

MARINE

Hawaii

INSIDE	
School Registration	A-2
1/3 Deploys	A-3
Sailor of the Quarter	A-4
DUIs	A-6
Catamaran	B-1
MCCS & SM&SP	B-2
BayFest	B-4
Menu	B-6
Word to Pass	B-7
Boxing	C-1
Sports Briefs	C-2
The Bottom Line	C-3

Volume 34, Number 27

www.mcbh.usmc.mil

July 9, 2004

RIMPAC hits the islands

3/3 Marines head out for Rim of the Pacific

Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Combat Correspondent

Marines from 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, departed Monday for the Rim of the Pacific training exercise around the Hawaiian islands. The companies of India, Lima, Weapons, Headquarters and Service, Combat Assault, and Bravo Battery and Charlie (the latter two part of the Royal Australian Army) are taking part in the training, said 1st Lt. Whitney Foley, S-3 training officer for 3/3.

"The Marines prepared for about two months prior to RIMPAC," said Foley. "Each company focused on different areas of training because each company will have their own responsibilities during the evolution."

The Royal Australian Army completed a RIMPAC training package after arriving at Kaneohe Bay, trading places with Kilo Co., 3/3, as part of exercise Golden Eagle, said Foley. This package included everything from AAV familiarization, helos, fast roping and live-fire to prepare them.

The majority of the Battalion Landing Team will be aboard the USS Tarawa during the exercise, but Lima Co., as well as others, will be aboard the USS Rushmore.

"Our main focus during the exercise will be amphibious raids and assaults," said 1st Lt. Mike D. Berentson, executive officer for Lima Co, 3/3. "Since returning from Thailand, we haven't had a great deal

See RIMPAC, A-4

High flyin' at BayFest 2004



Cpl. Rich Mattingly

BayFest-goers, young and old, were wowed by festival rides during the Fourth of July weekend. For the whole BayFest story, see B-4.

HMH-363 packs up to support 31st MEU

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

More than 60 Marines from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 departed over the Fourth of July weekend for a six-month deployment in support of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The Marines make up HMH-363 Detachment Alpha and will be accompanied by two CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopters that were previously folded down so they could be loaded onto a C-5 Galaxy this week and then flown to Kadena Air Force Base, Japan.

Just like any other unit deployed with a MEU, the HMH-363 detachment must be qualified for its tactical real-world mission.

"There is an extensive buildup to prepare the Marines for missions and situations that may arise while on ship," said Staff Sgt. Robert Randstadler, the airframes staff non-commissioned officer in charge for HMH-363.

"We all attended a firefighting school in May aboard Pearl Harbor to prepare us in case a fire breaks out on ship."

Once the detachment transfers to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Japan, it will begin training with HMH-463 to qualify for all 24 missions and become fully MEU-qualified.

Once training is complete, the detachment will join the manpower of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265 and create the heavy lift component of the Aviation Combat Element on the MEU.

"I am really looking forward

See HMH-363, A-6



Photo Courtesy of HMH-363

The Marines of HMH-363 Detachment Alpha carefully took apart the CH-53D Sea Stallions which are to be loaded up onto a C-5 galaxy and flown to Kadena Air Force Base, Japan.

Security Augmentation Force fires up MarForPac Marines complete weapons and duty training

Cpl. Danielle M. Bacon
U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific

CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii — Security Augmentation Force Marines here honed their skills on various weapons systems during a live-fire exercise at Range Training Facility, Kaneohe Bay, June 28. They were picked to supplement personnel assigned to the Provost Marshals Office.

"Our purpose is to defend, protect and guard Camp Smith against terrorist threats," said Capt. Gary Kipe, officer in charge of the SAF. "If we get actionable intelligence that any base in Hawaii was targeted by terrorists, we could be used to beef up security on and around Camp Smith. We are a tool in the battalion tool belt, to be used if needed."

Kipe explained that not just anyone was selected to serve on the SAF. A combination of high physical fitness test and good range scores, as well as a pristine slate regarding disciplinary actions, helped the decision-making process.

"We looked for the most reliable and best Marines suited for defense," Kipe said.

The SAF selectees completed five phases of classes to familiarize themselves with the weapons and duties of a SAF. Their instruction covered each weapons system that could be fired, as well as handling, safety, assembly and disassembly.

The Marine Forces Pacific devil dogs received more instruction and ammo, before proceeding to K-Bay's Range 5

to fire M2 .50 caliber machineguns.

"The Marines gained confidence in their ability to fire various weapons systems," said Sgt. William Screws, a SAF squad leader. "For some, it was their first time shooting the .50 cal and the first time since [Marine Combat Training] to fire the [M249 Squad Automatic Weapon]."

The Camp Smith SAF fired the SAW at pop-up targets.

"To keep the enemies' heads down, you want to lay constant fire downrange, but you don't want to waste ammunition," explained Kipe to his Marines before firing.

His group of augmentees practiced alternating fire, called "talking machineguns."

"You want to put the same volume of fire downrange as if you are just holding down the trigger of one weapon," said Screws, who logged four years and three floats with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit. "The impact

See SAF, A-6



Cpl. Danielle M. Bacon

Lance Cpl. Richard Winters (left) and Lance Cpl. Michael O'Conner wait to hear the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon to the right of them before firing again, during a live-fire exercise at a base range, June 28.

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

TLA Office Moves

Effective July 1, the Temporary Lodging Allowance Office has relocated from Bldg. 216 to the Family Housing Office in Bldg. 455. The new office telephone number is 257-1257.

Base Reminds Residents of Formation Regulations

Base residents and visitors are reminded that formation running, even in small numbers, is prohibited near the Mokapu (back) Gate and along the Nuupia Ponds Recreational Trail prior to 7 a.m.

No chanting, cadence calling, announcing of times expired for group runs, exercise repetition calls or other loud verbal outbursts are allowed in this area at any time.

A sign posted along Mokapu Road as individuals and motorists approach the Mokapu Gate reiterates the commanding general's policy regarding activities in the vicinity of the boundaries between the base and neighboring residential areas. The policy is in place to respect the privacy of the base's civilian neighbors and to ensure that early morning training does not disturb their rest.

Violations of this policy are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

PWMA Accepts Brick Orders

Brick orders have been reopened for the "Walkway of Honor" at the Pacific War Memorial, near the H-3 main gate of Kaneohe Bay. Each 4-inch by 8-inch brick may be inscribed with the name of a loved one or friend, with rank, service dates and other limited information included, space permitting.

Through Dec. 31, anyone interested in purchasing an inscribed brick may visit the Pacific War Memorial Association's Web site at www.pacificwarmemorial.org for information on how make an order.

Important Numbers

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188

Hawaii MARINE

Commanding General	Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee
Base Sergeant Major	Sgt. Maj. Anthony E. Franks
Public Affairs Officer	Maj. Patricia Johnson
Public Affairs Chief	Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans
Managing Editor	Aiko Rose-Brum
Press Chief	Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland
Staff Writer	Sgt. Joe Lindsay
Staff Writer	Sgt. Joseph Lee
Staff Writer	Sgt. Jerome Edwards
Staff Writer	Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Sports Editor	Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Staff Writer	Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Staff Writer	Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Staff Writer	Lance Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Staff Writer	Pfc. Rich E. Mattingly
Lifestyles Editor	Susana Choy
News Editor	Kristin Herrick

The *Hawaii Marine* is an unofficial newspaper published every Friday by MidWeek Printing, Inc., 45-525 Luluku Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Marine Corps, under exclusive contract to the U.S. Marine Corps. This civilian enterprise is an authorized publication for members of the military services.

Contents of the *Hawaii Marine* are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the United States Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps. All advertising is provided by MidWeek Printing, Inc., 529-4886.

The appearance of advertising in the *Hawaii Marine*, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DoD, DoN or the U.S. Marine Corps of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in the *Hawaii Marine* shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content or public service announcements (i.e., all content other than paid advertisements) is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Opinions expressed are not to be considered an official expression of the DoD or the U.S. Marine Corps.

Submit items for the *Hawaii Marine* to PAO no later than noon on the Friday prior to publication, using the following addresses:

HAWAII MARINE, BOX 63062, BLDG. 216,
MCB HAWAII, KANEHOE BAY, HAWAII 96863
E-MAIL: EDITOR@HAWAIIIMARINE.COM
FAX: 257-1289, PHONE: 257-8836

IN THE CG'S MAILBOX



BRIG. GEN.
MCABEE

Comment submitted by Mr. William Robinson:

"Marine Corps Base Hawaii's contributions were instrumental in providing appropriate and adequate facilities ..."

Dear General McAbee:
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service

(NOAA Fisheries) would like to thank you for your helpful collaboration and coordination in providing surgery and recovery facilities for the rescued Hawaiian monk seal TT40.



Photo Courtesy of NOAA Fisheries

"TT40," a Hawaiian monk seal brought here for surgery, was released off the coast of Kauai Tuesday.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii's contributions were instrumental in providing appropriate and adequate facilities needed to perform this delicate procedure. We value and appreciate your contribu-

tions in achieving what we anticipate to be a full recovery and release of the seal.

NOAA Fisheries looks forward to working with you in the future. Please let us know if there is anything more our office can do to enhance and promote our coordination to achieve our common goal of stewardship of protected species.

Sincerely,
William Robinson
Regional Administrator

(Editor's Note: According to Dr. Robert Braun, contract veterinarian, NOAA Fisheries, TT40 was released back into his natural habitat at Salt Pond Beach Park on Kauai, Tuesday morning.)

(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.

Early school registration urged

Public Affairs Office
Hawaii Marine Staff

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 sixth grade for students who live here aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is held at Mokapu Elementary School — located at 1193 Mokapu Blvd. — on a first-come, first-served basis.

When classes are filled at Mokapu, registering students are referred to two other elementary schools within the Kalaheo Complex, Kainalu Elementary and Kailua Elementary schools, and arrangements for bus transportation must be made.

Local elementary school start dates vary, depending on whether the school is on a traditional or year-round schedule. Mokapu Elementary, which is on a traditional schedule, will begin classes on Aug. 24. However, many off-base schools begin almost a month earlier (Kainalu Elementary and Kailua Elementary, for example, begin classes on July 29).

Families that wait until mid-August to register may find that classes at Mokapu Elementary are already filled. Their children will then be referred to either Kainalu or Kailua Elementary, where school will have already been in session since the end of July.

To register for school, parents or guardians must bring with them each child's social security card, his or her original birth certificate and a copy of the child's most recently completed physical examination.

Parents should seek Form 14 from their physician to meet the physical exam registration requirements. Each physical must include the child's updated shot record and tuberculosis test results.

Parents who have an exceptional family member must also bring a copy of their child's individual education plan.

Children do not need to be present for the school registration process.

For more information on registration, parents or

guardians may contact the Mokapu Elementary School registration clerk at 254-7964.

Additional information is available on the Hawaii Department of Education Web site at <http://doe.k12.hi.us/> (click on the "Calendars" link on the right side of the home page to go to <http://165.248.6.166/data/calendars0405.asp>, which is a listing of individual schools. Click on a specific school to see its calendar).

School Sports Physicals

Who: Children, ages 4 to 18, who are TRICARE Prime beneficiaries enrolled at Kaneohe Bay and Makalapa

When: Saturday, July 24

Where: Branch Medical Clinic, Makalapa

What: Physicals are by appointment only for this "Physical-A-Thon" and can be made by calling 473-0247. In order to be seen, parents must bring their child's School Sports Physical Forms, medical record, eyeglasses (if required), and Immunization Record, if not maintained at BMC Makalapa.

Getting wired: Changes are coming to Hawaii public school education system

Alice Patton

15th Airlift Wing School Liaison

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — Smaller class sizes in kindergarten through second grade, full-time student activity coordinators in each high school and more math textbooks are just a few of the incentives that will benefit state public schools, thanks to the recently passed Hawaii State Legislature Senate Bill 32138.

These changes are long overdue, according to State Senator Norman Sakamoto, one of the chief architects of the bill.

"The single most important focus and the common denominator of every proposal in this bill is raising student achievement," Sakamoto said. "There has been much discussion and debate surrounding public

education reform this session, all with the common refrain. Change is not optional; it is a must."

According to the Hawaii Department of Education's "Superintendent's Update," the significant changes brought on by the bill are conversion to a weighted student formula, in which funding is distributed to schools based on specific needs of their students, with special needs students receiving greater funding than students without special needs.

Changes also include mandatory establishment of school community councils at each school, which will play a role in setting the academic and budget priorities at each, and a provision to have no less than 70 percent of all education operating funds expended at the school level.

Another highlight of the bill is

funding for information technology. Schools without computer labs will begin to receive labs, and upgrades will be made to schools with computer labs already in place.

The bill also calls for adoption of a uniform school calendar beginning with the 2006 – 2007 school year. Still other features include principal accountability and responsibility, a National Board Certification Incentive Program for teachers, enhanced teacher education, and reduction in the bureaucracy that hampers the DoE's effectiveness.

For copies of the bill, go to www.capitol.hawaii.gov, then click on "Bill Status & Docs" and SB 32138.

For questions about Marine Corps and Kaneohe-based Navy unit partnerships, contact Capt. Luis Narvaez, base school liaison officer, at 257-2110, ext. 281.

Mission capable

1/3 departs for Okinawa to join up with the 31st MEU

Lance Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Combat Correspondent

July brought changes for Marines from 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, who departed earlier this month for the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) in Okinawa, Japan.

For the majority of the battalion, this is its first MEU (SOC). Although the unit had less than half the amount of time that is usually provided to prepare, 1/3 believes it is more than capable for this mission.

"The combination of motivation, good training and great leadership puts these Marines over the top," said Maj. Adin M. Pfeuffer, operations officer for 1/3. "They are excited and look forward to completing the mission at hand."

In preparation for its deployment, the individual companies of 1/3 specifically oriented its training to focus on their particular tasks with the MEU (SOC), in order to ensure they are ready to take on whatever they may run into.

Headquarters and Service Company has a plethora of tasks such as maintaining vehicles, covering administrative concerns and ensuring personnel readiness, as well as making sure the Marines of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, make a smooth transition upon returning.



Marines from Bravo Co., 1/3, make their landing onto the ramp of the USS Boxer during the Coxswain's Skills Course at Naval Air Station Ford Island, April 17.

According to Capt. Thomas M. Tennant, company commander of Headquarters and Service Company, his Marines train specifically for convoy operations, enemy prisoner of war handling, personnel searches and vehicle control point procedures.

Each company has trained extensively for specific missions.

Under the command of Capt. Derek J. Wastila, company commander of Weapons Company, Marines split into four separate platoons for their mission. Two are anti-armor platoons, one is an 81mm mortar platoon and the fourth, a scout sniper platoon.

Special operations instructors from areas such as Okinawa, Japan, and California came to Kaneohe Bay to guide and teach

the Marines what they should know for the deployment.

According to Capt. Timothy J. Barba, company commander of Charlie Company, his company is referred to as the "helo" or helicopter company. Its main task is to take care of helo raids and airfield seizures, as well as serve as the quick reaction force. Charlie Co. took part in training with the Special Operations Training Group from Okinawa, Japan, to prepare for the deployment.

No battalion would be complete without a battalion aid station (BAS) and medics to provide the unit with supplies and care everyday.

According to Navy Lt. Christopher K. Fuller, battalion surgeon, the BAS has prepared for the MEU (SOC), too. Its main focus is troop readiness: preparing Marines before the mission by giving them shots and medicine, and

In predeployment training, Marines from Combat Assault Company, 1/3, get ready to land their amphibious assault vehicles back on the beach after completing a water exercise at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, April 22.

ensuring they are all fit to go.

In the MEU (SOC), each Marine receives his own personal first aid kit, which the BAS teaches him to use.

In addition to training, Marines and Sailors from 1/3 participated in various unit functions to bring them closer together for the upcoming exercise. Some companies held individual barbecues or parties.

Once 1/3 Marines are in the MEU (SOC), they understand there is the possibility they may be called into action at any time.

"I believe the Marines would be very excited," said Pfeuffer, "nervous, of course, but excited. They're a great group of Marines."

Each company of Marines and Sailors expressed similar thoughts about the subject of going to the battlefield. Some commanders emphasized they have confidence in their Marines' abilities.

"These Marines [Bravo Company] are trained for the fight, and they want to go prove themselves like every other unit out there," said Bravo Company Commander Capt. Jer J. Garcia.

Other companies may be looking forward to the chance to show what they are all about.

"My Marines are ready to go," said Capt. Lee A. Johnson, company commander of Alpha Company, which will be serving as the amphibious assault company for the MEU (SOC). "They have all the confidence in the world and are ready to prove it."

"My Marines are ready right now, and everyone wants to go," said Barba. "They are more than happy and prepared to have that opportunity."

Despite all the training and war notions, the company commanders of 1/3 have not lost sight of the big picture: the mission behind the mission of the MEU (SOC). They all agree, that when it is all said and done, the most important thing is bringing all their troops safely back to K-Bay.



Marines from 1/3 guard the area of the CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter crash site during the tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel exercise at Barbers Point, May 21.

Word on the Street

What was your favorite part of BayFest?



"I just went to see Jo Dee Messina, and she put on a great show."

Lance Cpl. Everett Bishop
Artillery cannoneer
1/3



"The beer was tasty!"

Cpl. Abe Mousavizadegan
TOW gunner
3/3



"How they took the time to bring everything on base instead of having to go off base for an event like that."

Lance Cpl. Patrick Moser
Artillery cannoneer
1/12



"'Train' put on a good show this year."

Effie Prior
Sales associate
MCCS



"The bands were the best part. It was my first time at BayFest."

Lance Cpl. Joseph Jiles
Engineer
Combat Assault Company

CPRW-2 recognizes Sailor of the Quarter

Lt. j.g. Shawn Spooner
Patrol Squadron 4

Petty Officer 1st Class Erica Armenta, an aviation structural mechanic (aviation warfare) with Patrol Squadron 4, was recently recognized by Navy Capt. William F. Moran, the commodore of Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 2. Armenta was selected as the CPRW-2 Senior Sailor of the Quarter.

Armenta beat out more than 1,000 other petty officers who are attached to various units within CPRW-2. Unit leaders said her selection from such a large, diverse and talented group of Sailors attests to her

exceptional performance and superior leadership abilities as the line division leading petty officer.

As the LPO for the squadron's most junior personnel, Armenta is responsible for tasks ranging from financial issues to lineman qualification, which is one of the most critical duties in the launching evolution of the P-3 Orion aircraft.

"Winning the wing's Senior Sailor of the Quarter was a pleasant surprise," she said. "However, it is secondary to the satisfaction that I get from assisting my junior Sailors."

Commodore Moran was visiting the Kaneohe Bay

squadrons to deliver his insights about VP-4's upcoming deployment. He used the occasion to recognize Armenta and other "Skinny Dragon" superior efforts.

Moran praised all of VP-4 for its recent success during operation "Silent Fury." He also awarded Petty Officer 1st Class George Cook, an aviation electrician's mate (aviation warfare), with the Navy Achievement Medal. He also commended Petty Officer 2nd Class Jorge Reyes-Velez, an aviation electrician's mate (aviation warfare), and Airman Recruit Joseph Kusidavies for sustained superior performance.



Lt. j.g. Shawn Spooner

Navy Capt. William F. Moran, the commodore of CPRW-2, congratulates Petty Officer 1st Class Erica Armenta, an aviation structural mechanic with VP-4, on being named Senior Sailor of the Quarter.

Marines get identity theft alert

Cpl. Danielle M. Bacon
U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific

CAMP SMITH, Hawaii — According to a memorandum issued by Headquarters Marine Corps, recently, some deployed service members were forced to deal with checks that had been signed with their forged names.

"Marines had checks stolen, and they wouldn't find out until after they were deployed," said Capt. Brian Keller, deputy head of Legal Assistance, Judge Advocate Division, Headquarters Marine Corps. "In one case, it was the victim's mother who noticed checks being written, that he couldn't have, because he was deployed to Iraq."

Keller added, "If you're giving a power of attorney to someone, you have to be sure and give them the power to report fraud on your behalf."

Although there is no record of a forged check/identity theft scheme here, all Marines should be on the alert.

"People need to safeguard their information, checks and credit cards," said Master Sgt. Dionisios Nicholas, legal services chief with Marine Forces Pacific. "It is situational awareness, knowing where your important information is kept and ensuring no one can get to it."

A forged check is not the only type of identity theft service members should look out for. "Phishing" is another.

Phishing is the act of sending e-mail or pop-up advertisements to a user in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information, which will be used for identity theft, according to the Web site www.webopedia.com.

"Pop-ups solicit legitimate-looking merchandise. They take whatever information you give them to steal your identity," said Sgt. Kirk Goree, a network security technician. "Don't click on any pop-up. Delete them immediately."

Goree added that the same holds true for e-mail advertisements.

"No legitimate bank will e-mail you an advertisement for loans or an account, without you asking them to. Don't trust e-mails from people you don't know," Goree added.

Not only do pop-ups and e-mail advertisements hold the possibility of being a "Trojan Horse," they can also allow hackers into your computer.

"Some people who buy a lot of stuff via the Internet often store their information on their computer. If their computer is ever compromised, the hacker can get all of that information," explained Goree.

To safeguard computers, Goree recommends downloading a free firewall.

"There are many agencies out there that sell firewalls and pop-up blockers," said Goree.

McAfee.com, he went on, offers a free personal firewall to all Department of Defense employees.

"Marines should look at and keep their bank, credit card and other financial institution statements," said Nicholas. "They should look at their

spending patterns and try to notice anything out of the ordinary. Retaining statements and records will help if they ever need to dispute a purchase."

According to a recent Federal Trade Commission report, of the 96 percent of people who contacted the FTC to file an identity theft claim, 68 percent did not call the police department and file a police report.

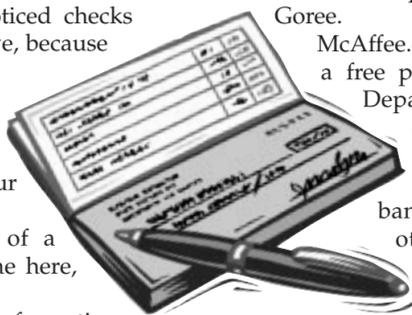
If a Marine needs to make a dispute or feels he or she has been a victim of identity theft, certain steps should be followed.

- Contact the financial institution immediately, file a claim and cancel the credit card or checks that were used.

- Contact any of the three major credit bureaus, file a claim and request a credit report. Experian at 888-397-3742 Equifax at 800-525-6285 Transunion at 800-680-7289

- Contact the local or military police and file a claim.

- Contact the Federal Trade Commission at www.consumer.gov/idtheft or file a report at the local legal assistance attorney at 477-8505.



RIMPAC: Final raid will go July 20

From A-1

of time to train, but many of the Marines are familiar with these types of exercises due to their experience with last year's Marine Expeditionary Unit."

The Burlington, Wash., native said Marines received classes in the past few weeks to prepare them for upcoming events and to refresh their knowledge.

"Classes were given to the Marines on amphibious assault vehicles, and loading and offloading," said Berentson. "It was familiar already to a majority of the Marines here, due to their experience."

A few new Marines are in the company, and RIMPAC is the first real exercise for them out in the fleet, added Berentson.

"I expect the newer guys to

do really well during this training," Berentson continued. "They are motivated, but they have a lot to learn. The Marines here are willing to teach them everything they need to know."

Marines will be expected to successfully complete AAV loading and off-loading, amphibious landings and the final raid, which will take place July 20.

"We'll have a rehearsal for the raid at Pyramid Rock [Beach] before the twentieth," said Berentson. "The final raid will take place at Bellows."

Upon the completion of RIMPAC, 3/3 companies will prepare for their turn within the 31st MEU, said Foley.

"We will press on with the plan, and get the job done," Foley added.



Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Lance Cpl. Jody Hoopes, supply clerk with Combat Service Support Group 3, directs a forklift onto the USS Tarawa before RIMPAC.

Did You Know?

Marine Corps Order No. 4 of April 18, 1925 designated gold and scarlet as the official colors of the U.S. Marine Corps.

— USMC, History and Museums Division

'Liberty Bus' offers free, safe rides to Waikiki

Public Affairs Office
Hawaii Marine Staff

The Base Motor Transportation section, part of G-4 here, operates what's called the "Liberty Bus," a service available to Marines and Sailors stationed at Kaneohe Bay.

Each weekend, military members who want to spend their liberty time in Waikiki have a reliable service to get them to a central point in the popular destination of Honolulu, at Fort DeRussy, adjacent the Hale Koa Hotel and Hilton Hawaiian Village in downtown Waikiki.

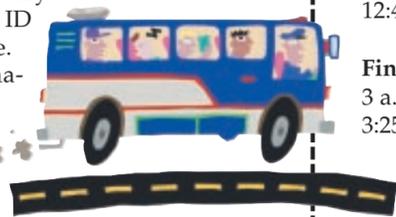
Buses regularly depart from the Marine Corps Exchange Annex here, Bldg. 1090, and from the Enlisted Club/Kahuna's Recreation Center building, on Friday and Saturday evenings. Runs conveniently begin after the typical working day and dinner hour and provide several convenient and diverse return trips throughout Friday and Saturday nights.

According to Maj. J. H. Bain, the facilities maintenance officer here, the Liberty Bus has been operational for some time at K-Bay. However, based on low usage, many Marines and Sailors might be unaware of its existence.

Bain said the intent of making this service available is to give service members — whether they have a privately owned vehicle or not — an option for getting about off base to Waikiki, with assurance of return.

Members need only present their military ID card to use the service.

For more information, or to make recommendations, contact Motor "T" at 257-2607.



Liberty Bus Schedule

Runs Friday and Saturday evenings.

1st run to Waikiki

6:15 p.m., Arrive Annex
6:20 p.m., Depart Annex
6:25 p.m., Arrive E-Club
6:35 p.m., Depart E-Club
7:15 to 7:35 p.m., Arrive Ft. DeRussy

2nd run to Waikiki

9:05 p.m., Depart Annex
9:10 p.m., Arrive E-Club
9:25 p.m., Depart E-Club
10:05 to 10:25 p.m., Arrive Ft. DeRussy

Final run to Waikiki

1:05 a.m., Depart E-Club
1:15 a.m., Arrive Annex
1:25 a.m., Depart Annex
2 to 2:25 a.m., Arrive Ft. DeRussy

1st run from Waikiki

7:50 p.m., Depart Ft. DeRussy
8:30 to 8:50 p.m., Arrive Annex

2nd run from Waikiki

12 a.m., Depart Ft. DeRussy
12:40 to 1 a.m., Arrive E-Club

Final run from Waikiki

3 a.m., Depart Ft. DeRussy
3:25 to 3:35 a.m., Arrive E-Club
3:40 a.m., Depart E-Club
3:45 a.m., Arrive Annex



Lance Cpl. Ruben D. Calderon

A top priority for Customs is preventing people from entering or leaving a country with contraband items.

Deploying military must also heed customs regs

Lance Cpl.
Ruben D. Calderon
Combat Correspondent

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan — "Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Sergeant Stan Smith, and I will be your customs and immigration representative for this portion of the customs process.

"At this time, I will be briefing you on restricted and prohibited items that can or cannot be brought into the country of Japan, per Department of Defense regulation 5030.49R and Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 5840.1A."

People coming to or leaving Japan will hear these words uttered to them by Smith or other customs representatives.

"Before we search anything, I always give a brief and give the passengers an amnesty period. During this time, they can bring to us anything at all, and we will not charge them with anything," explained Smith, a senior customs inspector for Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron here. "But once the amnesty period is over, it is over."

In his field of work, Smith said he must be clear about things he wants people to declare.

"People must understand that it is very serious, what they bring along with them [when entering or departing countries]," he added.

One of the top priorities for

Customs is pornographic material, drugs, weapons and copied digital video discs. Alcohol, tobacco, organic materials, food, medication and contraband are other items that will be heavily examined, according to Smith.

Service members in units that go on deployments to Japan should take heed of the introduction brief, emphasized Gunnery Sgt. David Walker, the H&HS Customs chief.

"There are so many items that people buy and bring with them while deployed that can get them in trouble," Walker continued. "Whether it is a pirated compact disc, DVD, or animal products and by-products, there are consequences."

Coming from a recent deployment to Thailand, a service member purchased a pair of elephant tusks poached by hunters, said Smith.

"That's a federal offense in the United States. Somebody caught with an item like that would easily get 10 to 15 years in prison. But, during the amnesty period, it was brought forth and no charges were filed," Smith explained.

The same rules apply for service and family members outbound from Japan, Smith said. Correct paperwork must be filled out for selected items like household goods. If not, they will be thoroughly searched both in Japan and at the point of destination, and possibly confiscated, if not declared.

Salute the chef



Lance Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Sgt. Jennifer L. Drummonds, a chef with Marine Corps Air Facility, receives awards and a trophy from Col. Richard C. Roten, deputy commander here, for winning the third quarter Chef of the Quarter competition June 30. Drummonds, a San Diego native, came up with the theme of a "Home-Cooked Meal from Hometown," which consisted of Mission Beach garlic mashed potatoes, Point Loma chocolate carmel pecan pie, Mission Valley meat loaf and Coronado corn.

“quotable”

The optimist sees opportunity in every danger; the pessimist sees danger in every opportunity.

— Winston Churchill



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

'My, you've grown'

Lance Cpl. Nowlen Augustine, a team leader with Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, is surprised to see how much his unborn child has grown inside wife Michelle's belly over the past eight months while he was deployed with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

SAF, From A-1

area is getting lit up, but you are using one-third the ammunition.

"I was deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, and Mosul, Iraq. I have learned that you never know when you will get the call to go. [But,] when you do, you are thankful for the training," Screws added.

"We train about once a month to keep the Marines fresh and engaged," said Kipe. "They practice

patrolling, use of deadly force and various other [MP] functions."

The SAF Marines also took the opportunity to fire the Joint Service Combat Shotgun, the M16A2 service rifle and the M9 pistol during their range training.

"It was way more motivating than sitting here firing my computer," said Cpl. Curtis Clouser, a SAF fire team leader. "I feel better prepared for combat than if I wasn't training with SAF."

HMH-363, From A-1

to this deployment. I have always wanted to use my skills to participate in a real-world situation," said Randstadler. "We will be learning how to function in a completely different operational tempo. It should be exciting."

According to HMH-363, it has been more than 10 years since the squadron has deployed aboard ship with a MEU. It's also been many years since the squadron has employed the Sea Stallion in tactical missions.

DUIs are career killers



(Editor's Note: Per the commanding general of MCB Hawaii, those arrested for driving under the influence [DUI], driving while intoxicated or drug-related offenses shall be publicized in the Hawaii Marine newspaper.)

The Military Police Department added the following names to the DUI roster, suspended the license of the driver, and removed his or her vehicle and its DoD decal from the installation.

- July 2, Cpl. Ghram A. Hilliard of Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, for driving under the influence with a blood alcohol content of .1370

percent.

- July 3, Lance Cpl. Christian Banales of 1/12, for DUI, contributing to a minor and underage drinking with a BAC of .170 percent.

Getting it Straight



- In the "DUIs are career killers" section on page A-7 of the June 25 issue of the *Hawaii Marine*, Cpl. Jonathan P. Grandstaff was incorrectly stated as belonging to 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. He is with Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.