

# Hawaii MARINE

INSIDE	
Jackson Retires at 30	A-2
2/3 in Australia	A-3
Skinny Dragons	A-4
BayFest 2003 Wrap	B-1
MCCS & SM&SP	B-2
Kailua Fourth Parade	B-2
Menu	B-6
Word to Pass	B-7
Ads	B-9
Rodeo	C-1
Sports Briefs	C-2
Health & Fitness	C-4

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## DoD says 'coalition forces deal with 5 threats'

**Jim Garamone**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The foundation of American policy in Iraq is that the country belongs to the Iraqis, and the United States will turn over control of the country as soon as possible, Douglas Feith, undersecretary of defense for policy, said Tuesday.

Feith spoke at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. He told the audience that "it's wrong and simplistic" for people to think that the United States wants to act unilaterally.

The United States has a number of objectives in Iraq, Feith said. These include increasing security, improving quality of life and creating a free, democratic Iraqi government. The United States is reaching out to countries around the world for help in this endeavor, he said.

"Security is our most important and pressing objective," Feith said, "but it's fundamental to recognize that security, economic and political objectives are closely interrelated. Without security, we can't rebuild the Iraqi infrastructure and protect it from sabotage, nor can we expect Iraqi political life to revive if Iraqis don't feel secure enough to travel, go to meetings, express their views without intimidation."

Economic progress will occur when people believe it is safe enough to invest in the country, he added.

The security situation in Iraq is complex, Feith said. It runs the gamut from simple stability operations to small-scale combat operations.

Coalition forces must deal with five different threats: remnants of the Ba'athist regime, foreign Islamist terrorists, Islamists influenced by Iran, looters who are taking advantage of an opportunity to steal, and the general criminality that's let loose when the repressive apparatus of a totalitarian regime suddenly disappears.

Feith noted that Saddam Hussein made the last much worse by emptying his prisons of thousands of common criminals.

"Of these challenges, the most serious now arises from the remnants of the old

See IRAQ, A-5

## Scout snipers stalk K-Bay



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Lance Cpl. Joshua Freeman and Army Spc. Joshua Garrison, both students at the Scout Sniper School that was recently moved to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, inspect one another's gillie suit before beginning a stalking exercise.

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

The Scout Sniper Basic Course recently moved from its previous location at 3rd Marine Regiment to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay's Regimental Schools, in order to more efficiently train devil dogs of the 3rd Marine Division.

The school will now receive its funding from the base, and is also allowing other branches of the Armed Forces to attend the 10-week-long course.

"The Marine Corps has the best sniper program in the world," said Gunnery Sgt. Richard Tisdale, staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the Scout Sniper School. "A sniper needs to be trained as best as possible because they must be combat ready at all times," he explained.

"Due to the nature of the sniper's mission, they must be trained mentally and physically to operate independently forward of friendly positions on the battlefield."

The Scout Sniper School has now integrated Marines from the entire 3rd Marine Division as well as soldiers from the Army's 25th Infantry Division aboard Schofield Barracks, and Navy Seals from Navy Seal Delivery Team 1 located at Ford Island.

Previously, the school only trained Marines with the regiment.

"We are learning how to properly employ snipers, how to use the weapons, use camouflage and stalking techniques," said Army Spc. Joshua Garrison, a sniper with Headquarters Co., 1st Bn., 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. "Soldiers can learn as much as they want from their unit, but to become sniper qualified, they have to attend this school."

"This school goes further in depth than what units teach about basic marksmanship, weapons, camouflage and reconnaissance techniques," said Garrison.

The course is broken down into three phases. The first involves land navigation and marksmanship.

See SNIPERS, A-5

## 2/3 will test new Predator

Cpl. **Jessica M. Mills**  
Combat Correspondent

Never in the Marine Corps has a single infantryman had the capability to take out a main battle tank with a weapons system that was less than 22 pounds.

But now that opportunity has come to the Corps, and 16 Marines from 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, who completed a three-day course at the 3rd Marine Regiment Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer (ISMT) instructing them in the operation of the new short-range assault weapon aptly named the Predator.

The Predator Short Range Assault Weapon MK40 is a man-portable, fire-and-forget assault weapon designed to defeat advanced armor threats. It was specifically designed to engage and

See PREDATOR, A-5



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Fox Co., 2/3's Lance Cpl. Benjamin Deherrera, a basic rifleman, aims in on a building with the scope of the Predator/Short Range Assault Weapon MK40 during the practical application training.

## Space A leaves out of K-Bay

Master Gunnery Sgt.  
**Samuel Colon**  
Marine Corps Air Facility

Space-available (Space A) travel is the specific program of travel authorized by Department of Defense (DoD) regulation 4515.13-R, allowing authorized passengers to occupy DoD aircraft seats that are surplus after all space-required passengers have been accommodated, on a non-mission interference basis only.

Space A travel is a privilege (not an entitlement), which accrues to uniformed services members as an avenue of respite from the rigors of duty.

Retired uniformed service members receive the privilege in recognition of a career of such rigorous duty and because they are eligible for recall to active duty. The underlying criteria for extending the privilege to other categories of passengers is their support to the mission being performed by uniformed services members,

See SPACE A, A-2

## 'Fairwinds & following seas...'



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero

During a change of command ceremony, July 2, at the Pacific War Memorial aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Col. Joseph Medina, former commanding officer of 3rd Marine Regiment, relinquished command to Col. Jeffrey Patterson, former operations officer for G-3, Marine Forces Pacific. Colonel Medina had taken command of 3rd Marine Regiment in June 2001. He is scheduled to become the commander of Expeditionary Strike Group 3, based out of San Diego, Calif.

Get the wrap on BayFest 2003. See pages B-1 and C-1!

# MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

## MANDATORY DATE CHANGES FOR NEW UTILITIES AND BOOTS

Marine Administrative Message 310/03 has just extended the required possession date for the Woodland MARPAT Combat Utility Uniform and the Combat Boot Hot Weather to Oct. 1, 2004. At that time, Marines will be required to possess one set of Woodland MARPAT Utilities, one pair MCCB (HW) and one pair MCCB (TW).

The optional boot will terminate as scheduled Oct. 1, 2004.

The date change was required due to nonavailability of the Woodland uniform in sufficient quantities to satisfy demand.

## HAIKU STAIRS REMAIN CLOSED

The City and County of Honolulu has closed the gate to the Haiku Stairs for the next two to three weeks while it posts liability and warning signs. The Honolulu Police Department will greet would-be trespassers.

## CHAPEL IS NOW HOLDING VBS REGISTRATION

The Base Chapel Protestant community will host Vacation Bible School for children ages 6 - 12 at the Religious Education Facility, Bldg. 1090 aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, July 21 -25 from 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Registration is required for this program, and the deadline to register is July 18.

## 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) that are 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.

## Hawaii MARINE

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# A master gunny's story 30-year Marine takes off his boots

Lance Cpl.  
Monroe F. Seigle  
Combat Correspondent

When Master Gunnery Sgt. James Jackson, the senior enlisted food technician at Anderson Hall Dining Facility, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, enlisted in the Corps 30 years ago, he only planned on serving three years.

With a light chuckle, he now recalls, "I wanted to make lance corporal and get out," regarding the day when he and his father went to sign the documents for him to join at 17.

A graduate from Woodrow Wilson High School in Camden, N.J., when Jackson was first exposed to the Corps, he noticed how professional and disciplined Marines were compared to other branches of service. Not long after this exposure, the Philadelphia, Pa., native was on his way to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., to begin his journey as a U.S. Marine.

"Boot camp was scary," said the brown-eyed Jackson with a serious tone to his deep voice. "I remember when we got off the bus at Parris Island and stepped onto the yellow footprints. We knew we weren't going anywhere for the next three months.

"Boot camp was a real challenge; it was like a right-of-passage."

Jackson completed recruit training and never forgot the first time he was called Marine.

"It was a great accomplishment," he said. "You had to earn everything on your own in boot camp, even though you completed every mission as a team. Words cannot describe how I felt when one of my drill instructors called me 'Marine' after our boot camp graduation."

Jackson first received orders to Camp Johnson, N.C., as a food service specialist — then referred to as "cooks." At the age of 18, he next went to Cherry Point, N.C., where he worked with the air wing from '74-'75.

"My first duty station was a memorable experience," said the 250-pound, 6-foot-3-inch Jackson. "I learned a lot about myself and how to succeed in the Marine Corps.

"I'll never forget the time I was sent to Panama for Jungle Warfare Training, deep in the jungle. I was with the 9th Marine Division (between '81 - '85). ...At that time, Marines thought cooks only cooked; but it was a chance for me to go out and do what Marines do best — train in rough conditions."

During his tour with the 9th, Jackson married his wife Tia whom he had met while home on leave in Philadelphia. Although he was zealous about the Marine Corps, James Jackson was devoted to his wife and two children as well.

"I knew when I married [James Jackson], he would not be able to be home all the time," said Tia Jackson. "Our first three years together, he was

only home for eight months."

Despite being a family man and a full-time Marine, Jackson accomplished what many other Marines thought was impossible to do in his job field — he earned the rank of master gunnery sergeant in August, 2000.

"Cooks always seemed to be last on the totem pole to get promoted," said Jackson. "We have to spend many hours in the mess hall ... working 365 days a year to keep Marines fed. We still have to manage keeping our marksmanship skills sharp and staying in shape physically."

James Jackson finished his distinguished career in the Marine Corps at MCB Hawaii. Now retired, he and his wife plan on opening a restaurant.

"The most valuable lesson I have taken from the Marine Corps is to respect your fellow man," said Jackson. "The Marine Corps is a place for learning who you are and what you are capable of becoming."



Above Left — Spouse Tia Jackson received 30 roses from Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, in honor of her enduring support of her husband's 30 years of service.



Above Right — Jackson's retirement flag was presented during an "Old Glory" ceremony by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Derrick M. Kimbrough, food service officer at Anderson Hall.



Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii, gives its farewell to Jackson during a Pass and Review.

## SPACE A, From A-1

and to enhance the active duty service members' quality of life.

To compete for Space A travel, eligible personnel can sign up on the space-available roster in person at the Marine Corps Air Facility, Kaneohe Bay, Passenger Terminal, which is located in Hangar 105, or by faxing a registration form to 257- 2150.

Travelers remain on the register for 60 days or through the duration of their leave orders or authorization, whichever occurs first.

Command-sponsored family members of uniformed services members can travel unaccompanied with documentation that is signed by the sponsor's commander and presented to air terminal personnel. However, family members under 18 must be accompanied by an eligible parent or legal guardian.

When you register for Space A, you are assigned a category of travel and compete for seats within categories based on the date and time of your registration. There are six cate-

### Space A Categories

Category 1  
Emergency Leave

Category 2  
Environmental Morale Leave

Category 3  
Ordinary Leave, House Hunting Temporary Duty, Medal of Honor Holders

Category 4  
Unaccompanied Family Members on EML

Category 5  
Permissive Temporary Duty (Non-House Hunting), Students, Family Members

Category 6  
Category 6: National Guard/Reserve, Retirees

gories of space-available travel, and travelers are placed in one of the six based on their status. In each category, transportation is furnished on a first-in, first-out basis.

Reservations are not made for any Space A passenger. As well, travel opportunities are afforded on an equitable basis to officers, enlisted personnel, civilian employees, and their accompanying family members without regard to rank or grade, military or civilian status, or branch of uniformed service.

When traveling on DoD-owned or controlled aircraft, appropriate civilian attire or uniform is required. When civilian clothing is worn, use common sense. Attire should be in good taste and not in conflict with accepted attire in the overseas country of departure, transit, or destination, as defined by the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide. Clothing should also be capable of keeping you warm, especially on military aircraft, and sandals are prohibited.

Each passenger may check two pieces of checked baggage, 70 pounds each, up to 62 linear inches in size. Family members may pool their baggage allowances. However, your baggage weight may be limited due to type of aircraft or other restrictions.

Hand-carried baggage must fit under the seat or in the overhead compartment, if available.

Space-available seats are normally identified as early as 2-3 hours and as late as 30 minutes prior to a flights departure. Information on space available flights and show times can be obtained

by visiting the passenger terminal or calling the 24-hour flight information line at 257-0777.

Further information on Space A travel can be obtained at : <http://public.amc.af.mil/SPACEA/spacea.htm>.

There is no guaranteed space for any traveler. The DoD is not obligated to continue an individual's travel or return him or her to point of origin, or any other point. Therefore, travelers should have sufficient personal funds to pay for commercial transportation to return to their residence or duty station if space-available transportation is not available.

Space required passengers or cargo might require the removal of Space A passengers at any point. Space-available travel may not be used instead of space-required travel for such movement as TDY, TAD or PCS travel. Family members may not use space-available travel options to accompany their sponsor on space-required travel, or to travel to or from a sponsor's restricted or all others (unaccompanied) tour location.

# The 'Big E' goes 'down under'



Courtesy of 2/3

Corporal Donald Pyne, an assault squad leader with 2/3, explains the functioning of the MK 153 SMAW to Brigadier David Morrison, commander of the 3rd Brigade, Royal Australian Army.

Lance Cpl.  
**Elliot T. Anderson**  
2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment

**LAVARACK BARRACKS, Australia** — A roar of two Australian C-130s, Echo Co., "the Big E" of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines based out of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, took off towards its destination.

After an eighteen hour flight with a stopover at Kwajalein Atoll in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Big E, with Marines attached from Weapons Company and H&S Company arrived in Townsville, Australia.

After passing through a rigorous customs process, "the Big E" billeted on-board the Australian Army's Lavarack Barracks. From there, it embarked on a month-long training schedule in conjunction with 1st Royal Australian Regiment, 2nd Australian Regiment, and 3 Troop, Bravo Squadron, 3rd Cavalry.

The first days of training were focused on receiving in-briefs and training with the Australian F88 Styre.

Before starting training with the F88, the company participated in "Battle Physical Training."

Battle PT is designed to make the

company work as a team. If commands from the Aussie "PT Instructor" were not carried out fast enough, the entire company were made to get on their faces and do push-ups. The Big E had absolutely no problem at all in accomplishing this task.

Once "Battle P.T." was completed, training was focused on immediate action drills and weapons handling with the F88. Then, after a barbeque thrown by the Australians, the Marines went out on some eagerly awaited and well deserved liberty.

Once the Marines returned from their liberty, Echo Company resumed work and went to the Weapons Training Simulation System, the Australian version of the Marine Corps' Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer. While there, the Marines shot the Australian rifle qualification range.

Following the WTSS training, the company's mortar and assault sections along with Javelin attachments split from the rest of the company. Those marines then conducted training with the 2nd Royal Australian Regiment at High Range Training Area, one of Australian's premier live fire training facilities.

The Marines were able to watch a

Mechanized Infantry combined armed exercise complete with support from machine guns, mortars, snipers, and danger close artillery.

According to Cpl. John O'Neal, an assault section leader who is on his last exercise with Echo, the attack was like a sea of red tracers.

"It was a great way to end my tour with the Marine Corps," said O'Neal.

Meanwhile, the rest of the company was at Mount Stewart Training Area, Lavarack Barracks' own backyard training facility. During that time the Marines used the Australian ranges for a number of different activities.

Highlights during the week included battle sight zeros with the F88 and M-16, and an introduction to the M9 pistol. They also had a pointman course at night as well as day, squad attacks; rappelling; and at the end of the week a live fire Australian rifle qualification course.

"We are actually doing a lot of varied training. This is an opportunity we do not receive often," said Cpl. John Schoemer, a squad leader for 1st platoon with Echo Co., 2/3.

In the first week of training "the Big E" has accomplished a lot and will press on with its rigorous schedule in the following weeks.

## Echo Co., 2/3, takes classroom lessons to the streets

Lance Cpl. **Elliot T. Anderson**  
2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment

**LAVARACK BARRACKS, Australia** — During their second week of training in Australia, Echo Co., 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, embarked on a training package that would prepare its Marines to learn to engage the enemy more effectively in an urban environment.

To do this, a mixture of different tools were used. The Echo Co. Marines spent hours in the classroom studying military operations in urban terrain. The three Echo Co. platoons, and the company's headquarters and weapons platoon, rotated from station to station receiving various periods of instruction on different military operations on urbanized terrain tactics, techniques, and procedures. After each of the classes had been taught, the Marines perform practical application.

The platoons practiced MOUT scenarios and were guided by an instructor drawn from the Echo Co. Staff.

"MOUT focuses on small unit leadership where situational awareness is paramount," said Staff Sgt. Scott Wilbur, 3rd platoon commander for Echo Co., 2/3. "That is why it is important to teach this at a small level."

Wilbur has a large amount of MOUT experience as a member of FAST company and served as one of the instructors during the day.

After the periods of instruction had finished, the Marines practiced the knowledge that had been instilled in them. Individual squads broke off from their respective platoons and conducted different scenarios. Some of the situations they rehearsed were clearing buildings during the day and night, in both illuminated and non-illuminated environments.

Once the company was thoroughly immersed in MOUT, they were expected to showcase the skills they had been practicing in the previous days.

Following a brief familiarizing them with the Australian Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters, Echo Co. was inserted by platoon into landing zones up to ten kilometers away from the MOUT Facility.

The mission for each platoon was to establish blocking positions to deny the enemy (played by Australian 1st Royal Australian Regiment soldiers) the opportunity to reinforce their stronghold in MOUT town, or to prevent enemy escape.

Once the mission was underway, Echo Co.'s objectives were changed to secur-



Courtesy of 2/3

"The Big E" Marines of 3rd Platoon, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, cross an urban danger area through heavy smoke during a company night attack on the MOUT Facility at High Range Training Area, Australia.

ing MOUT town itself. The platoons fanned out and secured the town.

Sgt John Grandstaff, 1st Platoon Sergeant said that the best training we have done so far is the attack on MOUT town.

"The movement there, and going force on force with the Australians, and dealing with the situations that come up during MOUT was outstanding," said Grandstaff.

After the attack was over Echo Co. sat down as a company and did a debrief.

"The debrief emphasises the lessons that we learn in any tactical exercise,"

said Capt. Tom Wood, Echo Co. Commander. "It is important to do it as a company because it allows us to share the knowledge gained among all of the Marines."

Following the debrief, Echo Co. proceeded to clean up MOUT town, board buses back to Lavarack barracks, and clean up weapons and gear.

The Company then checked out on liberty after an enjoyable barbeque with their Australian counterparts in 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. Another week of successful training accomplished "down under" for the Big E.

## Word on the Street

What did you like most about BayFest?



"I did not like the expensive drinks, but I enjoyed Joan Jett."

**Cpl. Jennifer DiGuglielmo**  
Base Adjutant NCOIC  
Headquarters Bn.,  
MCB Hawaii



"I liked the music, and it gave my teenagers something positive to do."

**Jacque Freeland**  
Emergency planner  
MCB Hawaii



"I liked the live music more than anything else."

**Sgt. Steven Howk**  
Fire direction  
controlman  
1/12



"I liked the rides and fireworks."

**Petty Officer 3rd Class Jamie Napier**  
Personnel administrator  
Support Activity  
Detachment,  
MCB Hawaii



"I liked watching the guys boxing."

**Monica McGhee**  
Bank teller  
Windward Federal  
Credit Union

# Skinny Dragons participate in CARAT

**Lt. Cmdr. Grian Trotter**  
Patrol Squadron Four

Earlier this month a one aircraft, 20 person detachment the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, based "Skinny Dragons" of Patrol Squadron 4 participated in the Combined Afloat Readiness and Training Exercise Thailand 2003. The CARAT exercise, now in its ninth year, provides the United States military the opportunity to train and operate with Sailors and Marines throughout Southeast Asia. CARAT 2003 will encompass operational exercises and military forces from Thailand, Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore.

Combat Aircrew 6 and a maintenance detachment represented the Skinny Dragons for the first portion of the exercise taking place early in VP-4's seventh Fleet deployment. Officers, aircrewmembers and maintenance personnel from the squadron had the rare opportunity to work side by side with their counterparts from the Royal Thai Navy's 102 Maritime Patrol Aviation Squadron. The 102 Squadron provided a static display



Lt. Cmdr. Brian Trotter

**The Skinny Dragons demonstrate how to load an inert 500-pound MK-62 Quickstrike mine on the P-3C.**

of their Fokker F-27 Friendship aircraft and demonstrated a mine loading evolution as well. The Skinny Dragon detachment reciprocated conducting a demonstration of their weapon loading capabilities for the P-3C Orion aircraft.

Load team members from both countries were able to exchange squadron and

flag patches as souvenirs.

In addition to the weapon loading evolutions, the detachment personnel were able to interact with their Thai counterparts and engage in one-on-one discussions about their respective country's maintenance practices, Maritime Patrol tactics, and the capabilities of the U.S. P-3C, Thai P-3T and F-27. Two Thai Officers also were offered the opportunity to fly with the VP-4 crew from Kadena AB, Japan to Uthapao AB, Thailand receiving valuable over water navigation training along the way.

Once the crew took to the air in the CARAT exercise, they were able to demonstrate the effectiveness of their last 12 months of training during the

Inter-deployment Training Cycle in Hawaii. Crew 6 spent more than 25 hours on station during the exercise conducting anti-submarine warfare, over-the-horizon targeting, mining, air defense training profiles, counter-drug tactics, and coordinated Harpoon missile tactics with the surface task group and the aircrews of the 102 MPA Squadron.

In between the exercise flights, the detachment personnel were able to interact with their new sister squadron in several less formal social settings. They attended a reception aboard USS Vincennes and were treated to an authentic Thai dinner by the members of the 102 MPA Squadron. At the conclusion of the exercise, Crew 6 aircraft commander, Lt. Matt Rutherford said, "It's been a tremendous opportunity to work and fly with the Thai squadron. I enjoyed seeing how they do business and also the chance to show them how we conduct our missions." The first phase of CARAT 2003 was a positive experience for both countries involved and truly laid important groundwork for future joint operations with the Thai military.

## CSSD-79 Marines keep PTA, all missions moving



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

**POHAKALOA TRAINING AREA** — In the combat zone, troops need more than just "beans and bullets" to get a mission accomplished.

They need transportation, communication and logistical support of all kinds to get the job done.

This was the role of the Combat Service Support Detachment 79 while at the Pohakuloa Training Area during the month of June. The Marines worked night and day to provide combat-service support to the special-purpose Marine Air Ground Task

Force while honing their combat/field skills.

While the Marines from the MAGTF were training in some of the most brutal weathers, the Marines from CSSD-79 were right there with them. At any given moment, thousands of gallons of fuel, water, clothing or ammunition could be requested for transport into the combat zone.

"The hardest part of being in PTA is being flexible enough to support the MAGTAF mission," said 1st Lt. Steven Schultze, operations officer for CSSD-79. "The mission is constantly changing just like it would in combat. E-3 and below are making split-second decisions. This has been some

valuable training for the Marines in CSSD-79."

The Marines from CSSD 79 proved to be instrumental in many ways while at PTA. Anytime a unit needed to be moved or was in need of a re-supply, the Marines coordinated all the transportation and communication necessary for the move.

"We were so successful because of the leadership and the initiative of our lower-enlisted Marines," said Staff Sgt. Caleb Eames, nuclear, biological and chemical instructor for CSSD-79. "They are the ones making the stuff happen in the middle of the night. They have worked hard and made a lot of missions successful."



**Above** — Petty Officer 3rd Class Martin Dierks, a hospital corpsman with CSSD-79, checks the ankle of Pfc. William Pena, motor transport operator for CSSD-79, for possible injuries during a resupply mission at PTA.

**Top** — Sergeant Laura Owens, a rapid requests noncommissioned officer, receives data for a rapid request to resupply units in the combat zone.



**Lance Cpl. Garcon Benavil**, a motor transport operator for CSSD-79, stands guard at the entrance of a CSSD-79 supply point while at PTA.

**PREDATOR, From A-1**

defeat current and future main battle tanks with explosive reactive armor and only weighs a total of 21.6 pounds.

The missile within the predator attacks the vulnerable top of its target by over flying and detonating an explosively formed penetrator warhead down head into the target.

"It uses laser and magnetic fields to find the center of the target," said Joel Snively, an instructor for the course contracted by the Marine Corps. "It's not going into the side of the tank that is protected by armor. It hits the top of the tank; the most vulnerable part."

The Predator will not be operational until the final tests are complete. The final stage of first-article testing of the production weapons will be performed July 21 - 31 at the Naval Air Warfare Center, China Lake, Calif., by the 16 Marines of 2/3.

The Marines prepared for this opportunity by enduring an entire day in the ISMT classroom, learning and memorizing all the weapon's characteristics and operational requirements. Practical application consumed the last two days, as the leathernecks fired computerized scenarios and practiced on the tracking and firing systems in an outdoor trainer.

"We want to build up their knowledge of the Predator so when it comes time to deploy to China Lake, and future deployments, they can engage their enemy effectively without any hesitation," said Snively. "It's truly a simple system to employ, but these

Marines will obviously need their basic Marine skills and the knowledge we give them to understand it."

This final phase of testing will consist of an operational test with 30 weapons that will be fired by the Marines. The 2/3 Marines will conduct a series of tactical scenarios to lead up to the firing itself. They will fire three times per day, for a total of 30 firings.

The Marine Corps Systems Command will be running the second series of testing.

"Even though these weapons are not operational, yet, the production line has already started," said Mike Woodson, project officer for Marine Corps Systems Command. "If this test comes out successful, then the Marine Corps will begin taking deliveries of the Predator and accept it into its inventory."

The Predator has been in the developing stages for about 10 years, but there is no real unique technology.

According to Woodson, what makes the Predator different is the integration of existing technology into a weapons system that weighs less than 22 pounds and can still defeat a tank.

"There's no other weapon in the world that does what this does," said Woodson. "There are other antitank weapons out there, but they are crew-served and significantly heavier.

"This is a big opportunity for these guys, not many Marines have had a chance to operate this weapon. They will be only a handful of Marines that have actually fired this weapon," Woodson explained.



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

**A scout sniper must be able to blend in well within his surroundings in order to not be seen by his target. A sniper can wait days on end in the same position for the perfect opportunity to engage his target.**

**SNIPERS, From A-1**

During this phase, trainees fire sniper ammunition on long distance and unknown distance qualification courses.

The second phase covers stalking techniques, field skills and call for fire rehearsals. The last encompasses everything from communication to surveillance performance.

"When many people think of a sniper, they think of a person who randomly shoots people," said Tisdale. "A sniper se-

lects his target and fires upon it. Marksmanship makes up only 10 percent of being a sniper.

"We train our snipers to be patient and wait for the perfect opportunity to fire upon the target when it will best support the mission," Tisdale continued. "They could lay in a dormant position for days at a time before actually pulling the trigger and engaging on the target."

Soldiers and other service members are paired up with Marines, so they can cross train one another,

and at the same time, keep the Marines on their toes with the competition of training with another branch of the Armed Forces.

The Marine sniper course is taught twice a year, and the range can be used for sustained training by any requesting sniper units throughout the rest of the year.

"I think it is a great experience," said Garrison. "You get to see how the other services operate, and they get to see how you operate as well."

**IRAQ, From A-1**

regime, which have not yet accepted that, that regime and the inordinate privileges that they received from it are gone forever," Feith said. "Even though this Ba'athist problem is a serious one, it's confined chiefly to the Sunni heartland, including parts of Baghdad and several corridors that are radiating out from the city."

In Iraq's north and south the security situation is much better, Feith noted.

"We're addressing the security situation in several ways," he said. "Recently we've undertaken combat operations, such as Desert Scorpion, directed against the Ba'athist remnants.

Our recent offer of large rewards for information on Saddam Hussein and his sons emphasizes our determination to root out the Ba'athists and deny them any hope of regaining political power."

But the coalition must also place emphasis on repairing the neglected infrastructure of the country, he said.

"If we cannot increase employment and provide basic services, popular dissatisfaction will aggravate the security problem and make it harder to create the moderate democratic political environment in which new political institutions can be created," he said.

Creating this environment is important so that the Iraqis ab-

sorb the fact that they are responsible for their own destiny, he said. "We can't expect their wholehearted contributions to improving security and reviving the economy," until this fact is understood by the Iraqi population.

Training the Iraqi police and rebuilding an Iraqi army are important in emphasizing that Iraqis are responsible for their future. "Iraq should have a new division of 12,000 ready within a year and a 40,000-person force ready within three years," Feith said.

The coalition is moving forward in creating an Iraqi interim administration, Feith said, and a governing council is to be established soon.

"Our goal is to give the governing council, a representative group of Iraqis, as much authority as possible, and in time to turn the various ministries over to their control," he said. "This group would also serve as the Iraqi people's representative to the coalition provisional authority and to the world at large."

But along with these interim structures, the coalition is moving ahead on plans to convene a constitutional conference to draft a new constitution for Iraq. "Iraqis will play a large role in drawing up these plans," Feith said.

Coalition allies are heavily involved in operations in Iraq, Feith said.

"Over 45 nations have made offers of military support for security and stability operations," he said. "Eighteen countries now have military capabilities on the ground in Iraq. The capabilities range from combat divisions and brigades to field hospitals."

Britain and Poland have each agreed to lead multinational divisions to meet stability and security requirements, and other countries are considering doing so, Feith said.

"And still other countries have indicated their willingness to participate in peacekeeping, in some cases by contributing units from their national police forces, such as Italy's Carabinieri," he said.