergeant A. F. Dargan  
3rd Marine Regiment

**Third Place, 94.05**

Sergeant N. Viera  
Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii

**Gung Ho Award**

Sergeant W. L. Flatt Jr.  
3rd Marine Regiment

**Certificates of Superior Physical Fitness Performance**

*(Awarded to Marines who achieve a 285 or above on the physical fitness test.)*

Sergeant C. D. Walters III  
Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, 293

Sergeant J. L. Patino  
Headquarters Bn. MCB Hawaii, 287

**Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Writing Award**

**First Place**

Sergeant R. L. Byrne

**Runner Up**

Sergeant S. C. Achee

**Honorable Mention**

Sergeant N. L. Taylor

**KILL • A • WATT**

# CSSG-3 warriors train for the worst attack



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Marines from Echo Co., 2/3, wait in line to decontaminate their tactical equipment, which was hit with a simulated explosion of cesium 137.

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

## MARINE CORPS TRAINING AREA, Bellows

— In 1998, terrorists used cesium 137 to produce a bomb to destroy the U.S. embassy in Kenya. The combination of high explosives used was known as a “dirty bomb.”

Five years later, on Aug. 7, Marines from the Combat Service Support Group 3 received a mission.

The mission called for the Group to assist Marines from the 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, in decontaminating themselves and equipment as they were evacuated from a combat zone after a “dirty bomb” attack.

Upon being inserted into

Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, by Marines from Marine Aircraft Group 24, CSSG-3 wasted no time getting to work decontaminating the infantrymen.

The “victims” from 2/3 arrived in Mission Orientated Protective Posture level 4 and quickly moved into an eight-station decontamination site. Approximately 75 warriors were in dire need of decontamination.

“This training is of extreme importance,” said Staff Sgt. Caleb Eames, NBC instructor with CSSG-3. “The Marine Corps often trains for chemical attacks, but rarely does it train for radiological attacks such as those involving cesium 137. These kinds of attacks are very likely in the war against terrorism.”

Decontaminating troops is

a thorough process. In the first station, tactical gear is removed, washed and held for reissue, while the protective mask is washed and rinsed with a sponge while still on the Marine’s face in station two.

The “victim” removes his outer protective garments without contaminating the rest of his body in the third station. He does not remove his protective boots and gloves until station four, where he then removes his combat utilities.

All gear is put into the same bag, so it can be reissued after the decontamination process is complete.

While in station five, an ANVDRZ, a radiation detection device, checks the Marines for any signs of radiation or chemicals.

Once the protective mask is removed in station six, it is washed, rinsed and sanitized. Then the Marine is instructed to keep his eyes closed until station seven, where he is reissued all his equipment and re-dresses in station eight.

“It was hot in that suit,” said Pfc. Murfin Barnett, a rifleman for Echo Co., 2/3. “This was realistic training though. All infantrymen know that in the war on terrorism, NBC attacks are always going to be a factor.”

“This is the kind of training where the whole unit has to work together,” said Pfc. Ryan Hudson, an administrative clerk for CSSG-3. “This was my first exposure to this kind of situation.

“We were all motivated and we got the job done.”

# CAC-6 tracks diesel submarines in South America

Lt. j.g. **Timm S. Heisey**  
Patrol Squadron 47

**ANTOFAGASTA, Chile** — Combat Air Crew 6 of Patrol Squadron 47 recently returned from a three-week detachment in Chile. The crew, flying a P-3C, participated in exercise “Teamwork South” with Chilean, French and British navies.

The flight to Antofagasta, Chile took 26 hours with stops in California, Florida and Puerto Rico. The long transit included flying over the Panama Canal and through the Bermuda Triangle on Friday the 13th.

The crew realized how small the world truly is when one of the crew’s

pilots, Lt. Christina Hultin, heard her father on the radio talking to air traffic control as he piloted United Airlines Flight 1735 from New York to Puerto Rico.

In Chile, the aircrew and maintainers joined forces with VP-92 and VP-1 and was typically tasked with six-to-eight-hour missions in support of the exercise multinational force, or “Blue Team.”

The missions involved prosecuting two of Chile’s premier diesel submarines and conducting simulated torpedo and Harpoon attacks against subsurface and surface contacts assigned to the opposing “Orange Team.”

Throughout the exercise, CAC-6 experienced a 100 percent mission success

rate. This was accomplished not only because of the pride and professionalism of the aircrew, but also in big part because of the work performed by the maintainers on the ground.

The maintenance crew kept the plane in full operational status and allowed CAC-6 to fly every assigned mission.

Combat Air Crew 6 relentlessly searched and tracked the Chilean submarines. During the last phase of the exercise, CAC-6 successfully detected and tracked a notoriously quiet and elusive Chilean submarine in a one-on-one, P-3 versus submarine challenge.

After the event, the submarine crew was extremely curious to learn how CAC-6 tracked them, since the submarine crew said it prided itself in elusive maneuvers and quieting techniques. The CAC-6 crew answered that VP-47’s training had prepared them.



The commander of the Chilean submarine snapped a periscope photo of the CAC-6 P-3 when it flew over the submarine during exercises.

Courtesy of VP-47



Courtesy of Ken Ige, Honolulu Star Bulletin

**The Ilaoa family — (from left to right) sons Robert and University of Hawaii football player Nate, wife Vaisa, daughters Tai and Lima, and Filipo — have always been close.**

#### **ILAOA, From A-1**

basics of leadership at a very young age," he said. "The traits introduced to Marines at recruit training I already had. I was taught to respect my parents and elders. I was taught to respect authority and obey the laws of the land. This made it a very easy transition for me, into the Marine Corps."

During his time, Ilaoa has seen the Marine Corps change in many ways, but the most significant change, he says, is not the Marines at all.

"The Marine Corps has really begun to follow through with its promise to take care of Marines and their families," he said. "When a Marine's family is taken care of, it allows him to give 100% of his attention to

the task at hand. In the end, it just helps with mission accomplishment, and that's what it's all about."

"I would like the Marines to remember me as someone who cared," said Ilaoa. "I want them to remember me as someone who looked out for their well-being, and I hope that Marines in the future continue to look out for one another."

After today's ceremony, Sgt. Maj. Ilaoa hopes to become an even more devoted father, and move on to yet another adventure.

"I plan on spending more time with my family and starting up a new career. I just want to be the best husband and father that I can possibly be, and I want to finish my college education using my G.I. Bill," said Ilaoa.

#### **TUPUOLA, From A-1**

listen to a Marine's problem and follow through until that Marine's problem was solved. My only regret is that I didn't get to work with him longer."

The posting sergeant major, Smith, also came into the Marine Corps with an infantry unit and, according to Patterson, "earned

his rank the hard way."

"Sergeant major Smith spent all of his 28 years in the Fleet Marine Force," said Patterson. "Without special duty assignments, making your rank in the fleet can be tougher sometimes, but that's where this sergeant major felt he belonged."

The sergeants major performed the traditional post and

relief ceremony, which included a sword exchange and thanks to the incoming and outgoing sergeants major's spouses for their support to their husbands and the Marine Corps.

"The Marines I've worked with over the past two years here have left me with very good memories that I will remember for years to come," said Tupuola.

#### **SEALS, From A-1**

closed location aboard the island of Oahu. The Marines from HMH-463 were tasked with flying to Pearl Harbor and loading them into a CH-53 D "Sea Stallion" Helicopter and inserting them into a simulated enemy territory.

"This was the first time I was able to meet members of a SEAL team," said Sgt. Christopher Floyd, an aircraft mechanic with HMH 463. "It was an interesting mission because we got a first hand look at how they operate."

Once on the ground, the SEALs, swept the area like a storm and quickly set up an offensive perimeter. They were given a task of rescuing an injured SEAL and removing him from the hostile area.

Once the injured SEAL was located, he was



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

**Navy SEALs from SEAL Delivery Team 1 move with urgency as they rescue an injured SEAL and take him out of harm's way during an attack in a simulated firefight.**

placed on a stretcher and carried off to safety as the SEALs set off a yellow-smoke canister to notify the Marines from HMH 463 of their location.

"The nature of our

mission requires men who are physically fit and capable in every environment, especially the water," said a Navy SEAL who must remain anonymous.

"Sometimes we have to

attack with dry feet and get in and set up security. This can happen for many different reasons, but usually it's because we have no choice but to penetrate the enemy territory from the air."