

Hawaii MARINE

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August 8, 2003

1st Rad. redesignated as 3rd Radio Bn.

Cpl. Luis R. Agostini
Marine Forces Pacific

Two months removed from supporting combat units during Operation Iraqi Freedom, 1st Radio Bn. has been redesignated as 3rd Radio Bn. effective Aug. 1.

The redesignation was recognized during a ceremony at the Pacific War Memorial aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, July 31.

Third Radio Bn. will operate on Kaneohe Bay under the commander of Marine Forces Pacific, supporting the I and III Marine Expeditionary Forces, while 1st Radio Bn. will relocate to California, supporting the I Marine Expeditionary Force.

"This is being done to associate a radio battalion with each of the MEFs," said 1st Lt. Debra Gomez, a spokesperson for 3rd Radio Bn.

Plans are for each battalion to consist of

approximately 350 to 400 people.

"These numbers will not be reached overnight," said Gomez. "Over the next two to three years, these numbers will be obtained at each of the sites [MCB Camp Pendleton, Camp Lejeune and Hawaii] due to transfers, relocations and assignments."

Third Radio Bn.'s chain of command has not changed through redesignation. Lieutenant Col. Mark T. Aycock remains the commanding officer of 3rd Radio Bn., and Maj. John Stanton served as the battalion's executive officer.

Both 1st and 3rd Radio Bn.'s missions are to provide communications support for Marine Corps intelligence organizations and to conduct electronic warfare.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, 1st Radio Bn. supported forces in both Kuwait and Iraq, and half of the unit deployed in direct support of the I MEF ground attack.



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Marines from 1st Radio Bn. retire their battalion guidons as the unit redesignates as 3rd Radio Bn. during a ceremony in front of the Pacific War Memorial.



Sgt. Reina A. Barnett

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps John Estrada (standing) addresses concerns of Hawaii's Marine noncommissioned officers during a breakfast at Anderson Hall aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, July 30.

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps 'chews the fat' with Hawaii NCOs

Estrada tackles safety and leadership issues during breakfast

Sgt. Reina A. Barnett
Marine Forces Pacific

Noncommissioned officers from MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, and Headquarters and Service Bn., Marine Forces Pacific, enjoyed breakfast with Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada, sergeant

major of the Marine Corps, July 30 at Anderson Hall aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Flanked by NCOs on both sides, Estrada clearly demonstrated his personal interest in what the NCOs had to say about leadership and safety issues.

"This is a chance for me to hear from the special people of the Marine Corps," he said. "We are the best warfighters in the world. We just proved that again."

Wanting to focus first on safety, Marines took the opportunity to voice concerns regarding the issue within

the Corps.

One of the first items on the agenda was wearing reflective gear with bicycles and motorcycles.

According to Sgt. Jacob Luquin, shop foreman, Engineer Platoon, Engineer Support Company, Combat Service Support Group-3, motorcycles have a much higher visibility than bicycles. Yet, motorcyclists are required to wear more safety gear than bicyclists.

What, if any, changes can be imple-

See SGTMAJ, A-4

Combat Development CG gives Hawaii's future role

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Press Chief

Lieutenant Gen. Edward Hanlon Jr., commanding general of the Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Va., recently paid a visit to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, to witness the Marine Forces Pacific, change of command ceremony.

While here, he also took a brief moment to discuss MCB Hawaii and its future role in the Marine Corps, as well as several issues and changes facing the Marine Corps today.

Since starting out in the Marine Corps, some 35 years ago, Lt. Gen. Hanlon has seen his fair share of changes. His role as the commanding general of MCCDC allows him a special insight into what may very well lie ahead.

"We're working toward a more sea-based version of the MAGTF [Marine Air Ground Task Force], what we're calling STOM [ship to objective movement]," he said. "Traditionally, it's worked out where Marines assault the beach, set up a rear position, and continue the assault from there."

"We're looking to weed out any stops along the way, so we're completely ready to go and self-sufficient as soon as we hit the beach."

New equipment such as the V-22 Osprey and the Advanced Amphibious Assault vehicle figure to play a very important role in this more mobile, efficient Marine Corps, as will training areas such as those in Hawaii.

"Hawaii is very important to us," he said. "Its location— so far away from the U.S.— sets up a prime staging area for the Pacific theater."

"We're looking to improve the training areas here so that they better fit the mold of our overall mission."

"From the ground up, we're looking to improve training, equipment and the individual Marine," Lt. Gen. Hanlon said. "We're sticking very closely to the 'every Marine's a rifleman' creed, and that's a very important part of who we are."

The Marines at MCCDC are current-

New traffic signs alert drivers to disabled

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

The Military Committee for Persons with Disabilities has made life for families with members who have special needs much easier in recent history with the help of several representatives aboard MCB Hawaii,

Kaneohe Bay.

In the past few months, residents have witnessed several signs popping up in the housing areas along the streets warning them there are family members with disabilities in the near area.

"Before the new signs came along, we had been limited on the types of signs we could use to notify drivers of

the presence of special needs family members," said Glenn Lambert, public relations housing manager aboard MCB Hawaii. "We now have signs notifying residents of autistic family members and physically disabled family members in the area."

"These signs are not only being placed on Kaneohe Bay, but also Camp Smith and the

Manana Housing Areas as well."

The old signs only notified drivers of hearing-impaired individuals and those in wheel chairs, which limited the ability to identify special needs family members. After families began asking how they could identify someone

See MCPD, A-3

See COMBAT, A-3

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

K-BAY GAS LANES TO CLOSE, AUG. 18 - 22

The K-Bay Gas Lanes aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, 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, Aug. 17, until 9 p.m.

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

MOKAPU REGISTERS FIRST-COME, FIRST SERVED FOR STUDENTS

Military service members are encouraged to register their elementary school-age children for school as soon as possible, in order to avoid missed class time.

Registration for kindergarten through grade 6 for students who live aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is held at Mokapu Elementary School (1193 Mokapu Blvd. aboard the base), on a first-come, first-served basis. If classes are filled at Mokapu, registering students are referred to other elementary schools within the Kailua Complex, including Kainalu Elementary and Kailua Elementary schools, and arrangements are made for bus transportation to be provided.

Local elementary school start dates vary, depending on whether the school is on a traditional or year-round schedule. Mokapu, which is on the traditional schedule, will begin classes on Aug. 21. However, Kainalu students started Aug. 1 and Kailua students Aug. 4. If classes at Mokapu Elementary are already filled when you visit the school to register, your child(ren) will be referred to one of the other (off-base) schools.

Bring with you for registration a copy of your child's original birth certificate and the child's recently completed physical examination (ask your doctor for "Form 14"). Each physical must include the child's updated shot record and tuberculosis test results. If you have an exceptional family member, also bring a copy his/her individual education plan.

Call Mokapu at 254-7964 for more.

Hawaii MARINE

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FAX: 257-2511, PHONE: 257-8840

IN THE CG'S MAIL BOX



BRIG. GEN.
MCABEE

Sir, I am sure there are others that would like to ask you this question, so I will be the first one. Why was the fishing area by the rifle range by Ft Hase Beach closed to the public?

This area was a great place to fish. My husband and family went fishing there almost every weekend. This was a great fishing place. Now, we only have the marina pier or the Navy pier to fish at.

We were told by the Military Police that they closed it because they found exposed artillery, and that the Military Police did not know when that area would be opened again.

Please don't take away our fishing area.

Very respectfully,
Evelyn Bensie

Dear Mrs. Bensie,

I was asked by the commanding general to respond to your e-mail of June 30 since your concern falls within my area of staff responsibility. He appreciates that you have taken the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

Let me first thank you for your thoughtful and valid comments regarding the closure of the Ft. Hase Beach fishing area, adjacent to the rifle range. Unfortunately, the area

Question submitted by Evelyn Bensie, family member

"Why was the fishing area by the rifle range by Ft. Hase Beach closed to the public?"



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

While the fishing area adjacent to the rifle range has temporarily been closed to fishing, unrestricted Ft. Hase Beach areas, the Fuel Pier, T-Pier and West-Side Marina Cove remain open.

was closed to the public due to findings from a recent safety inspection in June 2003.

The inspection revealed safety compliance issues related to the proximity of the Ft. Hase fishing area to our ammunition storage bunkers. Contrary to the information you may have received, the discovery of unexploded ordnance in this area was not the reason for this closure.

We do not anticipate that this closure will be permanent. In fact, MCB Hawaii is currently in the process of obtaining an appropriate waiver that, if approved, will allow us to reopen this area. We

anticipate a response to our request in two to three months and have every reason to believe that this request will be approved.

During this short period, we invite you to enjoy one of our other areas that remain open to public fishing which include: (1) the Fuel Pier, (2) T-Pier, (3) West-Side Marina Cove, and (4) Ft. Hase Beach unrestricted areas.

These areas were carefully selected and designated to provide for recreational fishing while assuring safety and environmental compliance.

We fully understand that the closure of this popular fishing site repre-

sents an inconvenience to many service members and local residents.

Please know that we are taking swift action to resolve this issue so that MCB Hawaii can reopen this area for recreational use as soon as possible.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Base Safety at 257-8900, or Mr. Roy Estrada at 257-8884. Again, thank you for taking the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

Sincerely,
Mr. Kent Murata
Assistant Chief of Staff
Installations & Logistics

(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.

Exceptional families voice concerns

Lance Cpl.
Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

The Exceptional Family Member Program works with other military and civilian agencies to provide support for housing, educational, medical and personnel services to families with special needs in the Marine Corps community.

When the EMFP held its quarterly meeting aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, July 30 at the base chapel, base residents voiced their concerns to representatives from all major facilities.

Family members also expressed their gratitude for all the hard work by MCB Hawaii employees to make life for exceptional family members easier.

Residents told several

success stories concerning the ability of their children to participate in base events and activities, to include those that are sports related.

Currently, there are more than 260 residents aboard MCB Hawaii that are considered to have special needs. The majority of those are children under the age of 18.

"We have started a disability support program that will be help once a month," said Navy Capt. Joseph Estabrook, command chaplain at MCB Hawaii. "They have been able to generate many great ideas amongst themselves, and recently, with the help of their ideas, we have established a Disabilities Section in the base library where people can research



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Representatives from major base facilities aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, listened to the concerns of base residents with special needs family members July 30.

almost any question they might have regarding disabilities and find contacts to assist them.

"We are here for these families and are concerned for their well-being."

"We have been able to make a lot of progress through the help of the

[EFMP],"said a family member aboard MCB Hawaii who chose to remain anonymous. "Our child is now able to participate in the events, including the sports, on base, and is given the assistance he needs while he interacts with other children."

DEFY kicks off new year with top honors

The Drug Education For Youth program reaches out to MCB Hawaii youth

Sgt. Joseph A. Lee
Combat Correspondent

The Drug Education For Youth program began its annual two-phase program with a daytime non-residential summer camp aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, July 22 - 31.

The first phase, a nine-day summer camp program, is the start of a year of learning for the children of DEFY, according to program coordinator, Daryl Picadura.

"We try and educate the children to build a well-rounded person, with classes on team building, goal-setting, conflict resolution, decision-making and self-esteem, along with basic education about drugs, alcohol and tobacco," said Picadura.

Drug Education For Youth is a prevention program for kids ages 9 - 12. The DEFY purpose is to deter "at-risk" behavior by giving kids the tools they need to resist drugs and develop positive social skills.

Celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, the DEFY program was recently named best youth outreach drug demand reduction program in the Navy for fiscal year 2002, additionally receiving the



Courtesy of DEFY

The children of DEFY line up and proudly sport their DEFY spirit.

Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award for the second time since 1999.

"DEFY made great strides in FY02," said DEFY program manager Timm Bentley. "We feel very fortunate that the efforts of everyone involved with DEFY around the world have been recognized."

The award-winning program is designed to operate in two phases.

The first phase of the DEFY program allows the children to become acquainted with their mentors while building a foundation of education. Children participated in the President's Physical Fitness

Challenge, maneuvered ropes course obstacles, learned basic CPR and water safety, and visited local military monuments together.

"Because the program is for Department of Defense families, it is run by mostly Navy and Marine Corps all-volunteer staff. We feel it is important to help open the children's eyes to see a little more about what their parents do for a living," said Picadura.

"Many times when one parent is on deployment, it can be rough for the remaining parent to handle the children by themselves. So we help in that way too, giving the children something to do with their time while learning valuable life skills."

The second phase is designed to reinforce the concepts and training received in phase one. Once per month during the school year, mentors and staff provide positive support during group mentoring sessions and interactive workshops with the children.

"The youth leave DEFY with a better sense of self," Bentley said. "It goes beyond learning about drugs and what drugs can do to their brain. They learn who they are, what they are and the difference they can make in their own community."

The Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award will be presented during the opening ceremony of Red Ribbon Week on Oct. 27, at the Pentagon.

For more information about DEFY on MCB Hawaii or to volunteer, call Daryl Picadura at 257-8559.



Courtesy of DEFY

Volunteers give DEFY kids a lift up as they complete the President's Physical Fitness Challenge during a nine-day summer camp on MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, in late July.

COMBAT, From A-1

ly soliciting the "lessons learned" from the Marines who recently fought in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. They plan to apply the knowledge gained in their findings to their current re-search with Marine Corps combat equipment.

"Frankly, we couldn't have asked for a better performance from our Marines in Iraq and in Afghanistan," said Lt. Gen. Hanlon. "As always, though, there are some real areas that could use improvement. We plan on taking advantage of the information we gained there to really better ourselves for any other conflicts that may arise.

"We do three things very well in the Marine Corps," he added. "We recruit and train Marines, we fight

and win America's battles, and we return well-rounded citizens back to society.

"We plan to improve further in every one of these areas. Technology and better training will become vital in the future."

With many key officials in government trying to lean toward a downsizing of the military to use smaller, more efficient units that are self-sufficient and more capable, Lt. Gen. Hanlon feels confident that the Marine Corps is leading the way.

"I believe we've got things right," he said. "The other services are adapting to be much more like us. We're a nimble, readily



HANLON

deployable and very capable force."

In closing, Lt. Gen. Hanlon re-emphasized his remarks on training Marines from the ground up, by adding that only Marines who've spent time in the Marine Corps can accurately pass on the knowledge to new recruits to make them better

Marines.

"I would really encourage those Marines who want to do things like drill instructor duty to follow through. It's important that Marines share their knowledge and leadership.

"I want to make sure that 10 or 15 years down the road, the Marine Corps is even better off than today."

MCPD, From A-1

in the area with special needs, Lambert was able to acquire the new signs and have them placed in all the areas around base where special needs families are residing.

"MCB Hawaii was the first base on the island of Oahu to begin using the new signs," said Lambert. "The old signs had the word 'handicapped' printed on them, and with a little bit of research, we learned that having that word on them was against the American Disabilities Act.

"Many people were surprised the word handicapped could not be used. Now, we are able to identify



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Signs like this will soon be posted around MCB Hawaii housing areas.

fy special needs family members and be within regulations."

Word on the Street

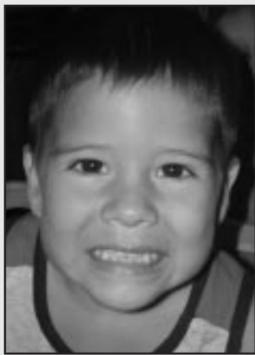
What would you do to make the world a better place?



"I would fight to bring peace, freedom, respect, love and caring to the world."
Master Gunnery Sgt. Iosefa Elisara
Career Retention Specialist
Headquarters Bn.,
MCB Hawaii



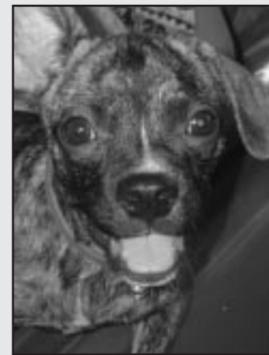
"I would help everyone find a personal relationship with God."
Petty Officer 3rd Class Chris Bennett
Disbursing clerk
Patrol Squadron 9



"I would give everyone some candy."
Eli Vigil
3-year-old
Family member



"I would try to teach the world to be more tolerant of other people."
Karen Garrett
Full-time mother



"I would make it so cats can't run up trees."
Verdell Deherrera
Man's best friend

DUIs are career killers

(Editor's Note: Per the commanding general of MCB Hawaii, those convicted of DUIs or drug-related offenses shall be publicized in the Hawaii Marine newspaper.)

•Staff Sgt. Nathan M. Awai with Headquarters Battery, 1st Bn., 12th Marine Regiment, was arrested for driving under the influence. His driving privileges were suspended

and his decal and vehicle were removed from the installation July 25.

•Petty Officer 2nd Class Brandon C. Rosenblum with the USS Hopper, Pearl Harbor, was arrested for driving under the influence with a blood alcohol concentration of .170 percent. His driving privileges were suspended and his decal and

vehicle were removed from the installation July 20.

•Lance Cpl. Valentin A. Pierre was arrested for driving under the influence with a BAC of .126 percent, underage and reckless driving. His driving privileges were suspended and his vehicle was removed from the installation July 21.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reminds that impaired driving is not merely a traffic offense. Don't be fooled. Impaired driving is no accident nor is it a victimless crime.

Too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving don't mix. If you also find this too hard to figure out when you've had too many drinks to drive, don't risk it. If you're feeling "buzzed," you are most likely impaired. And, if you drive impaired, law enforcement will arrest you.

You drink & drive. YOU LOSE



TO DO LIST

Before any activity that involves alcohol:

- Plan ahead.
- Choose a sober designated driver.
- Take mass transit or a taxicab, or ask a friend to drive you home if you didn't plan in advance.
- Spend the night where the activity is being held.
- Celebrate responsibly.
- Report impaired drivers to law enforcement.

— SALUTES —



Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362

Promotions

Lance Cpl. Sung H. Braswell
Lance Cpl. Javier Pelayoramirez
Lance Cpl. Adam D. Waddle
Lance Cpl. Marco A. Wright

Navy Achievement Medal

Sgt Kyle A. Slupecki

Meritorious Mast

Cpl. Marion R. McClary

SGTMAJ, From A-1

mented to ensure more safety to bicyclists?

Sergeant Maj. Estrada acknowledged the point, and Marine Corps Base Hawaii Sgt. Maj. Filipino Ilaoa said he would address that issue, being pertinent to Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

"We need to be good leaders of Marines. We should check up on our Marines, even if we, as NCOs, don't live in the barracks, we could still stop by [the barracks]," said Sgt. Aida Watson, administrative chief, Marine Air Group-24.

"She makes an excellent point," remarked Sgt. Maj. Estrada. "It's okay to think outside of the box."

"I want to encourage you to articulate the problems and possible solutions and send it up the chain," said Sgt. Maj. Estrada. "These are things that we need to know about and address at the Sergeants Major Symposium."

Marine Forces Pacific Force Sgt. Maj. Royce G. Coffee, made an analogy when he compared performing preventive maintenance on vehicles, before taking them out on the road, to performing preventive maintenance on ourselves before we head out on liberty.

Unfortunately, Marines are all too often listed on the Marine Corps monthly safety summary Marine Administrative Messages, which, with the aid of proper supervision and leadership, could have been avoided. Many on-duty accidents occur due to negligence, or Marines just not receiving the proper safety guidance.

Sergeant Maj. Estrada added, "We must ensure that our Marines are MOS proficient to help prevent on duty-related accidents."

Bottom line: "We should be proactive instead of reactive," said the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.