

# Hawaii MARINE

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March 15, 2002

## Pacific War Memorial dedicated



Photo by Bob Campbell

The first flag comes down as the second raises atop Mt. Suribachi, on Iwo Jima, Feb. 23. See pages B-4 and B-5 for the full story.

**Gunnery Sgt. Rhys A. Evans**  
*Public Affairs Chief*

Fifty-seven years ago, at approximately 8 a.m. on Feb. 19, thousands of young Americans donned with 80-pound packs packed into 80 amphibious LVTs as part of the first wave — destination, a tiny black sand volcanic island in the Pacific.

This eight square miles of volcanic ash and sand, reeking of sulphur, swept by Naval gunfire, bullets and bombs, would soak in the blood of more than 26,000 dead and wounded Americans.

Eighty Marines were awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II, twenty-two of them at Iwo Jima, along with five Navy corpsmen.

On March 16, dozens of these grizzled veterans — of one of the most horrific battles in the world's history — will gather at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, for perhaps the last time, to once more honor their combat brethren.

Standing at approximately one third the size of the Iwo Jima Marine Corps War

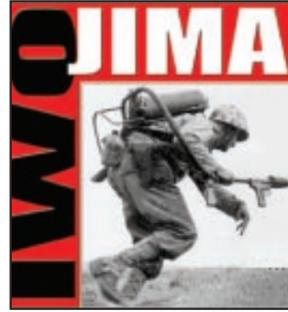
Memorial at Arlington Ridge in Virginia, a version of this monument will be unveiled on this day at the H-3 front gate of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"The idea here was to put something in that is an icon in the eyes of most Americans, which will be dedicated not just to the Marines, but all services," said Retired Marine Maj. Gen. Fred Haynes, a veteran of the Battle of Iwo Jima and then member of the 28th Marine Regiment, 5th Marine Division.

This 6,000-pound, seven-year project in the making will be the center piece for the ceremony honoring not only the veterans of this battle, but also the key role Hawaii played in providing the training ground for the majority of the units involved in the Pacific battleground.

This bronze and black granite monument is a gift from the Pacific War Memorial Association to the United States Marine Corps.

The dedication ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday.



## Marine Raiders receive honors at Punchbowl

**Cpl. Jacques-Rene Hebert**  
*Marine Forces Pacific,  
Public Affairs*

HONOLULU — Throughout its brief but prolific history, the U.S. has had its heroes who symbolize both freedom and patriotism.

Though we honor our heroes, regrettably sometimes, some seem forgotten — but not the Marine Raiders.

March 8, Marine Forces Pacific joined the U.S. Marine Raider Association at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in dedicating a monument to the Marine Raider battalions that gained fame and recognition during World War II.

"They fought their way through enemy territory earning accolades and awards and a place in the hearts of the American People," remarked Brig. Gen. John Castellaw, deputy commander for MarForPac. "Their stories became the stuff of legends."

Marine Corps Raiders were a special operations group formed shortly after the U.S. became involved in WWII, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Raider battalions were precursors to today's Marine reconnaissance units, and Navy SEAL programs, and were

See MAKIN, A-4



Cpl. Jacques-Rene Hebert

A veiled monument dedicated to the U.S. Marine Raiders of World War II stands proudly in the foreground, as a Marine color guard led by 1st Lt. Justin Stodgheill of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, marches to a moving rendition of "Amazing Grace."

## Kaneohe Bay's dedication goes Saturday at front gate, at 10 a.m.

The front gate to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, which is also known as the H-3 Main Gate, will be closed to routine traffic from 8:30-11 a.m., Saturday for the Pacific War Memorial Dedication ceremony. All motorists not involved with the ceremony, will be directed to the bravo, or back gate, (on Mokapu Road). A Visitors' Center will be in place during the hours of the gate closure at the back gate. For questions regarding the gate closure, contact the Military Police Department at 257-2103, ext. 318. For more information about the dedication ceremony, contact the Public Affairs Office at 257-8840. See today's Section B for full details on historical events surrounding the battle for Iwo Jima during World War II.



Sgt. Roman Yurek

## Linguist helps save base thousands

**Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.**  
*Combat Correspondent*

A Marine from 1st Radio Bn. recently submitted an idea to his command on how to save water from being wasted aboard MCB Hawaii.

Lance Cpl. Micky L. Warren, an Arabic linguist for 1st Radio Bn., was fed up with getting up in the morning, turning on his shower and having to wait several minutes for the water to heat up.

Warren decided to do something about his problem, so he sent a letter through his chain of command addressing the problem.

Citing his research, Warren presented a solution to the problem and an estimate on the amount of mon-

ey that could be saved annually by fixing it.

First, Warren had to find out if other Marines in his barracks were experiencing a long wait for hot water, too. He asked around.

He soon discovered other rooms within his barracks (Bldg. 7046) and another (Bldg. 7047) experienced the same problems.

Warren used simple mathematics to determine the amount of water being wasted each year within those buildings.

The Marine checked the showerheads and found out how many gallons of water were released per minute (GPM.) The GPM was multiplied by the average number of minutes the water took to get warm, then multiplied by the number of rooms in the barracks.

*"I figured there was probably a lot of money being wasted."*

Lance Cpl. Micky L. Warren  
*Arabic Linguist, 1st Radio Bn.*

Warren then contacted the Board of Water Supply to find the price of a gallon of water.

He multiplied how much water was being wasted, times the price per gallon, and found that tens of thousands of dollars a day were literally being thrown down the drain.

"I figured there was probably a lot of money being wasted as well, and if I could find a way to save that money, maybe we could get some

better equipment," said Warren.

While he is not a certified plumber, Warren was familiar with the trade through a previous job he had done with a construction company and previous work he had done on his own brother's business.

"I've helped build houses before; I also helped to install the plumbing into my brother's car wash," he added.

The Marine knew that the

See SAVINGS, A-4

See Section B for the 2nd in a series on Iwo Jima.

## MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

### WAIMANALO CLEAN UP

The Waimanalo Clean Up Coalition needs volunteers to help clean up the community Saturday at 7:30 a.m.

The focus of the cleanup will be on streams and roadways, including removal of abandoned vehicles, furniture, and appliances.

Billed as one of the biggest communities cleanups on the island, the Waimanalo effort has attracted people from several surrounding communities.

To volunteer, call 259-0223 and join a team, or meet at the Waimanalo School parking lot.

### BELLOWS EASTER

Bellows Air Force Station will host a family Easter Celebration, March 31 at 6:15 a.m., at Pavilion 5A.

Chaplain Andrew Johnson will lead guests in a praise and worship Sunrise Service.

Directly after worship, American Eatery will offer a special breakfast.

At 8:30 a.m., an Easter Egg Hunt and activities for children 14 and under will be held, including photos with the Easter Bunny and a bouncy castle.

Children's activities are free, and the mini golf course will offer a family discount.

For more details, call 259-4112.

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 23: Roman Catholic Mass at 5 p.m.

March 24 (Palm Sunday): Roman Catholic Mass at 9:30 a.m.; Protestant Services at 8 and 11 a.m.

March 26: Catholic Penance at 7 p.m.

March 28 (Holy Thursday): Roman Catholic Mass at 5 p.m.; Protestant Service at 6:30 p.m.

March 29 (Good Friday): Roman Catholic "Stations of the Cross" at 12 p.m.; Solemn Good Friday Service at 5 p.m.; Protestant Good Friday Service at 2 p.m.

March 30 (Holy Saturday): Roman Catholic Vigil Mass at 5 p.m.

March 31 (Easter Sunday): Easter Sunrise Service at 6 a.m. at the Rifle Range; Roman Catholic Mass at 9:30 a.m.; Protestant Services at 8 and 11 a.m.

All services are located in the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Base Chapel, Bldg. 1090.

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Crisis Hotline	521-4555
Child Protective Services	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188

## Hawaii MARINE

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## C.G.'S MAIL BOX

*'I suggest a regular beach patrol that we can come to know.'*



BRIG. GEN.  
MCABEE

- Submitted by Trista Rentz, family member

"Our children would benefit from knowing the face of the MP that patrols our beach and would be comfortable going to them for help if needed. They (the MPs) would come to know the families that frequent the beach, and it would alleviate the harassment that we are receiving.

In addition, a sign at the top of the hill might help to let people know that they must have their I.D.'s to enjoy the beach."

— Trista Rentz, family member

Mrs. Rentz,

I have been asked by the Commanding General to research and to respond to your email of Feb. 19, since your recommendation falls within my staff's responsibility.

The general appreciates you taking your time to participate in our "CG Mail" Program.

I respect your candor and your genuine desire to improve our procedures at North Beach.

As you know, recent events have caused an increase in our security. One look at our base's access policy shows how seriously the commanding general takes the safety and security of our base, servicemembers, and families.

The security of our people cannot and will not stop at the front gate.

With that said, I recognize that your concern and disappointment with our enforcement procedures may be valid.

I expect my military police to use a high level of judgment and discretion, especially when it involves the families of our Marines and Sailors.

Our goal at North Beach is to offer our servicemembers and their families an enjoyable facility, while concurrently providing a high level of safety and security for our families that live in the adjacent housing

areas.

Until now we have not had the staffing to designate a specific unit within the Provost Marshal's Office to patrol the beach, as you recommended.

However, with the recent addition of more Marines, we will be standing up a specific section to handle beach access control issues starting in March 2002, so that base residents can get familiar with our military police and vice versa.

We also intend on implementing your recommendation to place signs at our beaches, to remind our personnel of the base's policy of identification.

Again, thank you for participating in this program.

LtCol Cameron  
Provost Marshal, MCB Hawaii  
and  
Mr. Kent Murata  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4

*"I think an inline hockey rink on the base would be a step in the right direction."*

— Chief Warrant Officer 2 Robert R. Dubois, HQ Battery, 1/12

Chief Warrant Officer Dubois,

Thanks for participating in the CG Mail program.

We have been asked by the commanding general to research and to reply to your email of Feb. 12, since your request falls within my staff responsibility.

It is obvious that you have enthusiastically and efficiently researched this issue.

The commanding general under-

*The commanding general invites input from the base community via C.G. Mail on the following topics: What are we doing that we shouldn't be doing? What are we not doing that we should be doing? What are we doing that we should be doing better?*

*Responses should include a recommendation that will help solve the problem and must include your name and return address so that staff may respond.*

*For more information about how to send C.G. Mail, see the MCB Hawaii C.G. Mail page at [www.mcbh.usmc.mil/command/cgmail.htm](http://www.mcbh.usmc.mil/command/cgmail.htm).*

## Marine earns 'top cop' honor for HPD

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.  
Combat Correspondent

HONOLULU — A Marine reservist who works for the Honolulu Police Department received the Top Cop Award March 6 at the department's headquarters for achieving first place overall in the annual HPD Chief's Competition.

In a ceremony that included more than 20 other police officers who received medals for their performance in the competition, Staff Sgt. Patrick Sterling, operations chief for 4th Force Reconnaissance Co., stood out as the number one crime fighter by taking home four medals and the Top Cop Trophy.

The HPD Chief's Competition was held in November 2001 and ran in three separate competi-



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

Sterling addressed reporters outside of the Honolulu Police Department after receiving his award.

tions.

The first was the Fit-For-Life competition that had police officers doing push ups, sit ups, a vertical jump, bench presses, a 300-meter sprint and a one-and-a-half-mile run.

The Arrest and Control Tactics competition was a timed event that had officers performing various types of apprehension and

control tactics on fellow police officers.

Finally, the firearms competition tested the police officers' ability to discharge pistols at multiple targets while moving from various concealed positions. In this event the officers were graded on the time it took them to get through the course and their accuracy.

Sterling performed so

well that by the end of the awards ceremony, he had four medals to go with the Top Cop Trophy he would later receive.

He earned a gold medal in the individual fitness competition and another gold medal in Tactics and Control.

In the team categories, he earned a silver medal in fitness and a bronze in the team fire-arms competition.

Sterling's success is no surprise to his peers, or his superiors.

"To be honest, this is normal, especially from him," said Staff Sgt. Jose Tablada III, a platoon sergeant for 4th Force Recon. "He's an exceptional man, Marine, and police officer."

Those sentiments about Sterling were echoed by Honolulu's top crime fighter as well.

"He's a gentleman with a lot of integrity," said HPD Chief Lee Donohue. "(Sterling) is an exemplary model of what we expect our officers to be."



An "Island Warrior" from Golf Co., 2/3, aims in on a target downrange during the March 6 attack at Ulupa'u Crater.

## CSC assists 2/3 assault on crater

Story and Photos by  
**Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller**  
Combat Correspondent

More than 50 Marines from Golf Co., 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, climbed aboard amphibious assault vehicles and stormed up the Ulupa'u Crater to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay's Range Training Facility, in a live-fire exercise March 6.

The company has been focusing, recently, on breaking in a number of new Marines just received from the School of Infantry.

"We're trying to orient and train our new Marines with our mechanical assets like the AAVs," said Capt. Michael Wilonsky, commanding officer of Golf Co. "For a lot of these Marines, this is their first time training with these machines."

The three AAVs, full of Marines, ascended the crater and quickly assumed their designated positions on the overgrown landscape. All the while, mortars rained down at the opposite end of the range, covering the armed troop transports.

Plumes of smoke climbed skyward as the echoing sounds of mortar fire filled the air.

The Marines quickly exited the steel convoy and began making squad-sized movements to the end of the range where the mock enemy was staged.

A few rusty parts left over from numerous other mock attacks — and several silhouette-shaped, pop-up targets — served as the enemy during the exercise.

The Marines were at first firing rapidly, then the suppressive fire slowed down to conserve ammunition.

Squad leaders shouted out commands, and the Marines reacted by moving in perfect fashion, without hesitation, to their spots on the battlefield. Leaders seemed pleased with the new Marines' performance as they were moving through the knee-high, grassy terrain.

Once the company-sized element reached its objective at the end of the range, a shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon gun team sent a single round downrange at an enemy



Golf Co., 2/3, assumes the kneeling position while opening fire on targets downrange.



Golf Co., 2/3, Marines exit an AAV prior to movement towards the objective.

vehicle. The round made a direct hit on its intended target.

Suddenly, as if the warriors had suddenly vanquished their enemy, the call was given to bound back to the AAVs. Marines dropped to the deck and began firing to cover others making their way back.

Once all the 2/3 warriors loaded up into the vehicles, another steady stream of mortar fire hailed down on the enemy. The tracks tanked way, spinning up dirt and gravel until they had cleared the gate of the training facility.

Many spectators from the 3rd Marine Regiment lined the top of a berm on the range to get a close look at the infantry training conducted below. Among those present was Col. Joseph Medina, commanding officer of 3rd Marines.



Golf Co., 2/3, 60MM mortars provide suppressing fire from approaching AAVs.

"We don't get enough of a chance to do this kind of training," Medina said. "It's great anytime we can do training with mortars and AAVs. It shows the Marines that they're not alone out there on the battlefield."

"I think we got a good foothold into our mechanical and infantry training today," said Wilonsky. "I foresee us doing a lot more of this kind of training in the future."



Golf Co., 2/3, "Island Warriors" engage their enemy targets with live ammunition, under the cover of green smoke.

## WORD ON THE STREET

*"Who was the most influential woman in American history?"*



"...Mother Theresa. She did so much with her life. She gave it to helping people."

**Irene Kapiko**  
Branch manager  
Bank of Hawaii at K-Bay



"...Amelia Earhart. She was the first woman to fly over the Atlantic."

**Sgt. Meagan Ranbarger**  
Training NCO  
1st Radio Bn.



"Mother Theresa devoted her entire life to helping others."

**Staff Sgt. Matthew Morgan**  
Ammo tech  
Headquarters Co., 3rd Marine Regiment



"...Jackie O. Kennedy. Her presence had a huge impact on our country."

**Sharon Zauner**  
Executive assistant to the Chief of Staff  
MCCS



"...Betsy Ross. She sewed together the fabric that stands as a symbol of freedom for our country."

**Staff Sgt. Derrick Lamar**  
Administrative chief to the CG

# Waterfront Ops secures seagoers on K-Bay waters



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

**A U.S. Coast Guard swimmer jumps out of a helicopter to rescue a mock-victim during a tri-weekly training evolution held in cooperation with Waterfront Operations at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.**

**Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller**  
*Combat Correspondent*

When things go awry for ocean goers in Kaneohe Bay, time is of the essence. The faster a rescue team can be on site to help the situation, the better the outcome will be.

Sailors at MCB Hawaii's Waterfront Operations honed their rescue skills March 8, during rescue operations training with the U.S. Coast Guard in the waters of Kaneohe Bay.

Waterfront Ops not only provides training support for military services on Oahu, it also provides MCB Hawaii with waterborne search and rescue assets, security and a readily accessible environmental response team, capable of handling emergencies in the water.

The U.S. Coast Guard patrols most of the waters surrounding the island of Oahu, but in the Kaneohe Bay area, it has no ships available for use in rescue operations. Waterfront Ops has a partnership with the Coast Guard in an effort to make the bay waters a little safer.

Waterfront Ops has nine watercraft at its disposal, most of which are suitable for participating in many kinds of rescue operations, whether the mission be a capsized vessel or something as simple as a fisherman who has run out of gas.

In extreme situations where a Kaneohe Bay-based boat cannot respond to such an emergency, the Coast Guard has a helicopter that



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

**A Waterfront Operations boat floats beneath a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter during a training evolution designed to help the two organizations be better prepared to handle rescue operations.**

can be deployed to the windward side.

The Coast Guard and Waterfront Ops train with these types of rescue missions three times a week at all times of day, and in varying weather conditions.

Swimmers can jump or be lowered from the helicopter by cable, depending on the situation, to rescue victims of any ocean catastrophe.

"A lot of times, we can get on the scene of an accident before anyone else can to get the situation under control," said Senior Chief Petty Officer Gerard Kalani, assistant officer in charge of Waterfront Ops. "Working with the Coast Guard just makes things a little faster. But, our guys know the bay very well, and they train there all the time.

"They even know the numbers of every buoy out there," he added.

## SAVINGS, From A-1

barracks needed a bigger water circulation pump, so he got on the Internet and searched several sites to find out the prices on bigger pumps for the barracks.

Warren found that the most expensive pump cost about \$1,500, and with the amount of water saved, the cost of the

pump would be saved almost immediately.

After citing how much money could be saved annually in water waste by installing new pumps at his barracks, Warren threw in an additional water conservation idea in his letter.

The Marine noticed that the 1.6 gallons of water per flush, according to the label

on the back of his toilet, could easily be set to a lower amount by adjusting the floats, a job that must be done by facilities personnel.

While Warren's conservation idea may take some time to implement, his initiative may serve as an example to others who want to help prevent money and resources from being flushed down the

drain at MCB Hawaii.

If the float levels were adjusted just one tenth of a gallon lower, the money saved annually would be more than \$40,000, according to Warren's figures.

The calculations in his letter are currently being reviewed by facilities; yet the time and initiative he took to address the issue is receiving praise from all.

## MAKIN, From A-1

known for their unorthodox training tactics and philosophies.

One of the Raiders' more known battles occurred shortly after the start of World War II, when a force of approximately 200 Raider Marines set out for Butaritari Island in the Makin Atoll for an attack on a small garrison. August 17, 1942, though, outnumbered by the enemy and challenged by a vicious sea, the Raiders succeeded in flushing out the opposition and taking the garrison — not, however, without casualties.

Dangerous surf conditions and strafing enemy aircraft forced the remaining Raiders to leave fallen brethren on the small atoll, reportedly paying a

local islander to bury them. Retrieving their fellow Marines, however, proved much more difficult than originally imagined.

Nineteen of the Raiders never made it home, and remained in an unmarked, mass grave, until many years later.

"Their actions galvanized the war effort and helped pave the way for an eventual victory in the Pacific," explained Castellaw, in a fitting eulogy to the fallen heroes. "Today we honor not just these men, but rather all those who served as Marine Raiders during WWII, including several of whom have traveled great distances to be here."

Less than three years ago, the remains of the 19 missing Raiders from the battle for



Cpl. Jacques-Rene Hebert

**Marine Forces Pacific Deputy Commander Brig. Gen. John Castellaw and Mel Heckt of the U.S. Marine Raider Association unveiled the monument.**

Makin Island were recovered and repatriated by the Central

Identification Lab, Hawaii. CILHI is currently undertaking a search for the remains of the nine other members of that unit believed to be buried on the island Kwajeleim.

"CILHI treated all of the remains with the utmost solemnity," expressed Mel Heckt, president of the U.S. Marine Raider Association, "Nowhere was that more evident than in the final repatriation ceremony that sent the Marines to Arlington National Cemetery."

The legacy of the Raider battalions is immense.

Castellaw described to the audience what effect the special operations group had on the future of the Corps.

"Though the Raider units do not exist today, their legacy lives on in the Corps in the form of

our Marine Reconnaissance units," said Castellaw, "including the 4th Force Reconnaissance Co., based at Kaneohe Bay, with us here today to pay homage to the men who paved the way for them."

The solemn tribute was brought to a close with fitting words from the MarForPac deputy commander, as he remembered the importance of the Raiders and what their actions helped achieve.

"With the dedication of this marker today, we ensure that generation after generation of visitors to this hallowed ground will know of their deed.

"May it stand forever as a testament to the honor, courage and commitment these men had to God, country and Corps.

"Semper Fidelis."

# Marines qualify for ride of a lifetime at Schofield Barracks

**Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero**  
*Combat Correspondent*

**SCHOFIELD ARMY BARRACKS** — More than 30 Marine reservists from across the 50 states fast-roped at Schofield Army Barracks' rappell tower March 4.

The Marines had initially arrived at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, for two weeks of annual training.

"In preparation for the ride of a lifetime, the reservists must master the tower before performing any operations on a CH-53D Sea Stallion," explained Staff Sgt. Edgar Catala, Helicopter Rope Suspension Training instructor, Combat Service Support Group 3.

To qualify, the warriors had to perform four descents down the tower.

The first two are called "Hollywoods" — without combat gear, just gloves and a kevlar helmet. For the last two, Marines fast-roped with a flack jacket, deuce gear, gloves, kevlar and a 30 pound pack.

"At first we want to start them off with their everyday uniform, and we make sure they master that before adding the combat gear that would be necessary in a wartime situation," explained Sgt. Michael Finningan, HRST instructor, CSSG-3.

For some of the Marines, this was their first experience fast-roping off a tower.

"I feel a little nervous, but only because it will be my first time fast-roping," said Cpl. Jewel Robinson, supply clerk, Headquarters and Service Bn., 4th Force Service Support Group, Marietta, Ga. "I'm sure that when I'm up there everything will be fine, and I'll successfully complete my challenge for the day.

"As always, safety is paramount while performing any training," added Catala.

Some safety precautions included radio communications, in case of emergency air support. A Navy corpsman was present at the sight with spinal board, neck braces, and all necessary medical gear.

"The Marine Corps always invites us to all training evolutions," said Petty Officer 3rd Class William Sukitch, corpsman, Surgical Co. A, 4th Medical Bn., Pittsburgh,



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero

**Lance Cpl. Maria Cano, a supply clerk with 1st Detachment, Abalene, Texas, mastered fast-roping on Schofield Barracks' rappell tower during her two weeks of annual training at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.**

Pa. "We have to be present in case of any mishaps to provide immediate medical attention."

The fast-roping "Devil Dogs" received essential training, but they had fun.

"It's awesome," added Lance

Cpl. Justin Mueller, refrigeration mechanic, 4th Maintenance Co., 4th FSSG, Omaha, Neb. "I enjoy this type of training because it always gets my blood flowing, and it's training every Marine might use some day."



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero

**To prepare for fast-roping from a CH-53D, the Marines fast-roped four times off this 50-foot tower at Schofield Barracks.**

# — EVERY CLIME AND PLACE —

## Wolf Pack prowls in Norway

Cpl. Paula M. Fitzgerald

Camp Lejeune Public Affairs

LANKE, Norway — The eyes and ears of the Wolf Pack will be trained on the snowy hills and valleys of central Norway as 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Bn. leads the way into Battle Griffin, the second phase of NATO exercise Strong Resolve '02.

The battalion is supporting Marine Air Ground Task Force-2 and the Norwegian 6th Division and getting some valuable cold weather experience along the way.

"Our primary purpose during the exercise is as the forward reconnaissance unit for the MAGTF," explained Sgt. Charles Haberle, a vehicle commander for one of the battalion's Light Armored Vehicles. "We go forward of the MAGTF and gather and relay information that they can use to plan for battle."

Data such as routes, terrain and where the enemy is located are pieces of in-



Cpl. Paula M. Fitzgerald

Passing a toll booth on snow-covered highway E6, an LAV from 2nd Light Armored Recon. Bn. makes its way to Midsand. The battalion will be working with the Norwegian 6th Division Armor during Battle Griffin, in the NATO exercise Strong Resolve '02.

telligence that the MAGTF needs in order to make accurate combat-related decisions, added Haberle, of Hilltown, Penn.

Although the missions assigned to 2nd LAR during Battle Griffin may be similar to those it faces at Camp Lejeune, N.C., the harsh weather here certainly is unique.

"Norway is very nice, and I grew up in the same kind of weather," said Haberle.

The Marines and Sailors from 2nd LAR prepared for the wintry weather of Norway months before ar-

riving.

The first phase of their pre-deployment workup occurred at Camp Lejeune during Pre-Environmental Training where they learned how to construct four and 10-man tents, put on skis and snowshoes and arctic survival techniques such as preventing cold weather injuries.

The battalion will have the opportunity to work side by side with Norwegian armor units during the exercise, giving both forces a chance to learn from each other.

## Flagpole honors



Sgt. Roman Yurek

Brigadier Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, commanding general, MCB Hawaii, awarded (from left) Master Sgt. Ronald R. Hackler, band leader, Marine Forces Pacific Band, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for superior performance of duties while the band leader; Master Sgt. Juan D. Rivera, MCB Hawaii operations chief, the Army Commendation Medal for his performance to the Pacific Talon Mobilization and Deployment Exercise; Parisilla Oku, base financial manager, 30 years of service recognition; Wayne H. Yamada, director, Semper Fit Center, 20 years of service recognition; and Bob Zugg, on behalf of Marine Corps Air Facility's airfield operations, a letter of appreciation from the Bombardier Aerospace for MCAF's performance during the Canadian Force One visit to MCB Hawaii.

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IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY  
TURN OFF WHEN NOT IN USE

