

Hawaii MARINE

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Marines shine at PacDivs

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.
Combat Correspondent

PU'ULO A RANGE FACILITY — More than 180 shooters vied for top marksmanship honors last week during the Pacific Division Championships as the Competition-In-Arms Program reached the century mark this year.

Annually, the Division Championships are held at four locations; Okinawa, Japan, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Camp Lejeune, N.C., and MCB Hawaii, ac-

ording to Marine Corps order 3591.2J. Formerly known as the Pacific Division Matches, the Championships are used to pick the top 10 percent of marksmen to compete in the Marine Corps Championships taking place from April 1 to April 20 at Camp Lejeune, N.C. In 1901, the Marine Corps attempted to form a competitive marksmanship team for its enlisted ranks.

Under the guidance of Maj. Charles H. Lauchheimer, then Inspector of Target Practice, the first competitive team en-

tered the New Jersey Rifle Association's first match held at Sea Girt, N.J., in 1901.

Although the Marines did not win at Sea Girt, Maj. Lauchheimer continued to take an active role, stressing the need for a program whereby Marines could develop their marksmanship knowledge and impart that knowledge throughout the Corps.

It was Lauchheimer's belief that as the Marines gathered every year to compete

See MATCHES, A-8



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

Pacific Division shooting match winners show off their awards during a ceremony after the competition ended at Pu'uloa Range Facility.

Marine icon visits MCBH

Lance Cpl. Jacques-René Hébert
Mar For Pac Public Affairs Office

CAMP H.M. SMITH — Retired Marine Lt. Gen. Carol A. Mutter visited here Tuesday to share her many experiences with Marines and Sailors from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, and Marine Forces Pacific at Camp H.M. Smith in celebration of Women's History Month.

Lt. Gen. Mutter, whose career spanned more than 30 years, was the first woman in the Marine Corps to reach the rank of both major general and lieutenant general in an institution whose population is approximately 95 percent male.

Born and raised in Colorado, Lt. Gen. Mutter received her bachelor's degree from Colorado State College, now known as University of Northern Colorado.

Her original intent was to go to school for teaching; however, in 1966, between her junior and senior years of college, she attended Women's Officer Candidates School in Quantico, Va. She was commissioned upon graduation in 1967.

Upon hearing of Lt. Gen. Mutter's future plans to enter the military, a college advisor told her that he thought she was wasting her time and education. Little did he know what the future would hold for her.

While at her first duty station, Camp Pendleton, Lt. Gen. Mutter found the climate for females in the Marine Corps far different than what it has become today. At that time, if a woman became pregnant while in the Corps, she was

See LT. GEN. MUTTER, A-10

Hijudai Howie



Cpl. Kimberely S. Dowell

Marines from Charlie Battery, 1st Bn., 12th Marine Regiment prepare to fire an M198 Howitzer round down range during their deployment in Hijudai, Japan. For more on Charlie Battery Marines abroad, see page A-3.

Best-selling author shares experiences

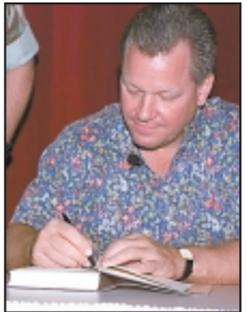
Cpl. Roman Yurek
Combat Correspondent

Best-selling author James Bradley spoke to a packed house at the base theater Thursday about his book "Flags of our Fathers," and the experiences of his father, former Navy corpsman James "Doc" Bradley.

Bradley's father was one of the six men who raised the American flag atop Mount Suribachi Feb. 23, 1945, during the battle of Iwo Jima. Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal captured the moment on film, almost accidentally, and the image became the most reproduced picture in history.

Though Bradley was never in the Armed Forces, he felt his dad would have wanted him to tell the story of every American who stormed the beaches of the five-mile-long island, not just of the six who raised the flag on Mount Suribachi.

"Whenever we'd ask him about the flag raising, he always told us 'The real heroes are the ones who never came back,'" said Bradley. "The only time he told my mom about it was during a conversation on their first date."



Cpl. Roman Yurek

James Bradley autographs a copy of his book during his visit.

Bradley and his brother found out most of the information about their father after his death.

"After my father died we began going through the boxes in his closet," said Bradley. "We found a letter written home after he helped raise the flag. In the letter, he told his mom and dad 'This was the happiest moment of my life.'"

The Bradley's found hundreds of letters about Iwo Jima, including an autograph request from John Wayne.

He also found out that his father received a Navy Cross, which made him interested in finding out some of the other hidden facts about his father. To do so, Bradley

See AUTHOR, A-6

MCBH prepares for possible Hawaii teacher's strike

MCB Hawaii Public Affairs
News Release

Members of the Hawaii State Teachers Association, which represents the Department of Education's public school district, unanimously voted March 14 in favor of striking if negotiations with the State do not produce an acceptable contract.

The HSTA announced the proposed strike date is set for April 5. Marine Corps Community

Services Children and Youth Programs has been working on contingency plans to assist parents in the event a strike does occur.

"One plan will not work for every family," said Susan Cleveland, MCCS Children and Youth Programs manager. "The plan must consist of a variety of options implemented by parents, commands, and MCCS."

The most important first step, according to Cleveland, is to start planning now. Parents should con-

sider whether additional child care is needed, the additional cost is affordable, and their existing child care provider would be available if there is a strike.

Cleveland also suggested considering things like reduced or alternate work hours, and the feasibility of programs like co-ops and leave sharing.

"A co-op involves a group of parents who enter into an agreement to exchange child care services without monetary payments,"

Cleveland explained. "Co-ops have a set of regulations parents agree to follow, which, among other things, set up a system for tracking child care hours and child safety concerns."

Leave sharing works with several families getting together and coordinating different leave days during the week.

"Regulations support parents assisting each other during a short-term teacher strike," Cleveland added. "Regulations for the Family

Child Care Program authorize individuals to provide child care in their base quarters without being certified if the child care is offered on an intermittent, irregular basis for less than 10 hours per week, or for more than 10 hours per week during an emergency.

"If a teacher strike does occur, it would certainly be classified as an emergency situation," she continued. "We want to encourage par-

See STRIKE, A-8

11th MEU(SOC) arrives for sustainment training

MCB Hawaii Public Affairs
News Release

NAVAL BASE PEARL HARBOR — The 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) arrived in Hawaii Tuesday to conduct sustainment training aboard several military installations on Oahu.

The 11th MEU(SOC), which

is embarked upon the USS Boxer (LHD-4), the USS Harpers Ferry (LSD-47), and the USS Cleveland (LPD-7), is scheduled to conduct training on NB Pearl Harbor, Schofield Barracks, Kahuku Army Training Area, and MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay until their departure Friday.

The more than 2,000 Marines and Sailors of the 11th MEU(SOC) departed their

home base at Camp Pendleton, Calif., last week to deploy to the Western Pacific and the Arabian Gulf for the next six months.

The training here is designed to refresh the Marines' basic warrior skills as they complete the first leg of their deployment. These skills must be continually honed to keep the Marines ever vigilant as a force in readiness as they conduct their mission of forward presence.

While deployed, the 11th MEU(SOC)'s mission is to remain combat-ready to ensure the unit is fully capable of meeting more than 23 real-world missions it may face, including humanitarian assistance operations.

Following the training, the 11th MEU(SOC) will return to the ships of the Boxer Amphibious Ready Group and continue its deployment.



Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible

Marines with the 11th MEU(SOC) conduct training on Schofield Barracks Tuesday.

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

ENERGY CONSERVATION

The MCB Hawaii Facilities Department Energy Conservation section offers these tips to help lower base utility budgets:

- Shut off lighting when leaving a room.
- Keep all doors and windows closed when running air conditioning at home or work.
- Turn off air conditioning during unoccupied times.
- Ensure air conditioning in workspaces is set at 78 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
- Ensure recreational lighting is on only as needed.
- Turn on lights in storage areas only when stock is being handled.
- Wash and dry clothes only when you have a full load.

For more information, contact Mr. Jim McFarland, at 257-2171 ext. 284, email: mcfarlandjd@mcbh.usmc.mil.

HEADQUARTERS BN. GARAGE SALE

Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii, is holding a garage sale Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 2000A Flemming Circle aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

All proceeds will benefit the HQ Bn. 226th Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Donated items may be brought to Bldg. 4009 before Saturday. For more information, contact Lance Cpl. Heather Dyer at 257-8812.

RED CROSS BABYSITTING CLASS

The American Red Cross is offering a babysitting class March 28 from 8 a.m. to noon, and March 31 from 1 to 3 p.m.

For more information, or to enroll, call the Kaneohe Branch of the American Red Cross at 257-8848.

SCOUT LEADERSHIP WANTED

Boy Scout Troop 425, located aboard MCBH Kaneohe Bay, has openings for adult leadership. Scoutmaster positions are available as well as positions on the administrative committee.

The troop meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., and conducts monthly outings (camping and hiking), as well as community service projects. Experience is not needed, only a desire to help form the future of America.

Interested adults should call Dave Runyon at 254-2696 (evenings/weekends), 257-1852 (workday), or e-mail at runyonda@mcbh.usmc.mil.

AESC SCHOLARSHIP

All Enlisted Spouses' Club 2001/2002 applications are currently available at MCCS Personal Services offices, the Base Library and the AESC Thrift Shop. The deadline for applications is April 15. For more information, call Michelle at 254-0551 or Trisha at 254-2642.

HABILITAT SEEKS HELP

Habilitat, a non-profit, non-sectarian substance abuse treatment program, is seeking donations of camouflage utility trousers for their work crews.

For information about making individual or unit donations, contact Staff Sgt. Sean Flanary at 257-8824.

HAWAII MARINE

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Press Chief
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Section named 'Top Gun'



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

Colonel R.B. Peele, commanding officer, 3rd Marine Regiment, congratulates the members of Gun 6, Bravo Battery, 1st Bn., 12th Marines, at the unveiling of the Top Gun Award, in front of 3rd Marine Regiment Headquarters, for their superior performance at the artillery Top Gun competition held at the Pohakuloa Training Area in February.

Timeline shows women Marine advances

Defenselink Timeline

*Aug. 12, 1918 - World War I - 305 "Reservists (Female)" were admitted into the Marine Corps to perform clerical duties, and thereby, "Free a Marine to fight."

*Aug. 13, 1918 - Opha Mae Johnson, the first woman Marine, enlisted in Washington, D.C.

*July 30, 1919 - Major General George Barnett, Commandant, issued orders for the separation of all women from the Reserve.

*Nov. 7, 1942 - General Thomas Holcomb, Commandant, approved the formation of the United States Marine Corps Women's Reserve (USMCWR). Mrs. Ruth Cheney Streeter of Morristown, NJ, was commissioned a major in the USMCWR and sworn in as the first Director of the Women's Reserve on Jan. 29, 1943. She achieved the grade of colonel prior to resigning her commission on Dec. 6, 1945.

*Feb. 1943 - World War II - women's continuous active service began. The first enlisted class of 722 women completed training at Hunter College, NY, on April 25, 1943; the first officer class with 75 women graduated from training at Mount Holyoke College, MA, on May 11, 1943.

*Jun 1944 - Women Reserves constituted 85 percent of the enlisted personnel on duty at Headquarters Marine Corps, and from one-half to two-thirds of the personnel manning all major posts and stations in the United States. At their peak, there were over 19,000 women, approximately the strength of a Marine Division, in wartime service in the Marine Corps.

*Dec 1945 - Two-thirds of the Women Reserves had been separated or transferred to inactive status as part of the postwar demobilization. In 1946, the Marine Corps elected to retain a small nucleus of trained women to set up a postwar reserve to avoid having to start from scratch again.

*June 12, 1948 - Congress passed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act (Public Law 625), which authorized the acceptance of women into the regular component of the Marine Corps. Women could not exceed two percent of total service strength or hold permanent rank above lieutenant colonel. The director of Women Marines would hold the temporary rank of colonel.

*Nov. 3, 1948 - Colonel Katherine A. Towle, who had been

the second director of the Women's Reserve, was discharged from the Marine Corps Reserve and accepted a Regular commission as a permanent lieutenant colonel. The next day she was appointed the first director of Women Marines, with the temporary rank of colonel.

*1949 - The 3rd Recruit Training Battalion was formed at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. with Capt. Margaret M. Henderson as the first commanding officer. The Women Officers' Training Class was established at Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, in June 1949 under the command of Captain Elsie E. Hill.

*Aug. 1950 - Korean War - For the first time in history, Women Reserves were mobilized.

*May 1, 1953 - Julia Hamblet became director of Women Marines—as a colonel. She held this post until March 1, 1959.

*1965 - Vietnam War - A strength increase was approved and by 1968 there were 2,700 women Marines on active duty. Opportunities expanded as well. From 1965 to 1973, women Marines carried out an increasing variety of duties both stateside and overseas. The Marine Corps also began opening up career-type formal training programs to women officers and advanced technical training to enlisted women.

*March 18, 1967 - Master Sergeant Barbara J. Dulinsky, who had volunteered for duty in Vietnam, reported to the Military Assistance Command in Saigon—the first woman Marine ordered to a combat zone. A total of 28 enlisted women and eight women officers served in Vietnam.

*Nov. 8, 1967 - President Johnson signed into Public Law 90-130, a bill which repealed the limits on the number of women in the services, permitted permanent promotion to colonel, and provided for the temporary appointment of women to brigadier general if filling a flag rank billet. In his words, "Our Armed Forces literally could not operate effectively or efficiently without our women..."

*1974 - The Commandant approved a change in policy permitting the assignment of women to specified rear echelon elements of the Fleet Marine Force, but they could not be deployed with assault units or units likely to become engaged in combat.

*1975 - The Corps approved the assignment of women to all career fields except infantry, artillery, armor, and pilot/air crew.

See WOMEN, A-7



Cpl. Roman Yurek

Retired Lt. Gen. Carol Mutter spoke to Marines, Sailors and civilians at Anderson Hall Dining Facility Tuesday at the Women's History Month Luncheon. Lieutenant Gen. Mutter was in the Marine Corps from 1967 to 1999. During her career, she became the first woman to be qualified for the U.S. Space Command operations directorate, first female flag officer/general to command a major deployable tactical command (3rd Force Service Support Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force), and the first female Marine major general and lieutenant general.

MALSEK Sailors complete overhauls

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

Five Sailors with Marine Aviation Logistics Support Element Kaneohe recently completed a total rebuilding of a T-56-A-14 engine, the engine that powers the Navy's P-3 Orion Patrol aircraft.

The repairs, which are classified as 1st degree repairs, put MALSEK in a league with only two other locations in the Pacific, Naval Stations Widby Island, Wash., and Misawa, Japan.

Engine repairs are classified into 1st, 2nd and 3rd degree, 3rd degree being the most minor of repairs and 1st degree being a complete engine overhaul. This is when an engine is almost completely disassembled and reconstructed, said Chief Petty Officer Lionel S. Seeram, leading chief petty officer for the

MALSEK power plant division. Until now, Widby Island and Misawa were the only stations on the West Coast qualified to perform 1st degree repairs, commented Seeram.

The Sailors, who are Seeram, Petty Officer 1st Class James L. Ferguson, Petty Officers 2nd

Class Kerry L. Passmore and Stephen E. Guerra, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Kevin J. Bowman, all aviation machinist's mates with MALSEK, took a mere two weeks to have the engine running, and three weeks to have a completed engine. An effort of this magnitude would normally be a six-week project

because the Sailors did not have all of the necessary tools, said Seeram. They were required to manufacture the necessary tools in their maintenance shop.

"We were doing something that people said we couldn't do," said Ferguson. "They said we were too small. We just

Pacific Fleet visited the Sailors to congratulate them on their efforts. Rear Adm. Holmes also awarded Ferguson and Passmore with Navy Achievement Medals and will award Guerra and Bowman with flag letters of commendation.

"They really impressed me with their professionalism and dedication through the extra hours they put in to accomplish the mission," said 1st Lt. Mark D. Buczek, MALSEK power plants division officer. "They were outstanding through both their leadership and their teamwork."

The Sailors also felt a great sense of accomplishment when they saw the engine nearing completion.

"The best part was when we were almost done and we were testing the engine and working out all of the bugs," said Guerra.

The Sailors who performed this first degree maintenance feel they have taken great steps toward making MALSEK's maintenance shop one of the best in the DoN.

"All the aviation intermediate maintenance departments better watch out, K-Bay's coming up," said Ferguson.



Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible

Rear Adm. Michael L. Holmes, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, inspects parts of the T-56-A-14 engine in the MALSEK power plant maintenance shop.

with five Sailors working on it, said Seeram.

"When you talk about building an engine from scratch and having it running in two weeks, it is absolutely outstanding," said Guerra.

The already complicated repairs were made even more dif-

ficult because the Sailors did not have all of the necessary tools, said Seeram.

The performance of the Sailors was admired and recognized all the way to the top of their chain of command. Rear Adm. Michael L. Holmes, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S.

wanted to prove that we could do it."

The already complicated repairs were made even more dif-

Hawaii Marines take on Hijudai climate, terrain

Cpl. Kimberly S. Dowell
MCB Okinawa Public Affairs

HIJUDAI, Japan — Caked in mud and shivering in their cold-weather gear as they dug in for two weeks of training here, the Marines could have been mistaken for infantrymen. But when more than 96,000 pounds of steel came barreling through the sludge, the difference between this unit and its brothers in the infantry became obvious: it was the size of the guns.

The M-198 Howitzers of Battery C, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment headed for the cold weather and mountainous training area here in February to conduct the first live-fire exercise of the unit's six-month deployment to Okinawa, Japan.

Leaving behind the warm, sunny climate of Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, for the subtropical jungles of Okinawa wasn't too difficult, according to Gunnery Sgt. Anthony S. Rucker, battery gunnery sergeant.

But the snow and cold here presented a challenge for the Marines during their training. Some of the Marines headed back to the barracks after two weeks in the field checking inside their boots and gloves to ensure their fingers and toes were still there.

"Some of the Marines can just now feel their fingers and toes," said Capt. Henry D. Brown, battery commanding officer, three days after the unit had returned to base camp. "Some of these Marines had never seen snow. I am very proud of their perseverance and unstoppable motivation, considering the weather and the terrain."

The Marines slept in tents tucked into hillsides around the various gun positions in the maneuver area. The cold, wet weather first created mud, then frozen mud.

There was mud everywhere, according to Brown. It got into Marines' boots, clothes, sleeping bags, tents, everything. And then it would freeze overnight, causing the boots and the clothes to be stiff as well as filthy.

The rough weather only added to the training experience.

"Situational training like this helps prepare us for the real thing," said Cpl. Justin Jankowski, radio operator. "The cold weather adds to the realism and helps us prepare for combat."

During the "real thing," artillery units provide fire support to the maneuver element, usually an infantry unit. But the link between the trigger man on an M-198 Howitzer and the infantry Marines is considerably more complicated than sighting in and firing.

Four elements work together to get the 100-pound artillery shells down range and on target. Forward observers work with the supported element, moving into observation positions with the infantrymen. They serve as the eyes for the Marines who fire the howitzers.

Using digital and voice communication, they tell the Fire Support Coordination



Cpl. Kimberly S. Dowell

A Marine with Charlie Battery, 1/12, currently on deployment to Okinawa, Japan, sets the trajectory coordinates on an M198 Howitzer during training in Hijudai, Japan, last month.

Center what the artillerymen are firing at, where the target is, how fast it's moving and other information.

The FSCC takes the "call for fire" information and determines the safest and most effective fire support. They determine whether the howitzers will be fired at all.

"The FSCC serves to prevent friendly fire," Brown said. "The also prevents wasting ammo by coordinating with the other fire-support elements on the ground or in the air."

Once the FSCC approves the call for fire, the information is sent to the Fire Direction Center.

The FDC determines the appropriate calculations for each round to be fired. Then it figures out which direction, at what angle and how big of a bang is required.

The data is transmitted to the gun line where 8,000-pound barrels are aimed into the sky and, finally, lanyards are pulled. Artillery rounds flash into the sky and then disappear over the horizon.

To the untrained eye, it appears as though the Marines are firing blindly amidst a flurry of confusing jargon and smoking cannons.

"Every Marine in the battery has a unique role that can't be overlooked," Brown said. "Every link from sensor to shooter is necessary."

Training here provides the unit the chance to practice essential movement skills. Artillery units move through a combat area in truck convoys. Some of the training areas they use do not provide multiple gun positions.

The Marines utilized five gun positions during their most recent training.

"It is very important that we get to practice the maneuver training because often our missions are time dependent," Rucker said. "You can't take 20 minutes getting to a gun position when you've got an infantry unit waiting for fire support."

While spending most of its training time actually practicing the safe and effective completion of fire missions, the battery also devoted its time to basic combat training.

"Patrolling, land navigation, offensive and defensive operations are infantry skills essential to our success in combat," Brown said. "We are a lot like an infantry unit. You kind of have to laugh because we'll be out in the mud, just like an infantry unit, busting out calculators and crunching numbers. We're part grunt, part geek."

"I feel certain the battery is more prepared for combat now than before it came here," Brown said. "(The Marines) showed great determination, and I am very happy with how the training went. I believe few people could do what they did out there."

WORD ON THE STREET

What recreational activity would you suggest to someone who has just arrived in Hawaii?



"I'd tell them to go to the Polynesian center and Paradise Cove luau so they can get a chance to check out the local culture."

Sgt. Victor W. Heaggans
Ordnance NCOIC
HMT-301

"Take up scuba diving, because you get to learn something new and it's one way of staying out of trouble."



Cpl. Zachary J. Bixby
Flightline Mechanic
HMH-362



"Definitely take up scuba diving because Hawaii is paradise and this is where some of the best diving is."

Petty Officer 1st Class Gerry L. Russo
Aviation Electrician
HSL-37

"I would suggest hiking, because it is a great and inexpensive way to see this beautiful island."



1st Lt. Kimberely A. Johnson
Commanding General's Aide-de-Camp
HQBn., MCB
Hawaii



"There are a lot of activities the base has to offer that you can't do anywhere else such as; sailing classes, inexpensive golfing and inter-island trips."

Gunnery Sgt. Jerry W. Fowler
Training Chief
CSSG-3

"Do some hiking because of the great scenery and go whale watching, because it's a chance to see these big fish in their natural environment."



Petty Officer 3rd Class Rebecca D. Campbell
Aviation Electrician
VP-4

CREDO brings self-discovery

Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible
Combat Correspondent

The Chaplain's Religious Enrichment Development Orientation at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is available to Marines, Sailors, and family members as a resource for personal growth, team-building and relationship enhancement.

Located near Hale Koa Beach, the CREDO facility offers meeting areas, dining facilities and berthing accommodations personnel dedicated to enhancing their lives.

CREDO is a program that has been around for 30 years with the mission of supporting sea service personnel through retreat experiences that empower them to find ways of living that are life affirming and life giving, said Lt. Cmdr. Ron C. Sturgis, a chaplain and the CREDO, Hawaii program director.

CREDO accomplishes this mission through retreats like their personal growth, marriage enrichment and team-building.

The personal growth retreat is intended to help people deal with problems and dysfunction in their back-

grounds that are affecting their adult lives. This is accomplished through group exercises that encourage people to be themselves and not to put up walls to protect themselves from pain and heartache.

"At CREDO Hawaii, we create a safe place where people can share their painful stories and find connection, understanding, and care from others," said Sturgis. "If we can find a way to connect and care about each other as human beings within the military culture, then we can start to heal matters on a grand scale."

Retreat-goers participate in an exercise like the personality iceberg, which is an analogy for what people see about a person, and what is actually underneath the surface — constantly hidden.

The marriage enrichment retreat, another CREDO program, aims to improve relationships, marital intimacy and communication by becoming more familiar with a spouse's personality and habits.

The couples at the retreat participate in many exercises designed to improve commu-

nication and therefore improve intimacy. The activities include a night of quietly talking face to face in a candlelit room.

In addition to individual and couple sessions, CREDO provides the team building retreat.

It's designed for teams that work together to come and learn each other's strengths, weaknesses and traits in order to make the team members more able to draw on each other's strong points.

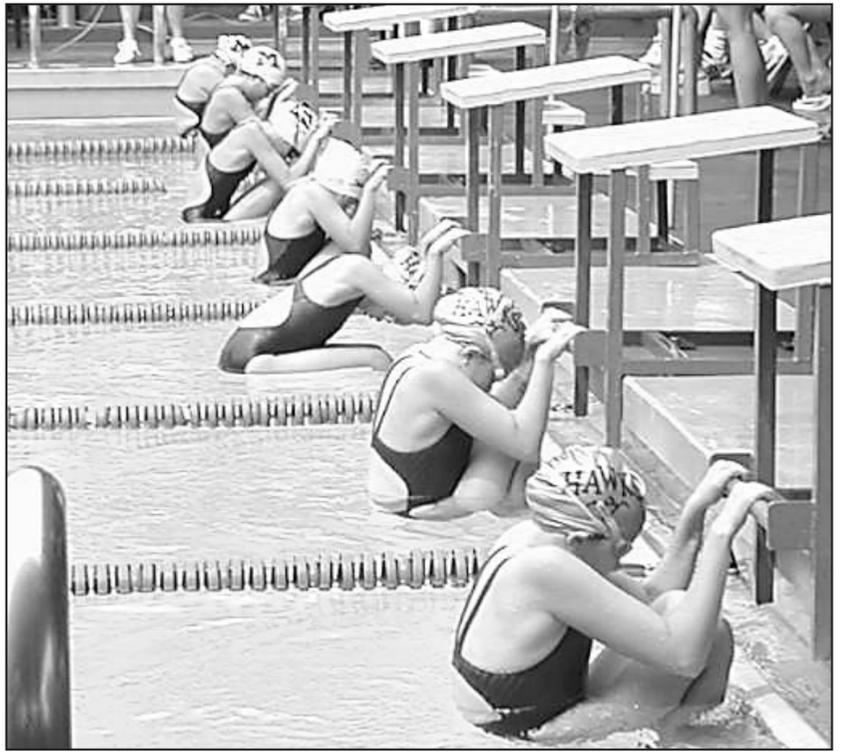
This enables the team to improve their own weak points and makes the team more effective.

The CREDO staff also gives team-building seminars to units and teams at their request.

"I want people to realize that CREDO is not just for people who have problems and issues, it is for everyone to learn more about themselves and others," said Sturgis.

According to Sturgis, no matter what the reason for attending is, anyone and everyone should be able to discover new things about themselves during the CREDO retreats.

Ready for action



Maj. Brett Grosshans

Front to middle: MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay Pool Hawks, Kara Golinski, Kristin Johnson and Ginny Wollenbecker get in the "ready" position as they prepare to compete in one of several events at a swim meet on the Big Island March 10 and 11. These three, as well as fellow Pool Hawks Carl Johnson, Katie Grosshans and Jessica Johnson, swam a combined 28 events and brought back 16 ribbons including three 1st place awards. While these Pool Hawks gave it their all in the team's first off-island swim meet in Hilo, six other Pool Hawks stayed on Oahu to participate in the Fort DeRussy Biathlon.

VEAP members now eligible for \$23,400 Montgomery GI Bill raise

Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible
Combat Correspondent

Active and retired Marines enrolled in the Veterans Education Assistance Program are now eligible to enroll in the Montgomery GI Bill.

The VEAP is an educational assistance program that was available to servicemembers from Jan. 1, 1977 to June 30, 1985, that required servicemembers to make payments into an account that would be matched \$2 for every \$1 dollar deposited by the Marine Corps. Marines could deposit a maximum of \$2,700 in order to receive \$8,100 total, a \$5,400 addition to their contribution.

The Montgomery GI Bill was made available July 1, 1985 and allowed Marines to pay \$100 per month for 12 months,

a total of \$1,200, in order to receive \$23,400 in educational assistance. Marines enrolled in the VEAP were not initially eligible to enroll into the MGIB Program.

"The Montgomery GI Bill will help me continue with a doctorate degree or anything I want to do when I get out," said Gunnery Sgt. John S. Hackler, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 airframes chief, and the first Marine aboard MCB Hawaii to make the transfer. "I am almost done with a masters degree, but I definitely want to continue. The Montgomery GI Bill will offer a lot more money than the VEAP."

To be eligible for the MGIB, Marines must have had an active VEAP account on or before Oct. 9, 1996, and must have served on continuous active duty from Oct. 9, 1996 to April 1, 2000.

Throughout the Marine Corps there are about 10,200 Marines eligible for the VEAP to MGIB transfer and about 330 aboard MCB Hawaii.

In order to transfer to the MGIB, eligible Marines must go to the base Joint Education Center before Oct. 31, 2001.

The transition requires a payment of \$2,700, which can be made as one lump sum, through allotments or as a combination of both, and is due in full 18 months after the transition begins.

Thanks to Headquarters Marine Corps and the Veterans Administration, Marines who choose to transfer from the VEAP to the MGIB will have greater resources at their disposal to continue their pursuits of higher education.

For more information on VEAP to MGIB transfers, call the Joint Education Center at 257-2158.

CCE helps education program students succeed

**Retired Col.
William C. Peoples**
CCE Regional Coordinator

The Marine Corps University's College of Continuing Education is the center for advancing the Amphibious Warfare School and Command and Staff College Distance Education Programs. Established in 1997, the CCE's main campus is located aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Because not all Officers have the opportunity to attend a resident school, the CCE delivers PME support to officers throughout the world by harnessing and exporting the resources of Marine Corps University via a network of satellite campuses.

The satellite campuses, located at Marine Corps Bases Quantico, Camp Lejeune, Camp Pendleton, Hawaii, Okinawa, MCAS Miramar, NAS Pensacola, and a Quantico-based Reserve Coordinator, are each managed by a regional coordinator. Regional coordinators are specifically contracted to manage educational seminars, student support and oversight of adjunct faculty.

The CCE Academic Year runs Oct. 1 through June 30 and consists of a 2 to 3 hour seminar that meets once a week. The seminar program for both the AWSDEP (Phase I and II) and the CSCDEP takes two academic years to complete. This is the first year the CCE has been able to fully support the AWSDEP with both Phase I and Phase II seminars. The DEP seminars are taught by both civilian and military adjunct faculty.

Since its establishment, the CCE has convened 274 seminars supporting over

4,000 students participating in the Distance Education Program. The number of CSCDEP and AWS-DEP graduates has increased enormously each year since 1997. From 1992 - 1997, a mere 172 students graduated from the CSCDEP. Since the standup of the CCE, the number of graduates for both the AWSDEP and CSCDEP has increased each year.

At the current level of participation, the CCE expects significant completion increases in both programs for this year. All graduates of the CSCDEP and AWSDEP receive their graduation diplomas from the MCU via the CCE.

While the distance education seminar program cannot replicate the resident school educational experience, it is far superior to working through the "box of books" on your own, and for the purposes of promotion and as-

signment, graduation from a DEP is equivalent to graduation from a resident school.

Students who complete another service's Intermediate Level School must complete courses 8804 and 8805 (referred to as "8845"), The MAGTF and the Marine Corps Planning Process, to be PME complete.



Also, students who complete another service's Career Level School must complete Warfighting and Command and Control (Phase I) of AWS to be PME complete. These course are Marine Corps specific and are not studied at the sister service schools.

More information on registration, seminar schedules, points of contact, etc. can be found at our website: <http://www.mcu.mil/cce/cce.htm>.

For information on the the CCE satellite campus aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, call 257-1956.

Learning experience



Helene Houge

From left, Shaydon Kehano, Lewis Motta, and Kevin Lee, all 3rd grade students at Ahuimanu Elementary School, learn about the sousaphone from Cpl. Matthew Raymond, a tuba player with the Marine Forces Pacific Band, after the band performed for the school March 7.

Air Force exercise 'Pacific Warrior' 2001 comes to K-Bay

Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible
Combat Correspondent

When Marines, Sailors, airmen and soldiers are wounded in combat, it is often the responsibility of U.S. Air Force Mobile Aero-medical Staging Facility personnel to get the servicemembers treated, and then to safety in the quickest manner possible.

Air Force active duty, reserve and Air National Guard medics and flight nurses conducted Pacific Warrior 2001 on Oahu Jan. 31 to Feb. 6. The airmen used facilities aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay; Wheeler Army Air Field and Hickam Air Force Base in order to better train them to treat casualties in a combat environment.

K-Bay was chosen as one of the training areas due to the close proximity the MASF could have to an airstrip, which is vital for evacuation aircraft to land on.

"This base was chosen as one of the MASF locations because the flightline is right here — the plane can almost pull right up to us," said Air Force Maj. Janie L. Johnson, a flight examiner with the 622 Aero-medical Evacuation Squadron out of MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

The base was not only ideal for the MASF location, the hospitality of the Marines here was outstanding, said Air Force Staff Sgt. Andrew J. Baker, a medic with the 374th AES.

"We have really enjoyed the base and the Marines have been great," said Baker.

The portion of the training conducted here was held in a small area adjacent to the rows of Navy P-3C Orion patrol aircraft parked on the K-Bay flightline.

The airmen participating in the MASF

training come from different walks of life, and many of them had never performed this type of training before, said Johnson.

"These medical technicians come from a large array of civilian professions, and pull together to perform a vital wartime medical mission," said Johnson.

Through the Pacific Warrior exercise, airmen learned to save lives and care for wounded servicemembers in a realistic combat environment, said Johnson. "We are training to do this for real, this is our wartime duty."

For Pacific Warrior 2001, the airmen acted as if they were in Korea during a time of intense conflict. The airmen involved in Pacific Warrior were split into two shifts, day shift and night shift. The typical shift began with a shipment of wounded servicemembers being brought to the MASF.

The crews then unloaded numerous casualties and moved them into a treatment area in a general-purpose tent. Fast, organized medical treatment then began as the airmen fought for the lives of the patients in their care.

Once the patients were in a stable condition, or as close to stable as possible, the MASF staff began documenting the servicemembers identities and conditions in preparation for the flight to a safe area for further medical treatment or surgery if necessary.

With the arrival of an Air Force C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft, the medics formed an efficient machine and began offloading supplies and equipment and loading casualties to be moved to safety and advanced medical care. The training wasn't over once all of the wounded were evacuated. The airmen had to remain aware and focused, the next load of distressed servicemembers could come at any

time. The objective of Pacific Warrior 2001 was to give these airmen an opportunity to improve their skills as wartime medical aids.

"The exercise was great, it gave me continued practice and training which made me much more comfortable performing my job in a combat situation," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Andrew J. Baker, a medic with the 374th Aero-medical evacuation squadron.

Even though many of the airmen don't have much opportunity to exercise their skills, and a few of them had never performed

any job similar to what they did at Pacific Warrior, all of the airmen performed at peak levels, said Johnson.

"Some of these airmen have never done anything like this before and most of the others do not have many chances to practice their skills," stated Johnson. "They have come together and performed very well."

With continued training, the reserve and national guard airmen training here should be more capable of saving the lives and limbs of America's defenders.

AUTHOR, From A-1

not only read the books, but he also interviewed family members of other veterans of Iwo Jima.

Since Bradley is the son of the flag raiser, the family members of fallen Marines and Sailors shared with him the stories they were told as though he was family, and they showed him documents that had been locked up for years.

He found out through books and interviews of people whom fought in the battle or were related to a veteran who was there, that there were more heroes in this battle than the six photographed.

For 72 days, the Air Force bombed the island, which was followed by shells launched from Navy ships.

Then the Marines came

in, but they came upon an island that was literally filled with Japanese soldiers.

The Japanese force had nearly hollowed out the entire island, so the bombs may have shaken them, but they were safe underground.

Through the entire 36-day battle, the one image that is familiar to many Americans, is that of the five Marines and one Sailor raising the flag. That flag raising was not done at the end of the battle, but after only five days of fighting.

The way the Marines performed in battle and the amount of interest people had for Iwo Jima inspired Bradley to write a book, but he didn't want his efforts to result in an average book, his was going to be a New York Times #1 best seller.

After 27 rejections, Random House finally agreed to publish his book, and after half a week, it was a #3 best seller.

Once it was on the shelf for the first full week, Bradley did what people told him was impossible, he had a #1 best seller.

"I'm doing what my dad would have wanted, to talk about the 80,000 heroes at Iwo Jima," said Bradley.

These heroes did the impossible, Bradley added. Some of the people he talked to said that they were just ordered to take control of the island, and they did.

Before Bradley ended his talk he said that the country we live in is filled with heroes, and "If the Army and the Navy ever looked on heaven's scene, they would find the streets are guarded by United States Marines."



Hawaii Marine archive photo

Propaganda like this poster, helped put women's contributions during WWII into the limelight.

WOMEN, From A-2

*June 30, 1977 - The Office of the Director of Women Marines was disestablished.

*May 11, 1978 - Colonel Margaret A. Brewer was appointed to a general officer's billet as Director of Information, with the rank of brigadier general, thereby becoming the first women general officer in the history of the Marine Corps.

*Feb 1985 - Colonel Gail M. Reals became the first women selected by a board of general officers to be advanced to brigadier general.

*1990-1991 - Approximately 1,000 women Marines deployed to Southwest Asia for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

*Jun 1992 - Brigadier General Carol A. Mutter assumed command of the 3rd Force Service Support Group, Okinawa, becoming the first women to command a Fleet Marine Force unit at the flag level.

*July 23, 1993 - 2nd Lieutenant Sarah Deal became the first woman Marine selected for Naval aviation training. She received her wings on April 21, 1995 and is now serving as a CH-53E pilot.

*June 1994 - Brigadier General Mutter became the first woman Major General in the Marine Corps and the senior woman on active duty in the armed services.

*July 1996 - Lieutenant General Mutter became the second woman in the history of the armed services and the first woman Marine to wear three stars. She assumed duties as the Deputy Chief of

formerly male-only special skills schools, and in the Fleet Marine Force, where women are showing up in non-traditional jobs and previously restricted units and deploying shipboard. The "firsts" for women in the Marine Corps in the past sev-

eral years are too numerous to list separately.

The bottom line: Women in the Marine Corps today, like their distinguished predecessors, continue to serve proudly, honorably, and capably in whatever capacity country and Corps requires.



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

Corporal Yiu Leung, an armorer for Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii, sites in downrange at the Pacific Division Championships last week at the Pu'uloa Range Facility.

MATCHES, From A-1

against each other, they would share tips and information about shooting amongst each other and take that information back to their units.

The marksmanship knowledge Marines passed on after participating in the Division Championships is one key point Chief Warrant Officer 3 Phillip E. Rucks Jr., Officer in Charge of the Marine Corps Rifle Team, wants to stress to commanding officers who hold back their Marines from participating in the competition.

"We teach Marines how to shoot beyond their current abilities," said Rucks. "We can fine tune their shooting techniques, and then they can return to their units and pass that knowledge on to follow Marines."

At the turn of the 20th century, Marine Corps commitments around the globe were high with the enlisted ranks barely numbering 5,500. It was essential that Marines were highly skilled marks-

men, and yearly the Competition-In-Arms Program helped spread vital marksmanship knowledge throughout the Corps ranks.

A hundred years later the competition is still going strong, but Rucks is concerned that some of the best shooters the Marine Corps has to offer are not getting the chance to participate.

"That was why the name of the event was changed to Divisional Championships, to recreate interest in these events," said Rucks.

To increase interest in the matches, Rucks encourages the commanding officers of the Marines to go to the competition and show their support.

Rifle and pistol competition badges are awarded to the highest scoring 10 percent of non-distinguished shooters.

These badges represent credit points towards distinguished shooting badges; gold equals 10 points, silver equals eight points and bronze equals six points. When a shooter achieves 30

points he becomes a Distinguished Shooter.

All shooters fire the M16A2 service rifle, and the M9 pistol, and the course of fire for Divisional Championships is slightly different than normal annual marksmanship qualifications.

First, there is more time allotted to the shooters to between stages of to give them more time to prepare physically and mentally for the course of fire.

Shooters fire from the 200, 300 and 500-yard lines, but there are differences in the

positions.

Everything on the pistol range is done at the 25-yard line, and shooters are held to a strict firing position using only one arm for 30 rounds in the slow and rapid firing stages.

Not only was this year's competition historic in reaching its 100th year, but an attendance record was set as well. Nine units were able to send Marines to this year's division championships at Puuloa Range Facility.

Of those nine units, one was able to send a record number of its Marines to

compete in the matches.

In the true spirit of how the competition was founded, 1st Bn., 3rd Marines sent a record number of its Marine to the championships taking full advantage of the advance marksmanship training and utilizing the matches to improve its personnel.

"This was a good opportunity to get the Marines to improve their marksmanship, and get them to a higher level of shooting," said Capt. Eric V. Kish, Headquarters and Service Co. commanding officer, 1/3.

Almost 120 of the record breaking 185 participants in this year's competition were from 1/3, according to Rucks.

"We decided to take all three rifle platoons to the matches, and get them the advanced marksmanship training," said Capt. Thomas E. Prentice, Alpha Co. commanding officer, 1/3.

The results of the decision to send a majority of its Marines to the championships began to show in the

first week of firing when Marines who could use improvement in marksmanship started to show better scores.

"I learned the fundamentals of marksmanship during boot camp, but here I get to utilize that knowledge and find my own style that works the best," said Lance Cpl. Damon D. Butler, a radio operator for Alpha Co., 1/3.

The CIAP has come a long way since the first Marine team competed at Sea Girt, N.J., a century ago.

A hundred years of marksmanship knowledge has been passed from Marine to Marine and instructor to student through this program.

Former Commandants have been distinguished marksmen after participating in the program, according to Rucks.

Every Marine is a basic rifleman and the CIAP improves those basic skills, not only as a competition, but as a way of sharing the information that distinguishes the Marine Corps from other military services worldwide according to Rucks.

RESULTS

1st Place Individual Rifle

1st Lt. C. J. Broadston
1st Radio Bn.
584.47

1st Place Individual Pistol

Cpl. J. D. Tolzman
3rd Bn., 3rd Marines
547.09

1st Place Rifle Team

CSSG-3
Sgt. J. T. Smith (Captain)
Gunnery Sgt. J.L. Lobes
(Coach)
1133.79

1st Place Pistol Team

1st Radio Bn.
Gunnery Sgt. Y.B.
Carpenter (Captain)
Capt. D. R. Scott (Coach)
1047.17

CCE, From A-1

ents to help each other."

Commands can help prevent a crisis during a teacher strike by considering flexible work hours, leave, or setting up a "Child Care in Unit Setting" program.

With a CCUS, parents and children are in the same or adjacent building, and the parents retain responsibility for their children. In a CCUS, volunteers or hired child care professionals care for the children, and the parents would be nearby in case of an emergency.

Marine Corps Community Services will set up a contract with Kama'aina Kids, the same organization that provides the A+ after-school program at Mokapu Elementary School, to provide extended care for up to 200 children.

The Youth Activities Center and the Family Gym will be used as the child care locations because schools will not be open for the A+ program while the strike is happening.

The program will operate from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and the cost will be \$17 per day for children enrolled in the A+ program, and \$20 per day for all others. Lunch is included in the fee, and registration begins April 2.

The likelihood is that word on whether the strike will actually occur may not be released until a day (or even less) in advance. Parents are urged to stay informed by following local news broadcasts, reading pertinent articles in local daily newspapers, and checking for updated information on the DoE website.

Working as a team, parents, commands, and MCCS can avoid a crisis April 5. Cleveland stressed that, "It is imperative that parents begin planning for their specific child care needs now."

Parents with further questions or concerns regarding MCB Hawaii preparedness or programs may contact the Children and Youth Program Resource and Referral Office, at 257-7430, for more information.

DoE offers helpful information for strike

MCB Hawaii Public Affairs News Release

The Department of Education is scheduled to set up an information center on their website in the event of a teacher strike.

Parents can keep up with current news about the strike at www.ed.gov/news.html. In the event of a strike, parents may need the following information for their contingency planning:

Marine Corps points of contact:

Children and Youth Program director

Susan Cleveland 257-7430

Childhood Resource and Referral

Kealli Becera 257-7430 or 7430

Youth Activities Center director (K-12)

David Kawada 254-7610

Youth Activities Center

Marlena Kelly 254-7610 or 7430

Child Development Center

Coralie Kramer 257-7430

CDC Hourly Care

Kelli Allen 257-8354

Family Child Care

Provider (in-house)

Jacqueline Rose 257-5525 or 7030

Information on co-ops, and a list of certified Family Child Care providers, is available at the Resource and Referral Office in Bldg. 244. Call 257-7430 for more information.

For Manana Housing residents, Hickam Air Force Base will also contract with the Kama'aina Kids program, at rates the same as at K-Bay. To register, call Hickam Youth Services at 449-3354.

Youth programs at Kaneohe Bay and Manana will offer open recreation with special activities for teens and pre-teens 10 years old and up. Local Youth Centers have details on activity schedules. Most activities will be free for members, but special events will have a fee.

Kaneohe Bay's open recreation will be at the Teen Club, Bldg. 477, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Manana Youth Center will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Hourly Child Development Center in Bldg. 579 will open an additional classroom for school-aged children from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hourly fees are based on the rank of the sponsor. Call the HCDC at 257-8354 for more details.

Information is available about the American Red Cross Babysitting Class Friday,

March 30 from 8 a.m. to noon, and Saturday March 31 from 1 to 3 p.m. at 257-8848.

The CDC also offers a child development volunteer class from 9 to 11 a.m. on March 28. Call 257-1388 to sign up.

Navy points of contact:

Community Services Division Director

Bobby Osato 473-0061 or 2431

Resource and Referral Director

Amber Hernando 473-3231

Youth and Leisure Director

Genia Wessels 471-0392 or 474-3501

Youth Center (School Age Care K-6)

Tina Sparks 471-0392

Child Development Center

Coleen Gantz or Myra Ikeda 473-2669

CDC Home Provider

Annette McLamb 471-8444 ext. 201

Army points of contact:

Child Youth Services Officer Marla Menard 656-0093

Youth Activities Center

Beth Fuller-Adric 656-0094

Child Development Services Center-based Programs

JoAnn Ichimura 656-0079

Child Care Providers (babysitters)

Kathy Bender 655-4090

Family Child Care (in-house)

Karen Copeland 655-8635

Air Force points of contact:

Community Youth Programs

Elaine Daily 449-1492

Youth Center (K-8)

Julie Klemara 449-6758

Child Development Center (age 0-3)

Barbie 449-9880

CDC West (age 3-5 All Day)

MaryAnn Sang 449-5230

CDC Harbor (age 3-5, two half-day sessions)

Nora Kamei 449-9234

Family Child Care (In-house)

Cindy Ford 449-1879

Coast Guard contact:

Child Development Coordinator

Mary Mansfield 541-1584

YMCA

531-3558

Pali Branch (K-6, all day)

536-3556

SALUTES

Marine Corps Air Facility
Meritorious Promotion
Cpl. R. J. Parks

Promotions

'Sgt. J. P. Clarke
Sgt. K. R. Robinson
Cpl. D. R. Passante
Cpl. J. C. Seaman
Lance Cpl. M. J. Marsh
Lance Cpl. J. W. Whitworth
Lance Cpl. R. Gudino
Pfc. J. G. Carpenter

1st Bn., 12th Marine Regiment

Promotions

Maj. J.B. Koerber
Sgt. M.A. Bray Jr.
Sgt. A.M. Martinez
Sgt. D.F. McDonald
Cpl. J.D. Anaya
Cpl. J.C. Fabela
Cpl. J.A. Flores
Cpl. D.A. Lewellynn
Pfc. J.M. Paul

1st Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment

Promotions

Sgt. B. W. Dewitt
Sgt. M. A. Digmann
Sgt. R. C. Pollice
Sgt. C. A. Williamson
Cpl. A. L. Babbitt
Cpl. M. T. Bowler
Cpl. E. R. Campbell
Cpl. G. P. Carter
Cpl. A. F. Dargan
Cpl. J. M. Darst
Cpl. W. L. Dossett
Cpl. K. R. Garcia
Cpl. H. R. James
Cpl. K. S. McClean
Cpl. A. C. McCullough
Cpl. K. Ong
Cpl. C. L. Schmidt
Cpl. A. G. Shanku
Cpl. J. E. Shirley
Cpl. J. L. Wichers
Lance Cpl. G. Baez
Lance Cpl. E.D. Brunsma
Lance Cpl. J. L. Chilek
Lance Cpl. L. M. Cook
Lance Cpl. E. A. Early
Lance Cpl. C. G. Ekhooff
Lance Cpl. T. J. Facenda
Lance Cpl. N. T. Holiday
Lance Cpl. M. Kroggel
Lance Cpl. J. G. Kyle
Lance Cpl. A. L. Lappe
Lance Cpl. D.M. Le
Lance Cpl. J.R. Miller
Lance Cpl. M. S. Montemayor
Lance Cpl. S. D. Murphy

Lance Cpl. T. L. Norman
Lance Cpl. L. A. Palmaeneses
Lance Cpl. D. A. Reyes
Lance Cpl. V. L. Richardson
Lance Cpl. E. Saldivar
Lance Cpl. C. R. Sanders II
Lance Cpl. C. L. Simon
Lance Cpl. V. W. Tye
Lance Cpl. G. Valletellez
Lance Cpl. E. R. Whitesel
Lance Cpl. D. J. Williams
Lance Cpl. J. D. Wilson

Pfc. G. M. Barton
Pfc. A. B. Smith

3rd Bn., 3rd Marines
Promotions

Maj. P. M. Boisvert
Maj. M. E. Tingle
Cpl. J. T. Nix
Cpl. A. R. O'Neill
Cpl. D. A. Singleton
Lance Cpl. M. A. Arzadon
Lance Cpl. S. C. Beltz
Lance Cpl. C. Lopez

LT. GEN. MUTTER
From A-1

discharged. Job fields and rank were also limited.

“When I came in, a colonel was the highest rank females could reach,” Lt. Gen. Mutter explained. “Fortunately, that changed shortly after I joined.”

In spite of these limitations, Lt. Gen. Mutter remained stoic and dedicated to a successful career in the Marine Corps.

“There were no overt signs of discrimination,” the lieutenant general recalled. “It was just a feeling that I had to prove myself. I felt that the best way to deal with any of the pressure was to ignore it by doing my job to the best of my abilities.”

As Lt. Gen. Mutter progressed through the ranks, her position of role model as a senior female Marine became increasingly more apparent.

“I was very conscious, from about the time I was a senior lieutenant colonel to colonel, of being the senior women on the base,” Lt. Gen. Mutter explained. “There were additional responsibilities that went along with that position, especially that of a role model. I had to be very careful that I didn’t reflect poorly on women, and to try and show the younger women that it could be done.”

Lt. Gen. Mutter certainly showed “it could be done” by becoming the first woman to command a major tactical, deployable organization when she served as the commanding general of the 3rd Force Service Support Group in Okinawa, Japan, in 1990. Not resting on her laurels, Lt. Gen. Mutter became the first woman Marine major general in 1994, and later, the first to attain the rank of lieutenant general.

When Lt. Gen. Mutter retired on Jan. 1, 1999, she was the Corps’ highest-ranking woman and the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs at

Headquarters Marine Corps in Washington, D.C.

Lt. Gen. Mutter met her husband, James, a few years after entering the Marine Corps. They eventually married in 1977 after being separated by duty station numerous times. Though she is now retired, both they are still working hard.

“We want to give back,”

Mutter explained. “We’ve been very fortunate in our lives, so we’re doing a lot of volunteer work.”

In addition to her military accolades, she has received numerous civilian awards, including two honorary doctorate degrees.

From Opha Mae Johnson, the first female Marine, to now, Lt. Gen. Mutter is one

of the latest in a pantheon of brave women to carry the torch for equal rights within the military. After a career of firsts, she remains philosophical.

“Every time you have the first person through a door that has been closed,” Lt. Gen. Mutter reflected, “it makes it that much easier for the people behind.”