Hawai'i MARINE

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MarForPac changes command

Sgt. David Salazar
Combat Correspondent

Cpl. Roman Yurek

Colors representing the ten different units that answer to the commanding general of Marine Forces Pacific flew high as the Commander, MarForPac, Lt. General Libutti, relinquished his command to Lt. Gen. Hailston Friday evening at the helicopter pad at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. This marked the second time that Lt. Gen. Hailston has assumed a command from Lt. Gen. Libutti; the first was III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Nearly 1,000 Marines, Sailors, and civilians gathered beneath the overcast Hawaii sky to bid farewell to Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, as he relinquished command of Marine Forces Pacific to Lt. Gen. Earl B. Hailston, in a sunset ceremony Friday.

The ceremony, which took place aboard the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, airfield, was attended by Gen. James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine Corps; several flag officers; and Hawaii elected officials.

Lieutenant Gen. Libutti had held the position of commander, Marine Forces Pacific since August 1998. The duties of commander, MarForPac, also include: commanding general, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific; commander, U.S. Marine Corps Bases, Pacific; commander, U.S. Marine Forces, U.S. Central Command; and commander, Combined Forces Command, United Nations Command, Korea.

"(Lieutenant Gen. Libutti), Marine Forces Pacific has excelled under your command. Your stalwart support of U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Central Command, and Combined Forces Command, United Nations Command, Korea, has bolstered the Marine Corps' component role in contingency planning and operations with our joint service partners," said Gen. Jones in a letter read during the ceremony. "Your leadership and energy directly contributed to your Marines' successes during operations in East Timor, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Yemen, as well as in exercises in Korea, Australia, Thailand, and Japan."

Lieutanant Gen. Libutti thanked a host of friends, family and co-workers during his speech at the ceremony and gave a resounding thanks to the Marines of MarForPac.

"In closing, let me turn my attention to the troops. The Marines who stand in formation before you represent some 80,000 Marines and Sailors of this command – they are my pride and joy. They are the best this nation has to offer," Lt. Gen. Libutti said.

"Without a lot of fanfare, they answer the call to duty – to serve, to fight and win, and to support peace-keeping, peace enforcement, and humanitarian relief operations as directed. They are challenged every day to meet our high standards, and to maintain their readiness – and they do that with confidence, and with a mystical sense of their great heritage and with unwaivering devotion to our beloved Corps.

"Fellow Marines, thank you for your support; for your professionalism; for your esprit. I shall remember you always and that memory shall warm my heart and soul in the days ahead – God bless, and Semper Fi."

"The ... 80,000 Marines and Sailors ... are my pride and joy."

Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti
Former Commander, Marine Forces Pacific

Lieutenant Gen. Libutti passed the MarForPac colors to Lt. Gen. Hailston, who assumed command after a successful tour in Okinawa as commanding general, III Marine Expeditionary Force and commander, Marine Corps Bases, Japan.

See MARFORPAC, A-3

Pfc. Jason E. Miller

Gen. James L. Jones pins lance corporal chevrons on Jim Nabors, who portrayed Gomer Pyle on the television series, during a promotion ceremony Aug. 9.

'Surprise! Surprise! Surprise!' Commandant promotes Gomer Pyle

Pfc. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

For most privates first class, it usually takes just eight short months time in grade to pick up lance corporal, but for Jim Nabors, the actor who portrayed America's most loveable leatherneck Gomer Pyle, it took almost 37 years.

Nabors was not only promoted to lance corporal Aug. 9, but he was also awarded the title of "Honorary Marine" by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James L. Jones in a ceremony at Camp H.M. Smith.

"The title of Marine is something we don't just give away, you have to earn it. Jim Nabors is responsible for showing the world that Marines can make mistakes, and that we're not afraid to come back and correct them, " said Gen. Jones.

It's an honor to promote the Marine Corps' most senior Pfc.," he added.

"It's too much power. I don't know if I can handle it," Nabors said.

Throughout the 5 years that Gomer Pyle U.S.M.C. aired on television, Pyle always demonstrated the qualities that Marines today still live by.

He always wore the uniform correctly. He was always honest, polite and had the best intentions.

Even though he made a lot of mistakes, no one ever turned their back on him, the commandant said.

"I've always been a fan of the show and I think that Marines today can still identify with it. I know that the nickname 'Gomer Pyle' is still given to recruits today who need a little more work in basic training," Gen. Jones said.

During Nabors speech at the ceremony, he explained that no matter what Pyle did, he always did his best to see the good side of everyone, even his drill instructor, Sgt.

See GOMER, A-10

3rd Marine Regiment represents Marine Corps in Tongan exercise

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.
Combat Correspondent

Marines and Sailors from 3rd Marine Regiment left Aug. 10 to show the people of Tonga the humanitarian side of the United States Navy and Marine Corps team during Exercise Tafakula.

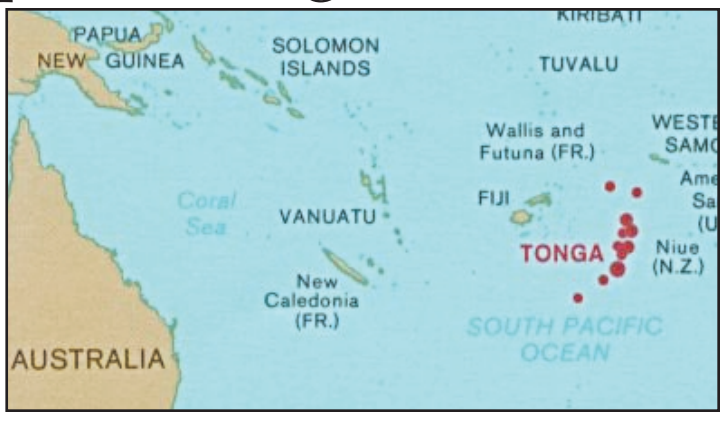
More than 80 Marines and Sailors flew to the main island of Tongatapu where they then boarded the USS Frederick and sailed almost 200 miles north to the small island of Vava'u.

Tafakula is a Marine Forces Pacific sponsored, III Marine Expeditionary Force executed exercise conducted in Tonga. The United States Navy will conduct cross training with the Tongan Navy, and the United States Marine Corps will conduct peace enforcement field training exercises with the Tongan Defense Services.

A large portion of the mission will be to provide medical and dental assistance and limited engineer help as part of a Humanitarian Civic Assistance operation.

In conjunction with the humanitarian effort, two platoons from

See TONGA, A-10



MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

CREDO TO HOST RETREAT

Open to all military and civilian base patrons and their families, the next opportunity for individuals to attend a CREDO personal growth retreat is Friday through Sunday.

Participants are encouraged to share their thoughts, values, dreams and feelings about their lives in a peaceful and safe environment — a setting of unconditional love and confidentiality.

CREDO will be held in Building 1368, which is between Waterfront Operations and the Hale Koa Campgounds.

For more information, call Chaplain Scott Carlson at 257-1941, ext. 225.

MARINE CORPS SUPPORT NETWORK

An important asset is available to Marine families that are experiencing financial hardship resulting from deaths, fires, floods, or other catastrophic events. When hardships exceed the capability of local commands, leaders can turn to the Marine Corps Support Network, which maintains a database of organizations that provide support.

The MCSN can be accessed through certain Marine Corps Community Services personnel and through the Casualty Assistance Calls Officer.

For more details, refer to White Letter 01-01.

TOYS FOR TOTS VOLUNTEER BRIEFS

Volunteers will be meeting at the Bachelor Officer Quarters Conference Room, Bldg. 503, the next three Wednesdays from 9 to 10 a.m.

Toys for Tots volunteers are encouraged to attend at least one of the briefs to learn about the history and traditions of the Toys for Tots program.

New volunteers will also be allowed to sign up during the briefs. Toys for Tots will accept volunteers all the way up until Christmas.

The Toys for Tots campaign provided more than 50,000 toys for children on Oahu and neighboring Hawaiian islands in 2000. However, this year's goal is to provide more than 55,000 toys for needy children in Hawaii.

Certificates of appreciation are provided for support, and Marines may qualify for the Volunteer Service Medal.

Contact Staff Sgt. Villarreal at 257-1077, ext. 232, to volunteer and provide hope during the Christmas holidays.

Hawaii MARINE

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Public Affairs Director — Maj. Chris Hughes
Public Affairs Chief — Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans
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Kevin Wolfe, D.E.F.Y. blue team member, receives help from his peers as he makes his way up the wall.

Kids defy gravity in Ropes Course

Story and Photos by
Lance Cpl. Luis R. Agostini
Combat Correspondent

"D.E.F.Y.! D.E.F.Y.! D-E-F-Y!" Defy alcohol! Defy drugs! D.E.F.Y.!"

"I can't hear you!"

"I'm D.E.F.Y. proud!"

That was the chant heard at the beginning and end of Drug Education For Youth's trip to the Ropes Course at Ewa Beach, Friday morning.

D.E.F.Y. member Bryce Kuhn leaps off the platform on the zipline.

"I expect kids to gain confidence out of the course, and we want the mentors to be able to get the kids to trust them," said Sgt. Henry Jones, D.E.F.Y. director.

D.E.F.Y. kicked off the day at Ewa Beach with a group stretch, with Jones leading the exercises. Next was a game of human knot, in which children used teamwork and communication skills to free themselves. Several children interlocked hands, and the objective was to have every member free themselves from the group.

"Elephants and giraffes" was next. A circle was formed around an individual who would randomly point out another person and call out an animal, such as an elephant, giraffe, or frog. The person called on emulated the animal's facial gestures, and the people on each side of him or her supported the person with the selected animal's lower-body movements. They had five seconds to put together the animal.

Above — Placing his trust and confidence in his team, a D.E.F.Y. member is being elevated by his team members on the "Breathtaker".
Below — D.E.F.Y. gathers together after a long, hard day at the Ropes Course at Ewa Beach. The group will have their next meeting in September.

The group moved on to the obstacles. Safety harnesses were used for all of the obstacles.

The participants divided into two groups, and alternated turns at obstacles,

Staff Sgt. Jon Jerome, D.E.F.Y. mentor, encourages Byron Kerrison to complete the obstacle.

which included the "Breathtaker", a pulley system where a group member is elevated by his team members who are pulling a rope attached to the child's harness, which is then let go for a swing.

The other obstacle was the dangling line and zip line. The D.E.F.Y. members ascended a wooden pole, walked across a rope while holding on to another rope overhead, went across and then took a ride on the zip line. After all members completed the obstacles, they made their way to the bus and back to K-Bay.

The day at Ewa Beach gave the mentors, who are Marines from different units who volunteered their time, a chance to interact with the children.

"We want to influence them in a good way at a young age," said Staff Sgt. Jon Jerome, D.E.F.Y mentor. "We educate children about some of the things they may face in the street, like drugs, alcohol, and gangs," said Jerome.

"Kids will watch and emulate every move you make and every word you say, so you have to be careful around them. You really have to adjust to kids in this program," said Sgt. Henry Jones, D.E.F.Y director.

"Everything the kids do, the volunteers do. We can't smoke, drink soda or do other things people normally do in a regular environment," said Jones.

"Some kids just stay home, watch television and play video games. D.E.F.Y. gives kids a chance to get active, learn and have fun," said Jones.

Mentors must go through a two-day training curriculum, which covers different subjects such as child safety, different types of abuse and D.E.F.Y. history.

D.E.F.Y, which is a Navy/Marine Corps-wide program, has been received with open arms. "It helps when you have an active command such as ours. We get a lot of support," said Jones.

Lt. Gen. Hailston takes command of Marines throughout Pacific theater

Cpl. Roman Yurek

Combat Service Support Group 3 performs a dress right dress movement to align all its rows and columns in formation.

Cpl. Roman Yurek

Lt. Gen. Hailston greets some of the guests, before the evening Change of Command ceremony.

MARFORPAC, From A-1

At the end of his speech, Lt. Gen. Hailston, paid tribute to his mentor.

"(Lieutenant Gen.) Libutti has been a career life-long friend of mine. Frank Libutti – you've been my hero," said Lt. Gen. Hailston.

"(Lieutenant Gen.) Libutti is a warrior who thinks the word 'quit' is a four-letter word, and he'd never use it. You're a compassionate and understanding leader. I can think of no one who I would rather follow – I followed you (to) III MEF and it was a beautiful machine – and I know, FMFPac, MarForPac, and Marine Corps Bases Pacific, (will also be) that beautiful machine.

"Thank you very much," he said.

Lieutenant Gen. Hailston, a Utica, NY, native, enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1967. His personal decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with Combat "V", the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

Lieutenant Gen. Libutti will depart for duty at the Pentagon later this month.

Marines, Airmen react to chemical, nuclear attacks at MarForPac Band Hall

Story and Photos by Lance Cpl. Luis R. Agostini
Combat Correspondent

To further ensure safety from chemical and biological contamination of personnel and equipment, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Marines and airmen from 366 Medical Squadron, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, participated in a restoration of operations demonstration Aug. 9, near the Marine Forces Pacific Band Hall.

A Marine washes himself off of any contaminants using a sponge and soapy water before going through the roller system.

RestOps tests the before, during and after attack actions necessary to protect against and immediately react to the consequences of a chemical or biological attack at a fixed site.

"Let's say a fixed site, such as the Honolulu International Airport, or any other foreign fixed site gets hit. We can set up RestOps and get victims of a chemical or nuclear attack, as well as equipment, and decontaminate them so we can continue our mission," said Chief Warrant Officer John Oberhauser, 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment nuclear, biological, and chemical officer.

RestOps is utilized to protect personnel and sensitive equipment prior to attack, detect, identify and warn personnel of a chemical or biological attack, and decontaminate personnel and personal equipment as well as critical equipment and facilities necessary to restore and sustain operations. The system can also be used in field hospitals.

"We can bring casualties to field hospitals or facilities, which would have the decontamination systems. The patients would get cleaned up, and from there, they can be brought to a clean hospital," said Oberhauser.

Airmen from 366 Medical Squadron played the roles of the medics who would wash off the patients as they went through the decontamination system.

Marines from 3/3; 1st Bn., 12th Marines; and Headquarters Bn. played the victims of nuclear and chemical attacks, who wore protective suits. The suits use carbon to protect the body from contaminants.

The process is completed fairly quickly.

First, a Marine is removed from his gear and protective suit by a medic. He is then inspected for any biological or chemical contaminants. If contaminants are detected, the Marine is stripped of his clothing.

He cleans himself off any remaining contaminants, and then he is loaded onto a stretcher and sent through the roller system, where medics wash him off.

After he gets through the system, he goes through one last contaminant detection process before he is sent away to either return to his unit or check in to a clean hospital.

Marines who took part in the demonstration gave positive feedback on the decontamination system.

"I'd like to go through it, get cleaned and go back to the rear," said Pfc. Steve Scholl, javelin gunner, Weapons Co., 3/3.

"It restores combat posture," said Master Gunnery Sgt. Fred Hogan, MarForPac NBC chief.

If successful, the ability of the system will effectively and safely decontaminate victims in rear areas and fixed sites, said Oberhauser.

Above — Airmen from 366 Medical Squadton, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, demonstrate how to remove clothing from a victim of biological/nuclear contamination. Below — Medics clean a victim of any remaining nuclear/biological contaminants using a variety of cleansing solvents and water.

WORD ON THE STREET

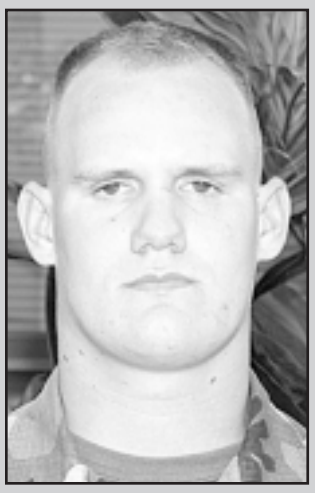
What was the most memorable part of your summer?

"BayFest was the best part, especially on Sunday. I got to see all of the local artists and bands."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Dale Alejandro
Corpsman
Navy Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor

"The best part of my summer was the 3/3 hump. I carried the radio for the commanding officer and sergeant major. I was motivated, and it made me feel good."

Lance Cpl. Guy Dreier
MIMMS NCO/HazMat
H&S Co., 3/3

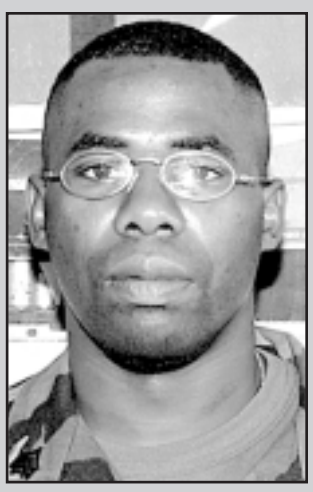


"A good part was working BayFest. The reserve MPs from Lexington, Ky., came and helped out. They helped us provide safety for the rest of the base."

Lance Cpl. Jason Heins
MP
MP Co., HQ. Bn.

"I spent my summer working at a place that I like. I enjoy doing my job."

Stacy Nozawa
Express Op.
Photo Employee



"I got to spend time with my family. I came back from a deployment to Okinawa. I've had a great time spending time with them. It's a once in a lifetime thing."

Sgt. Steven Rogers
Machinegun section leader
Lima Co., 3/3

Law of War

Marine detachment prepares military units for real-world scenarios

Training supports that 'law of war violations not caused by abnormal people in normal conditions,' per counsel for the accused in the film, 'Breaker Morant'

Maj. Kurt Larson, USMCR
Instructor, Marine Corps University

Is being out of uniform or wearing an enemy's uniform during combat a Law of War violation? Are you going to be held accountable if given a direct order by a superior officer to commit a Law of War violation? What force, if any, can you use against an enemy that utilizes a hospital as a command post? Does the Law of War pertain to military operations other than war?

The answers to these questions and more are covered in a three-day intensive training package offered by the Law of War Detachment of the Marine Corps University.

In the late 1970s, Colonel Donald Green USMCR (Ret.), was charged with assessing the need for Law of War training in the Marine Corps, as well as evidence that such training was consistent with the Principles of War and Marine Corps doctrine.

To gather evidence of the impact of such training, a testing program was conducted during Forest Gale '79, the largest amphibious exercise staged in the Pacific since World War II.

During this exercise one group of Marines was given instruction in the Law of War, and another group was not. Law of War problems were inserted into the exercise, and there were significant statistical differences between the two groups.

Based on the results of the testing and the need to bring the Marine Corps into compliance with United States' treaty obligations and military instructions, the Law of War Detachment was established in the early 1980s to implement a Marine Corps wide training program.

The Law of War Detachment began as a mobile training unit attached to HQMC. The course of instruction, as originally designed, was taught over a five-day period, and covered the Geneva and Hague Conventions. Today, as part of the Marine Corps University, the detachment teaches the course over three days, several times each year, at various Marine Corps bases and stations.

The course emphasizes the Law of War as applied to real world operational scenarios. Special emphasis is placed on the interaction between the Law of War and rules of engagement and the Law of War as it applies in MEU(SOC) operations.

The detachment also provides on-demand targeted instruction of lesser duration within the schools and academies that comprise the Marine Corps University.

Most Marines have heard of the My Lai massacre and might even believe that we, as Marines, are too disciplined and too well trained to succumb to such acts of cruelty. However, just three months after Lt. William Calley was charged with the murder of "not less than" 109 Vietnamese at My Lai, a fresh atrocity was committed only 25 miles away in a town called Son Thang, where 16 noncombatant women and children were killed by U.S. Marines.

One of the first questions asked after such an incident like this is "What Law of War training did the individuals receive?" At the outset, some may dismiss the need for this kind of training because Law of War principles seem to be simple common sense. However, just as a rifleman needs to shoot in order to become proficient, so too must he or she be taught the Law of War — not simply to learn the rules but also to inculcate the ideals.

> ***"The Marine Corps works in a fluid environment. What begins as a humanitarian operation may end up as a low intensity conflict or worse."***
>
> Maj. Kurt Larson
> *Instructor, Marine Corps University*

As far as being "commonsensical," refer to the first set of questions posed at the beginning of this article and see if you, as the reader, have the common sense answers that you would be willing to act upon or advise others to act upon during hostilities.

The Law of War represents our international commitment to the values of justice, human rights and the dignity of human life. Defense Department directive 5100.77 states that "[m]embers of the armed forces shall comply with the Law of War during all armed conflicts, however such conflicts are characterized...". Navy Instruction 3300.1A states that "[in] particular it is expected that all personnel responsible for planning for, directing or participating in armed conflict, will receive sufficient training to comply with the law of armed conflict in all situations reasonably contemplated by their assignment."

Also, a Marine Corps order, due to be published in the next several months, further solidifies the need for both commanders and troops to receive proper training in the Law of War.

The Marine Corps works in a fluid environment. What begins as a humanitarian operation may end up as a low intensity conflict, or worse.

We are referred to as "America's 911 Force," and we are expected to accomplish a myriad of missions with the highest degree of efficiency and professionalism. While performing our mission we also have to be cognizant of the "CNN factor," which records and holds us accountable for everything we do — and fail to do.

We can reduce uncertainties with training. If commanders and troops learn their obligations under the Law of War, they can focus more on the end state of the mission at hand.

The Marine Corps University's Law of War Detachment can provide a unit with complete, relevant and important training that will assist warfighters in becoming fully

See LAW OF WAR, A-13

Skinny Dragons return from multi-nation exercise in Chile

Courtesy of Lt. Steve Schabacker

Chilean Navy Cmdr. Jose Miguel Aguirre, Commadante of VP-1, exchanges unit plaques with Cmdr. Tyrone Payton, executive officer, VP-4, at the Naval War College, Valparaiso, Chile.

Lt. Richard Pool
Public Affairs Officer, VP-4

An aircrew from Patrol Squadron Four returned home to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, last week after a three-week detachment in Chile in support of exercise Teamwork South 01.

Led by Skinny Dragon Executive Officer, Cmdr. Tyrone Payton, the VP-4 Detachment, consisting of 12 members of Combat Aircrew 1 and nine maintenance personnel, flew in support of Teamwork South 01 between June 21 and July 14.

Operating from Vina del Mar, Chile, CAC-1 flew sorties conducting multi-mission support for a multi-national Surface Action Group.

The exercise is a biannual event integrating joint training and simulated warfare scenarios.

VP-4 was part of the multi-national group of maritime patrol and reconnaissance planes that included squadrons from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash. (VP-40), Canada (MP-407) and Chile (VP-1).

Combat Aircrew-1 kicked off the exercise by attending a pre-sail conference in Antofagasta, Chile, to finalize preparations for the exercise. The exercise required the P-3 squadrons to fly round-the-clock operations, providing surface warfare and undersea warfare support for the multi-national Surface Action Group led by the USS Ticonderroga CG-47 and USS Rodney M. Davis FFG-60.

The P-3 Orion's ability to change from the role of "detecting" a hostile submarine, to "deterring" an imminent attack on friendly surface vessels, to "attacking" a hostile submarine proved invaluable during Teamwork South 01.

Highlighting their performance, CAC-1 — as

See VP-4, A-10

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

Cpl. Mike Vrabel

An AV-8B Harrier takes off from the expeditionary airfield at Camp Wilson, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, 29 Palms, Calif., Aug. 10, in route to a designated bomb target.

VMA-542 back in CAX action

Cpl. Mike Vrabel
Combat Correspondent

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. – For the first time since 1999, the Tigers are roaring in the Mojave.

Marine Attack Squadron-542, based at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., arrived at Combined Arms Exercise 9 here late July, and has been helping Marine Air Ground Task Force-2 accomplish its mission from the air.

This desert training provides a rare opportunity for Harrier pilots to unleash their payloads of explosive fury.

"Out west is the only place we can drop live ordnance," said VMA-542 pilot Capt. Steve R. Schnur. "It makes things more realistic."

When delivering ordnance here, the squadron doesn't play alone.

Cpl. Mike Vrabel

VMA-542 awakens their sleeping "Tigers" in preparation for another ordnance delivery at Combined Arms Exercise-9.

Each ordnance drop is one of many moving parts in the combined arms training, which can mean an increased stress level for the solo pilots.

"We really have to be on our game out here," said Schnur, who explained if the timing of a bombing run is off, even by one minute, it can disrupt all aspects of an exercise, including artillery and mortar fires.

"We are just one piece of the puzzle," agreed Capt. Luis E. Villalobos, also a pilot for VMA-542.

Training in the midst of the MAGTF's many warfighting elements makes CAX a unique experience for the Tigers.

"On the East Coast, its like we train in a vacuum," said Allentown, Pa., native Schnur. "We train, but not in coordination with other units."

According to Villalobos, an added advantage to training in the desert is the lack of flying wildlife that can cause damage to an aircraft.

"In North Carolina, you have to worry about bird strikes," explained Villalobos, who hails from Rockville, Md. "Here, we can practice low altitude flying."

One of the few disadvantages to training here is the lack of supplies. Parts take longer to reach the squadron after they are ordered, said Cpl. Jason M. Curl of Monroe, Wisc.

"We've been getting (Cherry Point) to send us parts from Harriers there," said Curl, part of the aviation life support maintenance team here.

Despite the slow supplies, the squadron is taking full advantage of the desert environment and the training they get back home.

"This is like nothing on the East Coast," said pilot Capt. Micah Curtsinger, from Lexington, Ky. "We've all had training, and we get to use it out here."

The Marines of VMA-542 will take their Harriers' speed and firepower into the Final Exercise (FINEX), the last training evolution at CAX, before returning home.

Watch out!

An amphibious assault vehicle from Combat Support Co., 3rd Marine Regiment, rehearses a landing Friday on Pyramid Rock Beach, aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Lance Cpl. Luis R. Agostini

New MCRC general gets, gives direction on modern recruiting

General celebrates successess of winning station, reinforces that the key to success is leadership

Staff Sgt. Nicola McCuin
Combat Correspondent

MARINE CORPS RECRUITING STATION CHICAGO — Recruiting duty is the hardest duty next to combat according to the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Every day, Marine recruiters fight a battle against fierce adversaries: apathy, a strong economy and students going to college in record numbers.

Although it is a monthly, up-hill battle, recruiting qualified, quality applicants into the Marine Corps is not a suicide mission, and Recruiting Station Chicago Marines know success pays.

When Maj. Gen. Jerry D. Humble took command of Marine Corps Recruiting Command May 22, he made getting out and meeting his recruiting teams one of his first priorities. And that's just what the general did in July. He dropped in on the flagship of the 9th Marine Corps District — Recruiting Station Chicago — which had also exceeded its mission for the month — a week early.

The general came to Chicago with two simple missions: to solicit input from successful Marine recruiters on the direction of recruiter training and recruiting in the future, and to celebrate another successful, monthly battle with a victorious station.

It pays to be a winner. Taking care of Marines by making them successful and reinforcing success were items the general emphasized during his open discussion with the command group members and substation noncommissioned officers-in-charge.

"Recruiting is just like the battles," said Sgt. Maj. Kenneth W. Dillon, RS Chicago sergeant major. He felt that "it pays to be a winner" was the optimum comment made by the general.

"If you are not a winner, you're a loser. It's that simple," said Dillon.

See RECRUITING, A-13

Staff Sgt. Nicola McCuin

Staff Sgt. Marcos Estrada, far right, RSS Oak Park NCOIC, lines up his putt on the green, while, from right to left, Maj. Gen. Jerry D. Humble, Commanding General Marine Corps Recruiting Command, Maj. James J. Minick, RS Chicago commanding officer, and GySgt. David Lee, RSS Indiana NCOIC, look on and offer words of advice.

TONGA, From A-1

India Co., 3/3 will conduct light training that will culminate in a live fire exercise involving both the Marines and the TDS.

The Kingdom of Tonga is the only remaining monarchy in the Pacific and a majority of their local population speaks fluent English.

The majority of the Marines deployed to Tonga will only be on dry land for about five days before loading back onto the Frederick for the long voyage back to Oahu.

Some of the medical personnel will stay in Tonga longer to further assist the local community before leaving at a later date.

While the deployment may be a short one for many of the Marines, they still understand the importance of their task as providers of humanitarian assistance.

"The Marines are excited to be a part of something they do not normally participate in, and by that, I mean humanitarian efforts," said Capt. Patrick W. Boyd, executive officer in charge for the Tafakula exercise.

"They are also excited to visit an area of the world that most people never get a chance to see."

Pfc. Jason E. Miller

Lt. Gen. Libutti, Jim Nabors and Gen. Jones share casual conversation after the promotion ceremony Aug. 9.

GOMER, From A-1

Carter, who would often try to think of elaborate plans to get rid of him on the show. Gomer was an honest Marine with a big heart.

Nabors said that when they were making the pilot for the show, it was left up to him, which branch of service that Gomer Pyle would be in. He chose the Marines.

"I chose the Marines because I thought then and still think today that they are the best," Nabors said.

An elated Nabors grinned as the commandant pinned on his gold lance corporal chevron and eagle globe and anchor.

"Gol-leee, I never expected this, not in a million years," Nabors said. "If Gomer Pyle were here, today, it would be the proudest day of his life."

SALUTES

VR-51

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal
Lt. Cmdr. David N. Valente
Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph Volrath
Petty Officer 1st Class Corey B. Helfman
Petty Officer 2nd Class Eric Adams

Promotions
Chief Petty Officer Select Eric J. Dixon
Chief Petty Officer Select Hector Guzman

Designated as C-20G Loadmaster/Naval Aircrewman
Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul A. Artero

KD-22 Range High Shooters, July 16-20

Rifle Score of 53
Staff Sgt Thomas E. Purnell
of LSP Co., CSSG-3

Pistol Score of 371
Sgt Joseph L. Winkelman
of MP Co., HQ Bn.

VP-4, From A-5

part of the "Blue Force" — detected, tracked and delivered multiple simulated torpedo attacks on the enemy: "Orange Force" submarine.

Between the two phases of the exercise and in a joint celebration of America's Independence Day and Canada's Canada Day (July 1st), while still overseas, all VP-4, VP-40 and MP-407 personnel enjoyed a traditional outdoor barbecue hosted by Chilean squadron VP-1.

"We met or exceeded all objectives of the exercise," said Cmdr. Payton, as officer in charge of the MPA Detachment. "Teamwork South 01 provided invaluable training to all involved. As well, the Chileans were superb hosts and made our stay very enjoyable."

MILITARY POLICE BLOTTER

Traffic Court

There were 114 traffic citations issued for the week of Aug. 2-9.

The Blotter

-A Marine was arrested by the Honolulu Police Department for criminal property damage. Bail was set at $100.

-Two Marines were apprehended for assaulting each other. One of the Marines was also charged with underage consumption.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown entered his secured and unattended vehicle and stole various pieces of his audio equipment.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown had backed into his vehicle causing minor damage.

-Military police and K-9 units conducted a command authorized vehicle inspection.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown entered his secured and unattended vehicle and stole electronic equipment.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD for driving under the influence of alcohol. His blood alcohol content was .130 percent. Bail was set at $250.

-A Sailor's wife reported that person(s) unknown entered her secured quarters by unknown means and stole various personal belongings.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD for driving under the influence of alcohol. His BAC was .143 percent. Bail was set at $250.

-A Marine reported that an individual entered his secured room by unknown means and attempted to take various personal items.

-A civilian was involved in a traffic accident while she was backing and failed to maintain sufficient distance from a parked vehicle.

Lost and Found

To contact Lost and Found, please call Cpl. Fernandez at 257-2103, ext. 325.

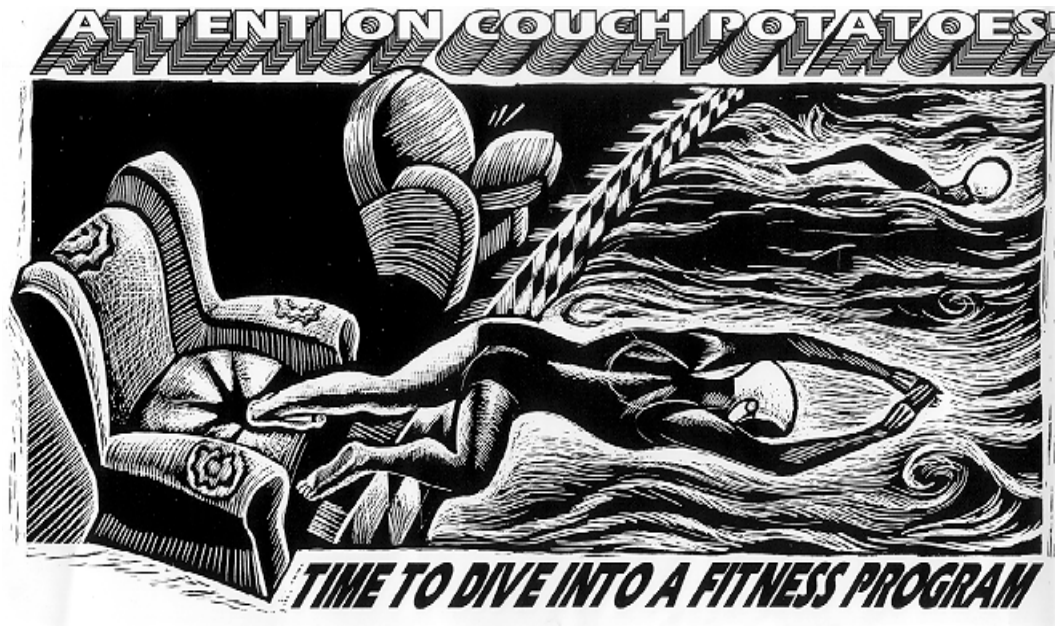
Neighborhood Watch

Crime Prevention is looking for neighborhood representatives to take charge of local neighborhoods.

If you're interested in getting involved, call Crime Prevention at 257-2103, ext. 314.

Crime Prevention

Contact Cpl. Gordon Scott at 257-2103, ext. 315.



Marine's training grooms dogs to protect

Cpl. Roman Yurek
Combat Correspondent

Man's best friend can serve many purposes to people, from companionship to protection.

What better than an animal that kids can play with, and at the same time protect the family that it lives with.

For Lance Cpl. Robert Canales, a rifleman with Lima Co., 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, currently on the Fleet Assistance Program at Family Services, training dogs is a passion.

"I love dogs and I see them as my best friend," said Canales.

Canales is involved in a form of dog training that is a popular sport in Europe called Schutzhund. This sport uses dogs like the German Shepherds or Belgian Malimois.

There are three areas of a Schutzhund competition. The first is tracking; the dogs must track a scent on the ground, with their noses pushed on the ground. Another area is obedience where the handler runs a certain distance and stops, but the dog must stay at his side at all times. Finally there is the protection aspect of the competition.

This training causes a problem for Canales at times when he trains dogs on base.

Here the dogs are trained that when the person is located, they start barking. Once the command of attack is given, the dogs leap and knock the person down.

"We don't teach the dogs to attack people, we teach them when it is and is not okay to bite," said Canales.

It is similar to the reputation of Marines being trigger happy killers, when in reality, Marines are taught and instructed when it is and is not okay to fire a weapon.

Cpl. Roman Yurek

Oso, a Belgian Malimois, attacks Canales after he aggressivly grabbed Tufele during the protection portion of Oso's training.

One of the dogs he trains is Oso, a Belgian Malimois owned by Ute Tufele. Canales trains Oso as a protection dog for Tufele.

"He is a really good dog. I take him running with me and he loves being pet by other people," said Tufele.

The calm dog laid at her side, but 50 yards away, Canales put on an arm guard.

Then Oso was given the command to attack, and in a few seconds leaped at Canales. The attack was so powerful it nearly knocked him over.

The dog was taught to attack if his owner was threatened. So Canales went up to Tufele and pushed her. Again, the dog at her side leapt towards the assailant.

Both Canales and Tufele said that these animals could crush a person's arm with their bite, but they are very obedient.

After Oso thrashed at the arm guard for a while, Tufele gave the command to let go and the dog backed off, still keeping an eye on Canales.

Oso is only nine-months old, but can climb fences more than six feet high. The dog can also clear a fence that is close to four feet high.

Canales said he normally trains the dogs and sells them to buyers interested in Schutzhund. He said these dogs are also used in personal protection, police and rescue departments.

Canales not only trains Oso for Tufele, but works for her at Pokela Kennels, Inc. That is where many of the dogs are kept.

Recently, Canales and the dogs from the kennel were brought to Windward Mall for a demonstration.

He also works with the K-9 unit for the Military Police Co., MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"He hangs out with us a lot. We find ways to combine the aspects of his training and our training. The biggest difference in the dogs is that his dogs are trained more for show," said Cpl. Jason Hutchison, chief trainer for the Military Working Dog section of the MP Co.

Canales works to train dogs for sport and protection, but he makes sure that the dogs do receive a chance to socialize with other dogs and with people. He has a wife and daughter, and a dog trained in Schutzhund.

"My family loves training with the dogs. My daughter even shouts commands and the dog listens to her. This is a great way for me to do what I like and spend time with my family as well," said Canales.

Besides training the animals, Tufele and Canales also screen potential buyers to ensure that the animal will be used for the purpose it has been trained for.

"We don't sell them to drug lords or anything," Tufele added.

When driving down Mokapu near Risley Field, don't be shocked to see a large dog racing towards a man with a huge arm guard.

That is probably Canales training a dog for Schutzhund or personal protection.

RECRUITING, From A-8

"[General Humble] loves winners, and that works for Chicago," said Gunnery Sgt. Edward Minton, RSS Joliet non-commissioned officer in charge and a career recruiter. "Make mission and go fishing or golfing. It's great. The general got the opportunity to see Chicago is a winner."

With a solid background in recruiting, Humble gained attention easily and effortlessly.

For Gunnery Sgt. David Lee, RSS Indiana NCOIC and new to the recruiting business, Maj. Gen. Humble's words of advice on how to be successful on the forward edge of the mean streets of recruiting hit home.

"Recruiting is such a strange and difficult beast," said Lee, who spent only a couple of months on production as a recruiter before donning the NCOIC cover. "The general said that successful recruiting falls back on solid Marine Corps leadership.

"Revert back; you will be successful. That's something I can do," Lee added.

Gunnery Sgt. Leon Shivers, RSS Chicago Lawn NCOIC, was impressed not by what the general said, but what the general wanted to hear from them.

"There are going to be some serious changes. He wants to know how he can better equip his recruiters, and he asked for ideas. He wants to make changes to recruiter school and make it pertinent to what we do out here," said Shivers, a career recruiter. "He's willing to listen to our ideas. He wants to know about the problems and wants solutions. I've got some ideas that I'll be sending to him."

After an afternoon of questions, answers and idea exchanging, the general, command group and NCOICs refocused their energies on a different battle the following morning.

It was fierce; sweat was seen falling from the general's brow as Maj. James J. Minick, RS Chicago commanding officer, looked on with a stone-cold stare. Dillon and Sgt. Maj. Clifford L. Milton, MCRC sergeant major, stood off to the side observing quietly as the general took up his position.

The general, command group and NCOICs, all grouped into "fire teams" of four, went at it for hours.

"Anytime I get to play golf it's a beautiful day," said Lee, who was almost positive that the overall winner had to be the general.

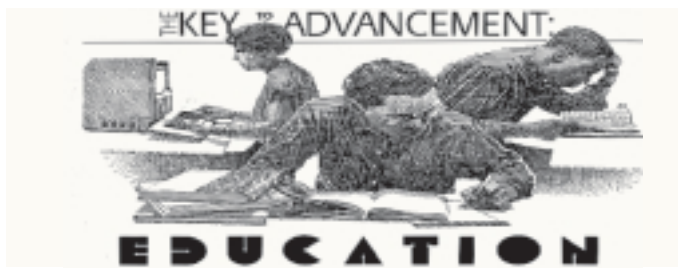
"Having served with the general in a previous command, I'm very familiar with his leadership style and philosophy," said Minick. "It is clear that everyone came away from the visit excited about what we provide and accomplish for the Marine Corps and motivated to continue the recruiting fight."

It would probably be difficult to find a Marine at RS Chicago who doesn't believe that the general was the winner that afternoon; after all, he has RS Chicago on his side, winning his battles month after month, year after year.

"It was a tremendous shot of confidence for our Marines," Minick said. "We welcome the general

LAW OF WAR, From A-4

combat ready — a status that requires Marines to know how to conduct hostilities without violating the applicable Law of War.

(Editor's Note: Major Larson is also an attorney with the Office of Immigration Litigation, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Marine Corps University Law is sponsoring a three-day Law of War course aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Aug. 27-29. Registration will start at 7:30 a.m on the first day of class, and classes will be held from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the Bachelor Officer Quarters Conference Room. The class uniform will be utilities; no particular rank, background, or MOS is required to attend. However, commanders, staff officers, judge advocates and law enforcement personnel are strongly encouraged to attend. Contact Maj. Hitesman at 257-5742 or e-mail hitesmanjw@mcbh.usmc.mil to reserve a seat.