

Hawaii MARINE

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Adm. Holmes prepares for departure

Sgt. Robert Carlson
Combat Correspondent

As Rear Admiral Michael L. Holmes prepares to hand off the stick as Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Force U.S. Pacific Fleet tomorrow to Rear Adm. Anthony L. Winns, he spoke of some of the highlights and reflected upon his tour in Hawaii.



Rear Adm. Holmes

"When I look back 10 years from now, there are several things that will stand out in my mind," said Rear Adm. Holmes, a Native American who was born in Lumberton, N.C., and was commissioned in December of 1973.

"I'll remember the closing of Naval Air Station Barbers Point, and moving to Kaneohe Bay. I'll also remember the dedication of the (staff at the) John W. Finn Building, and I'll remember the return of the EP-3 crew from Hainan Island after they were detained for 11 days."

Rear Adm. Holmes said it was an honor to meet Finn, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on NAS Kaneohe Bay, and Medal of Honor recipient, during the Headquarters building dedication.

"One thing I'll never forget, though, is how well all of the Sailors worked at keeping these planes at the highest level of readiness you can attain," he added.

Keeping that level of readiness was a challenge, he said, especially while moving all of the Sailors, families, planes, maintenance equipment and supply inventories across the island to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"The move was a benefit both to the Department of the Navy and to ComPatReconForPac," Rear Adm. Holmes explained. "Base Realignment and Closure guidelines dictated that a base be closed. The Navy moving to K-Bay made more sense because it helped us more closely utilize the capacity of the base."

Other than living and working surrounded by the sheer beauty of Windward Oahu, ComPatReconForPac benefited from the improved facilities at Kaneohe Bay.

"The new climate-controlled hangar space and offices are great quality of life improvements," Rear Adm. Holmes said. "Those improvements, along with the new bachelor enlisted quarters and additional housing, are a big boost for morale."

Though the Windward side offers improved quality of life, the move involved

See ADM. HOLMES, A-9

Marine landing



Pvt. Iain A. Schnable

A Marine with 1st Reconnaissance Bn. deployed from MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., floats across the Hawaiian sky, during a training evolution, June 14. The battalion trained with Marines from 4th Force Reconnaissance Co. at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. For more information on 1st Recon Bn.'s training, see page A-3.

'Tandem Thrust' comes to an end

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.
Combat Correspondent

Marines from 3rd Marine Regiment returned from the land down under Wednesday morning after participating in Exercise Tandem Thrust.

Beginning in April, Tandem Thrust involved Special Marine Air Ground Task Force 3 and incorporated more than 900 Marines from Hawaii, along with Marines from Okinawa, Japan, MCAS Yuma, Ariz., MCAGCC 29 Palms, Calif., and MCB Quantico, Va.

The Royal Australian Army played host to the semi-annual event.

The purpose of the exercise was to exercise interoperability with the Australian military as well as to exercise the Marines' abilities to come together and operate as a fully-deployed SPMAGTF.

"We wanted to enhance interoperability and promote positive relations with our Australian allies, and truly represent our country as skilled war fighters and ambassadors in green," said Col. R.B. Peele, commander SPMAGTF-3. "We also wanted to conduct all aspects of training with the utmost regard for safety and the safe return of each exercise participant."

"The MAGTF clearly carried out the commander's intent to the fullest extent," added Col. Peele.

Military taxpayers also due refund checks

American Forces Press Service
News Release

WASHINGTON — If you owed federal income taxes for 2000, a check for up to \$600 will be in the mail for you by September.

Lieutenant. Col. Thomas K. Emswiler, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Manage-

ment Policy, said military members are as eligible as other taxpayers for the federal refund that's made headlines recently.

In an interview with the American Forces Radio and Television Service, he said the tax bill just signed by the president creates a new tax bracket of 10 percent and made the rate retroactive to Jan. 1. In the past, he said, the lowest tax rate was 15 percent, so the 5 percent reduc-

tion will allow most taxpayers to get a refund."

The law provides that the mailing of refunds start in July and be complete by the end of September. Plans now call for the first checks to be mailed on July 20 and the last batch on Sept. 28. Taxpayers will receive letters in July explaining how much to expect and when.

Emswiler said anyone who had a federal tax liability for 2000 is eligible pro-

viding they weren't claimed as someone else's dependent. "Liability" means owing more the amount of non-refundable credits, such as education and child care credit. Refundable credits, such as the earned income tax credit, don't count for determining eligibility or the amount of the refund.

"If you filed a joint return last year and had at least

See REFUND, A-9

NCO symposium reinforces Marine leadership

Cpl. Jacques-René Hébert
MarForPac Public Affairs Office

QUANTICO, Va. — The commanding general and the sergeant major of Marine Forces Pacific met with the Marines who represented MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay and Camp H.M. Smith during the second annual Marine Corps NCO symposium held May 21-25 at Headquarters Marine Corps, Quantico, Va.

Sergeant David Houtz, intelligence analyst at Camp Smith, and Sgt. Saulo Ugarte, rescue man with the Crash, Fire, and Rescue unit of the Marine

Corps Air Facility at K-Bay briefly went over the symposium's schedule of events with Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti and Sgt. Maj. Stephen H. Mellinger.

This year's symposium started off with an "icebreaker" — a discussion to get the visiting NCOs comfortable with making suggestions and offering their opinions and perspectives.

The next step was "setting the stage," which involved brainstorming and creative thinking exercises to stimulate thoughts and ideas. The participating Marines were asked questions such as,



Cpl. Jacques-Rene Hebert

Sergeant David Houtz imparts his ideas during a meeting with MarForPac officials.

See NCOs, A-9

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

RESERVE OPPORTUNITIES

Gunnery Sgt. William Foster, Transitional Recruiter, located in Bldg. 218 is hosting Active Reserve classes every Thursday at 9 a.m.

The Active Reserve program gives Marines the opportunity for continued affiliation with the Marine Corps as an active duty member. The Marine serves from one reserve unit to another in an Instructor & Inspector capacity. At the end of an initial three-year tour, the Marine may PCS to another reserve unit and continue a career retiring with full Active Duty privileges at 20 years.

For details, call GySgt. Foster at 257-1251.

BASE CHAPEL NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The MCB Hawaii Base Chapel is seeking volunteers and participants to support several ongoing and upcoming programs.

Protestant worshippers who would like to serve as Sunday School teachers or who would like to assist with Vacation Bible School, which will run Aug. 6-10, may contact Paul Fields at 262-4256 to volunteer.

Also, a new program that will surely energize young people at K-Bay is in the works for the Catholic community. A summer Christian Leadership Camp will take place July 23-28, for students who will be entering 7th -12th grades this fall. For registration details, contact Grace Galindo at 265-6961 or the Base Chapel at 257-3552.

RECON MARINES WANTED

Currently 4th Force Reconnaissance Co., aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is in search of Marines to fill its ranks.

Marines of all military occupational specialties are welcome, but must be willing to change their current MOS to one in the infantry or intelligence occupational fields.

Any Marines (enlisted or officer) leaving active duty status and desiring to enter the reserves should contact Staff Sgt. Gerald Rohn at 257-2758 or 257-1077, ext. 221.

JAPANESE WIVES CLUB

The Japanese Wives club meets once a month at the Armed Services YMCA aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. For more information, call Hiroko Hagen at 239-2308.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Base Emergency	257-9111
MPD	257-7114
Crisis Hotline	521-4555
Child Protective Services	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852

Hawaii MARINE

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— SERGEANT MAJOR'S CORNER — Should fleet Sailors wear the Corps' eagle, globe and anchor?

Sgt. Maj.
Stephen H. Mellinger
MarForPac Sergeant Major

For the past month or so a hot debate has been raging through-out the Marine Corps and the Navy. The debate is over the Marine Corps' new utilities uniform and whether or not Navy personnel, serving in Fleet Marine Force (FMF) units, (i.e., corpsmen, chaplains, etc.) should "rate" (meaning deserve) to display the Corps' eagle, globe and anchor emblem (on the left breast pocket and cover) when they wear that same uniform.



Mellinger

Like any sergeant major, there's nothing I enjoy more than to get right into the middle of a firefight involving a lively exchange of professional views.

I have read and heard more comments from both Sailors and Marines then I care to on the matter. It seems as though this is the only issue currently in need of attention by either service.

People discussing it seem either entirely for them displaying it, or they're vehemently against it. The vast majority of Marines I have spoken to feel that only Marines should "rate" displaying the Marine Corps emblem on our new utilities.

Well, I'm no different than any other FMF Marine or Sailor. I too have an opinion on this subject, but it's

just my opinion.

A lot of Marines don't understand why a member of another service branch would even want to wear

our eagle, globe and anchor. However, a lot of Sailors (especially corpsmen) feel that they "rate" displaying it on their Marine utilities because they serve along side

Some even contend that they "rate" wearing it because many of them have spilled their blood with us.

They believe that if they're not authorized to wear the embroidered Marine Corps emblem, on the new Marine cammies, it somehow reflects a lack of respect for them by the very Marines they serve beside both in peacetime and in combat.

In spite of their proud traditions, "rating" to wear our emblem (by anyone other than a Marine) is where I personally disagree.

I say that because Sailors, just like Marines, soldiers, and airmen, have shed blood and died in wars while serving along side

each other. That's the reality of war and explains why people say, "War is an ugly thing." For this article I want to focus more on what

I believe F M F Sailors really "rate."

History shows the distinguished service of Sailors to our country, be it

along side Marines on a battlefield or taking care of business themselves during sea battles.

Sailors have indeed earned the respect of all Marines for their proven honor, sacrifice and courage, but I can tell you it wasn't because of any emblem sewn onto a utility pocket or cover.

If someone from the Navy is wounded in combat (God forbid), while serving along side a Marine, he's still a Sailor proudly representing the Navy.

The fact that the wounded Sailor was assigned to a Marine unit, and was wearing a Marine uniform, doesn't make him a Marine casualty.

That same individual would, I'm sure; want to be recognized as a Sailor of val-

or. And he would be proud of it!

I think it's important to note that Marines have routinely fought and died on battlefields with servicemembers from each of our sister services and we're proud to have done so.

Marines have nothing but complete respect and admiration for FMF Sailors for their sacrifice and commitment to us.

It should be quite obvious to everyone how much Marines appreciate and trust our Naval brethren.

Combat Marines ultimately entrust their very lives into the skillful hands of those Sailors serving beside them. From that perspective, Sailors don't "rate" to be equal with us. They "rate" to be a cut above.

I would hope that every FMF Sailor in question knows in his or her heart where they truly stand with their Marine Brethren. I personally don't believe that deep in their hearts, there's even one Sailor (corpsman, chaplain, etc.) who truly believes that wearing or not wearing a Marine Corps emblem diminishes, in any way, the respect Marines have for them.

In combat when "the crap hits the fan" and Marines are taking casualties, the Sailors on the scene will not need our emblem on their pocket or cover to be identified by anyone.

When those horrifying words ring out, "Corpsman Up," and seconds later he or she's leaning over that casualty, it's that Sailor's reassuring face that is recognized; not a pocket or cover emblem!

Semper Fi.



Photo courtesy of CSSG-3

The Fleet Marine Force Enlisted Warfare Specialist device, which is currently worn by 30 Sailors Navy-wide, including by one Sailor with Combat Service Support Group-3, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"People discussing it seem either entirely for them displaying it, or they're vehemently against it."

Sgt. Maj. Stephen H. Mellinger
Marine Forces Pacific Sergeant Major

1st Radio Bn. welcomes new commander



Lt. Col. Rector



A ceremony was held for the arrival of the new commanding officer for 1st Radio Bn., Tuesday at 3 p.m., at Dewey Square. Lieutenant Col. Darrell Rector, Jr. came to 1st Radio Bn. from the Joint Intelligence Center Central, United States Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., where he was the operations officer. Lieutenant Col. Michael Donovan is scheduled to report to the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., upon relinquishment.



Lt. Col. Donovan

1/12 receives new commanding officer



Lt. Col. Sullivan



Incoming commanding officer of 1st Bn., 12th Marines, Lt. Col. John M. Sullivan, left, assumed command from Lt. Col. Calvin F. Swain in a ceremony Friday at Dewey Square aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Lieutenant Col. Sullivan is fresh off of a tour as the chief, joint operations division, Joint United States Military Advisory Group in Thailand. Lieutenant Col. Swain is departing 1/12 to attend the Naval War College in Providence, R.I.



Lt. Col. Swain



Two 1st Recon Bn. Marines clouded in mist, leap from the rear of a CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter into Kaneohe Bay during the helocast portion of 1st Recon's training in Hawaii.

Hawaii's 4th Force Recon Marines partner for training with 1st Recon

Story and photos by
Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible
Combat Correspondent

Eighty Marines with 1st Reconnaissance Bn. from MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif. recently came to Hawaii to participate in training alongside the Marines of 4th Force Reconnaissance Co.

The 1st Recon Bn. Marines arrived at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, June 1 and departed June 14 after completing their recon skills training.

"We came to Hawaii to conduct force recon skills and deployment readiness training," said Lt. Col. Michael J. Paulovich, 1st Recon Bn. commanding officer.

"We capitalized on the training areas to conduct diving, coxswain skills, submarine dry deck procedure, static line parachute, helocasting, patrolling and helicopter rope suspension training," he added.

1st Recon Bn. Marines found Hawaii to be an excellent training ground because it offers a variety of elements not available at Camp Pendleton.

"Hawaii offers great opportunity for training," said Lt. Col. Paulovich. "The Marines can get accustomed to the tropical climate, rugged terrain and warm, reef water."

The Marines formed a

partnership with 4th Force Reconnaissance Co. The two units cooperated to conduct some very successful training.

"The training has been superb," said Lt. Col. Paulovich. "Because the capabilities of 4th Force are so similar to ours, we were able to use their facilities. We worked together to help each other out."

The training was intended to enhance the reconnaissance Marine skills of the half of the battalion that came to Hawaii, and the benefits stretched all the way down to the individual recon team and Marine.

"I learned to be better able to work with my team and learned more about how the guys on the team operate," said Cpl. Kevin D. Kokoszka, a reconnaissance Marine with 1st Recon Bn.

"It was also good to experience the different climate and different types of terrain in a tropical environment," he continued.

To crown the two week training event, the 1st Recon Marines conducted what they call a "manly event," a monthly test of the Marines' strength, endurance and skills.

The normal manly event consists of a 10-mile run in full combat gear, martial arts drills on the beach and a 1,500 meter swim, simulating an escape from behind enemy lines, evasion, close



A Marine with 1st Recon Bn., MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., floats gracefully through the Hawaiian sky.

combat and amphibious escape. Due to the limitations placed on them by their surroundings at K-Bay, and because their gear was packed up and ready to leave, the manly event only consisted of a three-mile run, a 1,000 meter swim and another

three-mile run.

Following the successful completion of their training, 1st Reconnaissance Bn. Marines returned to Camp Pendleton with a new operational flexibility and skill instilled by the Marines and the landscape of Hawaii.

WORD ON THE STREET

What did you do for Father's Day?



"I made my husband a big meal and we went out last weekend."

Annie Connelly
Military spouse

"I sent my father a present through the mail and called him."

Cpl. Rolando Delacruz
Combat engineer
Landing Support Co.,
CSSG 3



"I talked to the old man and wished him a happy Fathers' Day."

Lance Cpl. Brent A. Erikson
Machinegunner
Weapons Co.,
3/3

"I gave my dad a call and sent my best wishes."

Sgt. Walter A. Matzuy
Cannoneer
Alpha Co.,
1/12



"I sent my dad a lei."

Navy Lt. Lucien R. Ouellette
General medical officer
Branch Medical Clinic

"I got my dad an ice cream cake from Baskin Robbins."

Justin Parker
Military family member



"I had to work, but I bought my boyfriend a golf outfit and some new cologne."

Petty Officer 1st Class JoAnn E. Speakes
Information systems technician
Naval Telecommunications Command Pacific



Petty Officer 2nd Class Travis M. Walker, a hospital corpsman with 1st Recon Bn., rushes to check on a Marine whose parachute is snagged in a tree at Schofield Barracks. Inset: A 1st Recon Marine prepares to leap from the back of a CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter over DZ Lightning at Schofield Barracks.

MP 'rides' scholarship to college education

Marine's patience in submitting package for scholarship pays off as he doubles his recommendations, chances for acceptance

Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible

Combat Correspondent

A Marine with Military Police Co., Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii, will be trading in his badge for schoolbooks after being awarded a full scholarship from a prestigious federal program.

Lance Cpl. Noah S. Evermann, a military working dog handler with MP Co., will be closing out his career as an enlisted Marine and heading to the University of Idaho in order to work toward a commission with a full scholarship provided by the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps.

Evermann initially filled out the application package when he was a senior in high school. His English and math teachers submitted letters of recommendation for his application, but he never actually turned the package in.

Holding on to the package until he was enlisted in the Corps turned out to be an advantage for Evermann when he eventually submitted it.

"I think a big reason I was accepted for the program was that I had letters from my teachers as well as from my chain of command," said Evermann. "I had twice as many references as a high school or military appli-

cant would have."

When Evermann decided to submit his package, he went to see the career planner and together they went through the process since neither had any experience dealing with NROTC scholarship applications.

"The packet took about two weeks to complete, and I sent it in next day air mail three days before the deadline. I didn't even know if it arrived in time until I got the call saying I had been accepted," said Evermann.

Evermann couldn't have been more delighted when he found out that he was accepted for the scholarship.

"When I heard the news, I was extremely excited; I couldn't have asked for anything more," said Evermann.

The opportunity to attend college and remain affiliated with the military presents Evermann the chance to achieve one of his goals.

"I wanted to serve some time enlisted, then become an officer," said Evermann. "I wanted to experience both lifestyles. That way, I could be a better officer."

Evermann's superiors are enthusiastic about having him join them in the officer ranks.

"I would welcome him," said Maj. Marc H. Lambert, MCB

Hawaii deputy provost marshal. "He is a young man who progressed quite well through the enlisted ranks, he will do well in the officer ranks."

Evermann also has the necessary ingredients to make an outstanding officer, said Capt. Pete R. Solano, MP Co. operations officer.

"Evermann displays all the traits and potential needed to be an outstanding officer," said Solano. "I think he will excel in the officer ranks because of his drive and motivation."

Despite all of the excitement about going to school, Evermann is anxious about returning to a learning environment.

"I am nervous — two years away from the books can make anybody rusty," he said. "I just hope I'm ready."

Evermann has set long-term goals for himself as well. He has chosen his future career after determining whether officer life is right for him.

"Whether I do 10 or 20 years in service, when I retire I want to be a teacher," said Evermann.

"But, the Marine Corps has been good to me, I'm not just going to give this up," he added.

"The scholarship gives me the opportunity to get a degree and then decide if a career in the Marine Corps is right for me," he decided.



Photo courtesy of Lance Cpl. Noah Evermann

Lance Cpl. Noah Evermann, a K-9 handler with the MCB Hawaii MPD, will cede positive control of his dog, Quanta, for positive control of his studies at the University of Idaho after receiving a scholarship from NROTC.

SALUTES

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363

Meritorious Service Medal
Sgt. Maj. David C.
Strowmatt (2nd Award)

*Navy/Marine Corps
Achievement Medal*
Capt Brent M. James
Sgt. William D. Hoogerhyde

Good Conduct Medal
Staff Sgt. Robert E. Sanders
Jr. (3rd Award)
Cpl Michael P. Collier
Cpl Gerald D. Hager
Cpl Tracey L. Whyne

*Certificate of
Commendation*
Cpl. Luke W. Knox
Lance Cpl. Reginald D.
Mention

Promotions
Master Sgt Edinson R. Santiago

Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 51



Sailors of the Quarter
Petty Officer 1st Class Brent D.
Geist
Petty Officer 1st Class Kimberly K.
Rutigliano

Navy Commendation Medals
Lt. Cmdr. Frank J. Koska
Petty Officer 1st Class Joy Gisi

*Navy/Marine Corps
Achievement Medals*
Petty Officer 2nd Class Mark
J. Hoekstra

Letter of Appreciation
Petty Officer 3rd Class Kay K.
Vieths

*Enlisted Aviation Warfare
Specialist (AW)*
Petty Officer 2nd Class
Kimberly D. Rowe

Good Conduct Medals
Petty Officer 1st Class Donald
C. Hernden (6th Award)
Petty Officer 1st Class
Michael S. O'Malley (4th
Award)
Petty Officer 1st Class Eric J.
Dixon (4th Award)
Petty Officer 1st Class Dale R.
Twedt (4th Award)

*Lear Siegler, Inc. (LSI) Employee of
the Month*
Ms. Pam Burkhalter

Promotions
Cmdr. David N. Valente
Lt. Cmdr. Jack M. Omohundro

Summer Moves: TLA oversees PCS reimbursements

Cpl. Roman Yurek
Combat Correspondent

Marines preparing to make a permanent change of station move must accomplish many tasks such as shipping their household goods and moving out.

Sometimes the transition also requires, a stay at a hotel out in town; however, the expense can be reimbursed if they coordinate with the Temporary Lodging Allowance Office prior to pack-out.

The TLA office provides a brief at the PCS Workshop, but due to the fact that every person moving has different

needs, the brief consists of how to prepare for a visit to TLA.

Some of the forms needed by TLA are PCS orders, the detaching endorsement, a flight itinerary, an intent to vacate or letter from the landlord, and a leave and earnings statement, to name a few.

"As soon as a Marine has orders, they need to come in," said Mary Sorenson, the lead TLA technician.

Anyone, whether they are living on base or off base, can rate TLA, but to find out how much and how to obtain it, they need to see Sorenson. Before a servicemember and their family can stay in a ho-

tel, they must first check the Temporary Lodging Facility or Bachelor Officers Quarters.

Families must check with the TLF for vacancies, while geographical bachelors need to check in with the Bachelor Officers or Enlisted Quarters. If there is no room, the Marine can bring in a non-availability form to TLA.

At that time, the TLA office will provide a list of approved hotels.

"Marines need to see TLA," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 David Gates. "Every case is different. There are set rules, but we need to look at every case individu-

ally."

When a Marine attends the PCS Workshop, they get a brief on what TLA can do for them and their family before they leave the island. Since TLA deals with every case individually, the office stresses during the workshop to come in to their office. The TLA Office accepts appointments and walk-ins. To schedule an appointment, call 257-8811. Prior to the appointment, obtain a copy of an LES at www.dfas.mil/money.

To reserve a spot at the July 11 PCS workshop, call the PCS Office of Marine Corps Community Services at 254-7790.

Department of Defense to further curtail Anthrax vaccination

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—The Department of Defense is further curtailing the anthrax immunization program due to inadequate supplies of the vaccine, DoD officials said June 11.

Effective immediately, only servicemembers assigned to "special mission units" will receive the six-shot series.

The action is necessary because of delays in DoD receiving FDA-approved vaccine from Bioport, the

sole source of the vaccine.

Officials said they expect the Food and Drug Administration to approve Bioport, based in Lansing, Mich., for full production "no later than" March 2002, said Marine Maj. Gen. Randall West, special assistant to the deputy secretary of defense for chemical and biological protection, during an interview with American Forces Information Service.

He said the contractor is working to achieve FDA approval of the new expanded Bioport manufac-

turing facility as soon as possible.

There are currently a bit more than 30,000 doses of vaccine available for use now.

But until then, DoD will conserve the dwindling supply of approved vaccine.

West said only small special operations units, people working on research and some congressionally mandated studies will continue to receive the vaccine.

This is the third slowdown for the immunization program.

In December 1999, DoD stopped inoculating servicemembers other than those deploying to Korea and the Persian Gulf.

In November 2000, DoD stopped inoculating servicemembers bound for Korea.

Now servicemembers deploying to Southwest Asia will stop receiving the vaccine. About 13,000 U.S. servicemembers are deployed to Southwest Asia.

The DoD and U.S. Central Command will have sufficient antibiotics on hand for post-exposure

treatment in case of an attack. West said, in his opinion, it is imperative that DoD resume the vaccination regime as soon as possible.

"The sooner we can provide this vaccination protection to the entire force, the better I'll sleep at night," he said.

"The weaponized form of anthrax can be delivered by several munitions, is a very deadly threat. You can't see this, you can't smell it, you can't taste it, it's very difficult to detect and if you haven't been vaccinated, by the

time you detect symptoms of anthrax, it's too late to save a person's life," he added.

Servicemembers who've begun the vaccination regime will not have to start over when vaccine comes available. "Fortunately, even a couple of shots provide some resistance to anthrax," West said. "They'll be able to start the protocols where they left off."

"When we do have the vaccine replenished the first place the vaccine will go is Southwest Asia," West said.

MALSEK members work as a team

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

Combat Correspondent

The Marine Aviation Logistics Support Element Kaneohe, aboard MCB Hawaii, has been an experimental military phenomenon that has never been attempted before. As a result, it has become a unique and extremely productive unit.

The permanent joint service unit was formed in April 1999, when nearly 150 Navy personnel from the former Naval Air Station Barbers Point integrated with Marine Aviation Logistics Support Element to form the current, joint service MALSEK.

"The integration of the Navy and Marine Corps makes this unit unique; it is one-of-a-kind," said Petty Officer 1st Class Michael E. Johnson, the infra-red detection system supervisor. "This is not being performed anywhere else in the entire Department of Defense."

Two years later, the combination of Naval and Marine personnel com-

pleting the mission in the same work prevails, as the Avionics Section has caught the attention of military officials because of its increased productivity rate.

"The unique thing about MALSEK avionics is that we actually process more gear than a regular size MALS," said Gunnery Sgt. William C. Vornheder, MALSEK electrical countermeasures/radar chief. "We're only an element of a MALS — quite a bit smaller than the rest of those units in the Marine Corps."

The Avionics Section of MALSEK repairs and calibrates the sophisticated electrical equipment on all of the aircraft aboard MCB Hawaii.

The section averages about 2,500 pieces of gear a month, and last year it processed about 33,000 pieces, according to Vornheder.

The road has not been an easy one to travel since the two services integrated. There have been some obstacles along the way, according to Cpl. James A. Bautista, an electronic

countermeasures technician for Avionics.

"At first, it wasn't too bad because there were only a few Navy personnel here," said Bautista. "I think many of our expectations, as far as work goes, were a lot different." The two services had to work out those differences.

"The largest obstacle that we had to overcome was trying to mesh two different worlds together," said Johnson. "There was the Marine Corps mentality and the Navy mentality. We had to put them together and still accomplish the mission."

From the start, the unit had to contend with stereotypes between the services. Marines and Sailors from top to bottom had to change their mentality about the other service.

"We had to downplay the differences, and respect the things we had in common," said Vornheder.

Even new personnel to the unit have been able to handle the transition and adapt to their counter-

part's differences with ease.

"When I got here, I didn't think it would be tough at all to adapt," said Chief Petty Officer Edward McDowell, branch chief of the electrical division for the Avionics Section. "I've worked with Marines in the past and I came here with an open mind."

His ability to identify the differences, and adapt to them helped McDowell adjust to the work environment very well.

"I think everyday we strive to make things a little better here for the group, not the individual," said McDowell.

"I believe our Navy and the Marine Corps team is getting along great," he added. "We still have hurdles to cross, but we'll cross them as a team."

This type of teamwork mentality runs thick in the Avionics Section, as well as the other sections that compose MALSEK.

There is little wonder as to why this unit has accomplished so much in such a relatively short amount of time.

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

Cherry Point EOD helps with possible Blackbeard artifacts

Cpl. Jason Morris

MCAS Cherry Point Public Affairs

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C.—Air station and 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Marines are helping local researchers to identify artifacts that could be from the Queen Anne's Revenge, a pirate ship of the infamous pirate Blackbeard.

What could be a cannon from the Queen Anne's Revenge was recovered from the ocean floor recently by the North Carolina State Underwater Archeology Unit's Queen Anne's Revenge Project.

When it was brought ashore, a team from the Cherry Point Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit assisted the Queen Anne's Revenge Project by providing X-ray equipment and technical expertise.

"We use the EOD unit for several reasons," said Wayne Lusardi, the Queen Anne's Revenge Project lead conservator. "We are a non-profit organization and don't have the funds to purchase the X-ray equipment and materials ourselves."

"Another reason is for the possible hazards we may come across with some of the items we pull up," said the Newport, N.C., native. "I've worked on ships that were older than this wreckage and have pulled up cannons with dry powder inside."

EOD Marines have had extensive

training in the proper handling and disposal of such volatile and hazardous material such as black gunpowder, and the unit has assisted with the project for the past three years.

"We were able to get some good training when we helped Wayne this time," said Chief Warrant Officer Bradley Garfield, Marine Wing Support Group 27 EOD officer. "We used a new modification of the advanced radio graphics system, which is now a computer-based system."

"I have to admit, it wasn't as productive as we had anticipated," continued the Burlington, Vt., native. "This machine is used to X-ray thin-cased munitions. The concretion mass around the item was too dense for us to fully determine what was inside it."

The size and shape of the concretion mass is similar to what has been discovered by the project team before, all of which have contained cannons. A small portion of metal can be seen on the bottom of the mass, which gives Lusardi high hopes that it is another cannon pulled from the watery depths.

"We were able to see an outline that did seem like a cannon, but that was all we could determine," said Garfield.

The EOD unit also uses these opportunities as a chance to help build community relations and bring out a little more history when working with the project team.



Cpl. Jason Morris

A cannon said to be from the sunken "Queen Anne's Revenge," found by archaeologists, sits in a tank during study.



Cpl. Jason Morris

Garfield repositions an X-Ray on the concretion mass found by the North Carolina State Underwater Archeology Unit. The mass is hoped to encase a cannon used on the ship captained by the pirate Blackbeard.

"I enjoy doing this type of work," said Garfield. "It's not only good training, but it also gives me a good feeling that we are helping out the community. We are helping a project team that doesn't have that much funding."

"We are also assisting the local and state communities by restoring a part of

their history," said Garfield. "It feels good to be a part, even if it is just a small part, of the contribution."

Some of the findings of the North Carolina State Underwater Archeology Unit's Queen Anne's Revenge Project can be seen at its project website, log on to www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/qar.

NCOs, From A-1

"What is your ideal Marine Corps like?" and, "If you were the Commandant of the Marine Corps, what would you do?" Once these preliminary steps were out of the way, the Marines spent the majority of the time discussing issues each Marine had brought from their base, and of those, which ones they would address with the Commandant.

"Each Marine was from a different base, so we all had issues that our respective base felt were important," Ugarte reflected. "It was tough to get through

everyone's ideas, especially since we didn't have a lot of time to dedicate to each issue."

However, the tough issues were only small challenges for the NCOs.

"Everyone was cooperative," Houtz commented. "The Marines were open minded and all willing to hear each other's ideas."

Once the final list of vital issues was agreed upon, the symposium culminated in a discussion with the Commandant.

"He (the Commandant) was very open minded and attentive," Ugarte said. "I felt that he was very curious about what

the NCOs had to say."

Houtz and Ugarte both felt the symposium was a positive step for the future of Marine NCO's – but they weren't the only ones.

"The NCO symposium is a great idea," Mellinger stated. "No matter what us older Marines think, we really don't remember exactly what life is like as a junior Marine today. The NCOs bridge that gap."

With that in mind, the NCOs are looking forward to the future of the Corps.

"We are the backbone of the Marine Corps," stated Houtz. "The participants in this year's

symposium are the future participants of the Sergeants Major Symposium."

The Marines say the fact that the commandant has taken the time to listen to concerns of his Marines, says a lot about the direction in which the Corps is moving.

"The commandant (Gen. James Jones) has hit another home run by bringing the NCOs together to help build a better Corps," Lt. Gen. Libutti proclaimed. "After speaking with the two Marines, it's obvious that the symposium was a success and should be a continued event in the evolution of the

Marine Corps."

In 1999, Gen. Jones decided that an NCO symposium should be added as a leadership symposium along with the Sergeants Major Symposium, as a way to collect ideas from NCOs representing all of the major commands on the paramount issues and potential improvements that should be addressed within the Marine Corps.

The first symposium occurred from Feb. 29 to Mar. 3, 2000 and was hailed as a great success throughout the Marine Corps, justifying the continuation of the event.

REFUND, From A-1

\$12,000 in taxable income, you'll receive a \$600 refund," he said. "That \$600 represents the difference between taxing \$12,000 at 15 percent and taxing it at 10 percent as provided for under the new law.

"If you filed as head of household last year and had at least \$10,000 in taxable income, you'll get a refund of \$500. Most taxpayers who filed as single last year and had at least \$6,000 in taxable income will get a refund of \$300," he continued.

Persons claimed as dependents, such as children, college students and elderly parents, receive no

refund. Further, Emswiler said, the refunds he cited are maximums — persons who reported less than the threshold incomes receive proportionally smaller refunds.

Eligible taxpayers need only ensure the Internal Revenue Service has their correct mailing address, Emswiler said. Servicemembers should notify the post office of moves or file IRS Form 8822, "Change of Address," with the IRS.

The IRS plan is to issue refunds according to the last two digits of taxpayers' Social Security numbers, a process that may take three months for 96 million checks involved.

ADM. HOLMES, From A-1

several challenges, he said.

"One of the biggest changes was that our Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department became part of Marine Aviation Logistics Support Element, Kaneohe," he said. "The integration was extremely smooth because the Sailors and Marines worked hard ahead of time to make it that way."

As Rear Adm. Holmes prepares for his move to Naples, Italy,

where he will take his place as Commander, Fleet Air Mediterranean, and Commander Task Force 67, he said he is confident the supply, maintenance and flight crews will continue doing a tremendous job keeping their aircraft mission-ready.

Rear Adm. Holmes said he will miss the Sailors and Hawaii.

"I've never been somewhere I didn't like, and living here in paradise has been wonderful," he said. "Moving to this side of the

island has made it even better. We're really going to miss waking up to the beautiful view of the Koolau Range every morning."

Rear Adm. Holmes said he hopes the ComPatReconForPac Sailors will enjoy their time in Hawaii, stay focused, look out for each other, and concentrate on safety while they're here.

Rear Adm. Holmes is scheduled to relinquish command to Rear Adm. Winns in a ceremony at 1 p.m. in Hangar 104 tomorrow.

MILITARY POLICE BLOTTER

Traffic Court

-From June 8-14, there were 69 traffic citations issued.

The Blotter

-A Marine was pulling away from the curb in his vehicle and ran into a steel lamp post.

-A Marine approached the gate with a passenger that was not wearing a seat-belt. It was revealed that the driver was driving on a revoked license.

-While at the Enlisted Club, two Marines were involved in an argument which turned physical when one Marine struck the other in the face with a beer bottle. He was treated for lacerations to the face at Tripler Army Medical Center.

-A Marine was apprehended at the Enlisted Club after he failed to comply with a lawful order from a Military Policeman.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown entered an unsecured and unattended office and stole her purse containing credit cards and \$900 in cash. Another Marine reported that he had \$110 stolen.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown stole his dog kennel and 2 tarps.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD for driving under the Influence of alcohol after he was involved in a traffic accident. Bail was set at \$250.

-Three Marines were apprehended after they communicated a threat to another Marine's wife.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD after

he failed to obey a police officer by refusing to relinquish his ID. He was held on \$50 bail.

-Three civilians were arrested for trespassing on Bellows Air Force Base, and also for possession of drug paraphernalia.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown vandalized his car by scratching words into the paint.

-A civilian employee was backing his vehicle and ran into a steel lamp post.

-A civilian employee reported that person(s) unknown entered her office, but did not steal anything.

-A Marine lost control of his vehicle and ran into a guardrail on H-3. He was admitted to TAMC for overnight observance.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown entered his secured and unattended barracks room and stole his camcorder.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Bail was set at \$250.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown entered his office space and stole approximately 65 CDs. Another Marine reported that his backpack was stolen.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD for trying to cash someone else's check and forging a signature. He was held without bail.

-A civilian employee reported that she received approximately ten harassing phone calls.

-A Marine was backing his vehicle and collided with another vehicle.

-A Marine's wife reported that person(s) unknown broke 12 light bulbs to

her patio lights.

Lost and Found

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

Neighborhood Watch

We are looking for neighborhood representatives to take charge of your local neighborhood watch program.

Crime Prevention

Call Crime Prevention for any assistance dealing with Crime Prevention issues or police issues. Contact Sgt. Kendra Gasper at 257-2103, ext. 314.