

MARINE HAWAII

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HMH-362 returns from CAX

Pfc. Iain A. Schnaible
Combat Correspondent

Marines of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362 began returning Friday from a two-month deployment to the Marine Corps Air Ground Command Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., for a combined arms exercise.

The exercise, which incorporates Marines from Camp Pendleton, Calif., as well as Marine Corps Air Facility, Kaneohe Bay, is intended to serve as an opportunity for Marine

Air Ground Task Force level combined arms training, said Lt. Col. Carl J. Fosnaugh, commanding officer of HMH-362.

The mission of HMH-362 for this CAX was to perform flight training in support of Marine Air Ground Task Force 6 from the second Marine Expeditionary Force, said Lt. Col. Fosnaugh.

"(The Combined Arms Exercise) provided a significant training opportunity for HMH-362 and the augment Marines from Marine Aviation Logistics Support Element Kaneohe,"

Lt. Col. Fosnaugh stated.

During the CAX, HMH-362 supported operations through troop transport, equipment lift and supply replenishment. "I would classify the squadron's performance as outstanding," said Lt. Col. Fosnaugh.

Though the training was an outstanding opportunity to improve their skills, the Marines said they are happy to be returning home.

"We are excited about coming home to support 3rd Marines Regiment and see our families," said Lt. Col. Fosnaugh.

"It's great to be back," said Lt. Col. Doug J. Wadsworth, HMH-362 executive officer.

The joy shown by the Marines at their homecoming was matched, if not overwhelmed by their families.

"It's wonderful to have him home," said Casey Stolsig, wife of Gunnery Sgt. Kevin D. Stolsig, a quality assurance representative with HMH-362.

The joy of HMH-362 Marines and their families being reunited will continue until the end of April, when the last of HMH-362's personnel will return from California.



Pfc. Iain A. Schnaible

Sergeant Alex Morales embraces his wife Cynita and daughter Oreana upon arriving.

Band accents Kuwaiti holiday

Cpl. Otto C. Pleil-Muete
MarForPac Public Affairs

CAMP DOHA, Kuwait – The Marine Forces Pacific Band swept through Kuwait with numerous performances centered around Kuwait's Liberation Day Feb. 26.

Twenty-one members of the band traveled here to perform during the country's 10th Anniversary in celebration of its liberation from Iraq.

"Before we came, it seemed like a big, daunting task, but after we got here, everything seemed to fall into place," said Cpl. J. Michael Stanley, a MarForPac French horn player originally from Jacksonville, Fla.

The band's memorable tour began with a casual evening performance for the servicemembers of Ali Al-Salem Air Base during the base's Mardi Gras festivities. Guests were treated to several tunes by MarForPac's seven-member Dixieland Band who led the base parade.

The band's ten-member Show Band immediately followed the parade by rocking the crowd of servicemembers with a mixture of old and modern tunes, which kept servicemembers asking for more.

"The whole organization of the parade and the following event went very well," said Cpl. Matthew Raymond, a tuba player for MarForPac and a native of Milan, Ohio. "I was honored to be

See BAND, A-5



Cpl. Otto C. Pleil-Muete

Sergeant Ryan Hower, the MarForPac Band drum major, leads the band through the streets of Camp Doha, Kuwait, during the country's 10th Anniversary of the Liberation of Kuwait.

President Bush proposes larger defense budget

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush has recommended a defense budget of \$310.5 billion for fiscal 2002.

Bush spoke before a Joint Session of Congress Feb. 27. Overall, the fiscal 2002 budget request is a "reasonable" 4 percent over the fiscal 2001 budget. The fiscal 2001 DoD budget is \$296.3 billion.

The budget request concentrates on personnel. It includes an extra \$1.4 billion for a boost to military pay and another \$400 million to build or refurbish military housing.

"The budget I propose to you also supports the people who keep our country strong and free, the men and women who serve in the United States military," he said. "I am requesting \$5.7 billion in increased military pay and benefits and health care and housing. Our men and women in uniform give America their best, and we owe them our support."

Bush said the U.S. military will change. In documents released by the Office of Management and Budget, Bush called for changes in the Cold War strategy that continues to dominate the American military. The threat of a massive nuclear attack from the Soviet Union has been replaced by threats from rogue states bent on

acquiring weapons of mass destruction and terrorism.

"We'll promote the peace," Bush said. "We need a strong military to keep the peace."

The military must change if it is to remain relevant and able to defend the country and American interests. "Our defense vision will drive our budget, not the other way around," Bush said.

He said the budget request makes a "down payment" on the research and development necessary to transform the military.

In the OMB document, Bush calls for an increase in military research and development of \$20 billion between fiscal 2002 and 2006. In fiscal 2002 that increase would be \$2.6 billion. Bush also wants to allocate 20 percent of research and development funds to especially promising programs that will give U.S. forces weapons systems that are "generations ahead" of any rival.

What programs these may be and what other changes will come to the defense budget must wait until Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld finishes his top-down review of the department.

Bush told Congress the United States must "develop and deploy effective missile defense." He has called development of such a system "the most pressing national security challenge."

3rd Marines posts new regimental sergeant major in ceremony Monday



Tupuola



Harris

Sergeant Maj. Tunu I. Tupuola left, took over the top enlisted spot at 3rd Marine Regiment Monday during a post and relief ceremony at Dewey Square. Tupuola replaced Sgt. Maj. Leon L. Harris, who also celebrated his retirement at the ceremony. Tupuola served as sergeant major of Marine Aircraft Group 12 in Iwakuni, Japan, prior to his assignment here.

Squadron helps secluded islanders

Sgt. Robert Carlson
Press Chief

KALAUPAPA, Molokai — Anytime the Marine Corps gets the opportunity to help improve the community and get some good training at the same time, they take it.

A detachment from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 took the chance to help out the residents of the isolated community of Kalaupapa last week during training.

The detachment was conducting flight training around the island of Maui when the call for help came. Pacific Wings, the airline company that serves as Kalaupapa's only link to the outside world other than mule or canoe, asked Marines from Kaneohe Bay for help moving a wheelchair ramp to the island.

Kalaupapa, once a place of exile for people with Hansen's Disease, was chosen because of its isolation from the rest of Molokai. The treacherous surf and lava-rock coast make landing by sea difficult, and there are no roads connecting Kalaupapa with the rest of the island. A mule trail zigzags up the steep cliffs out of the settlement, but patients who need medical care are hardly able to make the trek. The isolation policy officially ended in 1969, but the geographic isolation remains today.

Pacific Wings flies a fleet of small planes between the community and the outside islands. The planes serve as the only real link to the rest of the world.

"There are still 44 patients here,

See KALAUPAPA, A-7



Sgt. Robert Carlson

Marines from HMH-363 deliver a ramp to Kalaupapa residents.

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

The University of Oklahoma offers a Master of Arts in Managerial Economics to military and civilian students. Classes are offered for one week each month and you can complete your degree in about 18 months. For more information, call 449-6364.

PHONE SCAM

Recently, individuals identifying themselves as AT&T or GTE service technicians have been calling people and asking them to dial a sequence of numbers and hang up, under the pretense that they are testing their telephone line.

Do not comply with anyone asking you to do this. Pressing a certain sequence of numbers for a caller will give them access to your phone line to make long distance calls to anywhere. This scam has been originating from local jails and prisons.

AT&T, GTE, Sprint, etc., have the capability to test telephone lines from their testing facility (or from your residence). They will never ask you to dial a sequence of numbers (or a code) for them. If you do receive a call like this: immediately hang up, and report the incident to Hawaiian Tel customer service at 643-3343.

For further information please contact Mr. Richard Narvaez, the MCB Hawaii telephone chief at 257-2323.

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY MEN'S GLEE CLUB PERFORMANCE

The United States Naval Academy Men's Glee Club will perform a free concert March 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Union Church in downtown Honolulu. This will mark the Glee Club's first appearance in Hawaii in more than two decades, and this performance will provide a chance to see and hear one of America's most popular men's choruses.

The March 18 performance at Central Union Church will be a FREE performance — no tickets required. Mark your calendars for an evening of fine family entertainment.

RETENTION TASK FORCE VISIT

An Enlisted Retention Task Force, a team from the enlisted assignments monitor branch at Headquarters, Marine Corps, will conduct a retention assist visit to MCB Hawaii March 13 to brief the career planner force and provide assistance to Marines seeking reenlistment, contract extensions or lateral career moves. The ERTF can also provide "on the spot" reenlistment approval authority. Marines who would like to try this new approach to reenlisting should contact their unit career planners.

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.

HAWAII MARINE

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== SERGEANT MAJOR'S CORNER ==

Important topics discussed at EOS

Sgt. Maj.
Stephen H. Mellinger
MarForPac Sergeant Major

CAMP H.M. SMITH — Recently Camp Pendleton hosted the latest Executive Off

S i t e
(EOS).
T h e s e
EOS are
conducted
by the
C o m m a n d a n t
o f t h e
M a r i n e
C o r p s
e v e r y



Mellinger

three months. The Commandant brings together his senior general officers and senior civilian employees for a three-day meeting of the minds.

The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps also meets with the three Force sergeants major (PAC, LANT and RES), along with MCCDC and Manpower & Reserve Affairs sergeants major.

To all the Marines, who supported this important event, thank you all for working throughout the long weekend and being such professionals.

I was very impressed with the number of issues that get resolved at these gatherings, which greatly impact not only individual Marines, but also our Corps as a whole.

The Commandant and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps listened to every issue and concern brought to the table. They both were eager to engage in every issue that would provide the best care for Marines.

Although not everything discussed or recommended to the Commandant was resolved, it's important each of you know that he is dedicated to ensuring that our Corps (and its Marines) is provided for both now and in the future.

Below are some of the issues and recommendations

discussed and some of the Commandant's guidance.

Safety — For the 1st quarter of FY-01, the Corps experienced a 68% decrease in POV traffic deaths compared to the same period last year. This is great news for all of us. It shows our commands' safety message to Marines is on target and being received by more Marines. However, our safety education efforts must continue because we don't want to lose even one Marine to a preventable vehicle death.

Equal Opportunity Advisors — The Marine Corps needs volunteers to fill numerous EOA billet vacancies. This is an all-volunteer force (within our Corps) where Marines step out of their MOS to serve as an EOA. The primary qualification is that Marines who volunteer for this program are dedicated towards the fair and equal treatment of all Marines. This program is open to all Marines regardless of ethnicity, religion, or gender. Interested Marines should contact their EOA or career planner for details. They can get you pointed in the right direction to apply for this important program.

Operating Forces' SNCO Meritorious Promotions — It was recommended that meritorious promotion quotas, to the ranks of staff sergeant and gunnery sergeant, be given at the Marine Forces level. Currently the only sergeants and staff sergeants able to compete for meritorious promotions are "B" billets (recruiting duty, drill field, and Marine Security Guards) and those within the MEF's. This would enable qualified base and station

Marines to compete for the same meritorious promotion allocations currently only afforded to the MEF's. By changing this policy, it will reinforce the importance of Marines serving in the 5th element of the MAGTF. I hope to

see this changed in the next meritorious promotion allocation message from HQMC.

California Utility Costs — I briefed the sky rocketing electricity and natural gas prices faced by our southern California bases and stations, along with individual Marines and Sailors. Leadership understands that the yearly BAH (currently adjusted yearly) is not keeping up with living expenses for service members living off base. Possible financial relief along with other solutions to improve the quality of life for Marines living off base, are being looked at.

Sergeant Major Course — a formal sergeants major course (along the lines of what we currently have for new 1stSgt's) is in the planning stages.

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Symposium — Sgt. Maj. McMichael announced dates for the 2001 NCO Symposium (to be held at HQMC). The dates are 21-25 April.

Each command, base and station within MarForPac were given quotas for this. Interested hard-charging sergeants and corporals should contact your sergeant major (via your chain of command). This is a great venue for our NCO's to present ideas and recommendations to both the Commandant and the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.

Dress Blue/White Uniform — The recommendation was that this uniform be authorized for wear by SNCO's only. It was also recommended the white trousers be an optional item for SNCO's.

Indefinite EAS ID Cards for SNCO's — it was recommended we maintain our current policy (on ID cards) and not go to an indefinite EAS ID for any SNCO rank. The Commandant asked for more details on a few options for this issue before he makes a deci-

sion.

UDP per diem — The Commandant made it very clear that he expected every Marine (officer/enlisted, ground/air) on UDP to be paid the same per diem rate. He feels that no Marine should have to take a pay cut while on the UDP (i.e., married enlisted Marines).

Additionally it was recommended that MEU Marines, while deployed, be paid per diem the same as those in the normal UDP. This issue should be resolved before the next EOS (May 01).

MEF Sergeants Major — Currently the three MEF sergeants major do not attend the EOS or are they voting members of the Sergeant Major Slating Board. It was recommended that they be included in every EOS and be voting members of the Sergeant Major Slating Board.

New Drill Manual — The new drill manual should be ready for the Commandant's signature by August 2001. The new drill manual will also include "fill-in-the-blank" (names and dates) LOI's for change of commands and post and relief ceremonies.

New Cammies — currently there are rifle companies (at Camp Pendleton, Camp Lejeune and Okinawa) wear testing the proposed digital design camouflage uniform. Following the wear-tests, any needed adjustments to it will be made (i.e., change size and location of pockets, buttons vice Velcro and metal snaps, etc.). The Commandant is reviewing a few options on how to implement this uniform to both recruits and enlisted Marines. More details to follow on this.

The forementioned topics were not all the topics discussed at the EOS, but are the key ones that I felt we should all be aware of.

Semper Fi.

Leading ladies



Cpl. David Salazar

The Kaneohe Branch of the Amercian Red Cross held its annual volunteer recognition luncheon Friday at the Fairways. Volunteers and Red Cross supporters were recognized and given awards throughout the two-hour event. Pictured above from left to right are: Jody Thomas, Red Cross chairman of volunteers, Linda Parker, honorary chairman, Linda Keller, chairman of Armed Forces Emergency Services, Flora Porter, who received an award for serving 30 years with the Red Cross, and Jennifer Sherman, who was named Red Cross' Volunteer of the Year during the luncheon. Not pictured is Steven Adams, who received the Youth Volunteer of the Year award.

Best-selling author to speak to K-Bay Marines, Sailors

Sgt. Robert Carlson
Press Chief

Best-selling author James Bradley is scheduled to visit MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, March 16 to speak about his knowledge and research about the five Marines and Sailor featured in the famous photo taken atop Mount Suribachi during WWII.

Bradley's father, former Navy corpsman John "Doc" Bradley, was one of the six men who raised the flag atop Mount Suribachi Feb. 23, 1945, during the battle for Iwo Jima. Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal captured the moment on film, and the lives of the six were changed forever.

The book tells the story of the flag-raisers and their experi-

ences before, during and after the war. Bradley's extensive research, and first-hand accounts from the survivors and their families, provides a unique perspective of the battles in the Pacific, and of life in America after the war.

Bradley will be discussing these and other topics during a Professional Military Education seminar at the base theater. Seating is limited and guests are asked to be seated no later than 9:15 a.m.

Bradley will sign copies of his book shortly after the PME and question and answer period. Flags of our Fathers is available at several outlets aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, including the military clothing store, the Wiki-Wiki, and the Marine Corps Exchange.



Lance Cpl. Jason W. Bailey, a motor transport mechanic with Headquarters and Service Co., 1st Radio Bn., pitches a grenade.

1st Radio Bn. Marines make some noise

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

Dense, black smoke carries the smell of sulfur and burnt earth out of the range facility. The incessant booms wreak havoc on the eardrums and create an intolerable pounding in the skull.

At the top of the hill, surrounded by a concrete wall, stands a lone man in green. He reaches into a pouch on his load-bearing vest and grabs an object about the size of a baseball, only much more dangerous.

The man pulls a metal ring and tosses the object into the range facility. The object lands and moments later the small sphere bursts into a chaotic display of noise and smoke, demonstrating the full power of a hand grenade.

More than 60 Marines of Headquarters and Service Co., 1st Radio Bn., recently familiarized themselves once more with the use of hand grenades during a grenade throwing exercise at the MCB Hawaii,



A Marine with Headquarters and Service Co., 1st Radio Bn., pulls the safety pin on a hand grenade and prepares to throw.

Kaneohe Bay, Range Training Facility.

The purpose of the training was to give Marines in non-combat military occupational specialties a chance to become more comfortable with hand grenades and to improve their skills as basic Marine riflemen, said 1st Sgt. Shelley D. Sergeant, H&S Co. first sergeant.

Each of the Marines had an opportunity to throw four grenades while under the watchful eye and guidance of staff noncommissioned officer safety advisors. Not only did the Marines learn and familiarize themselves with hand grenades, they enjoyed the opportunity to experience training with ordnance.

"I had a great time," said Cpl. Amy J. Hunt, a non-Morse signal interception operations analyst with H&S Co. "The whole reason I joined the Marine Corps was to do stuff like this."

Under the expert guidance of their staff NCOs, the Marines successfully completed the training without a hitch.

"Their performance was excellent," said Sergeant. "This was due in part to the classes they received before going out to do

the practical application. I think everything went flawlessly."

The classes consisted of instruction in the holding, arming and throwing of hand grenades and a dry-run exercise using practice grenades before the Marines were prepared for the experience of using live munitions. The training better prepared the Marines of H&S Co. for a combat situation, said Gunnery Sgt. James M. Marshall, H&S Co. gunnery sergeant.

"It has given them the ability and confidence to be able to use grenades in a time of war," said Marshall.

According to Sergeant, the grenade training also contributed to the overall mission of the Marine Corps.

"It helps to create a more combat-ready unit to go out and promote peace throughout the world," commented Sergeant.

With continued training like their hand grenade exercise and upcoming training with the M2 .50 caliber machinegun and the MK19 40mm machinegun, the Marines of H&S Co., 1st Radio Bn., should be more prepared to meet the threats they may encounter in a combat environment.



Weapons of war stand at the ready, waiting for Marines of Headquarters and Service Co., 1st Radio Bn., to launch them into the impact area.



A hand grenade detonates, leaving a huge cloud of smoke and dust in the impact area at the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay Range Training Facility.

WORD ON THE STREET

Who do you think is the most influential woman in history?

"Nancy Regan because she started the 'Just Say No' anti-drug program."

Petty Officer 1st Class Gani P. Bangui
Disbursing Clerk
Patrol Squadron 4
San Juan, Manilla, Philippines



The Virgin Mary was the most influential woman. The entire Catholic Religion is based around her."

Gunnery Sgt. Dave L. Chandler
Training Chief
MALSEK
Gloucester, Mass.

"Rosa Parks was the most influential woman because she stood up for her rights and fought for everyone to be treated equally."

Lance Cpl. Jose E. Duran
Disbursing Clerk
Headquarters Bn.,
MCB Hawaii
Silver City, N.M.



"Princess Diana because she was rich but not selfish. She went out and helped others and didn't forget the poor and needy even though she had always been wealthy."



Seaman Melinda D. Lloyd
Photographer
Patrol Squadron 9
Silver Springs, Md.

"Harriet Tubman because she showed what a woman can do when they put their minds to it, they can be leaders. She led her whole people."

Staff Sgt. William J. Reese
Artillery Electronic
Maintenance Tech
HQ Battery, 1/12
Philadelphia



"Cleopatra, because she heavily influenced the development of early society."

Lance Cpl. Will J. Scheil
Aviation Electrician
MALSEK
Montgomery, Ala.

"Rosa Parks because she kick-started the civil rights movement in the 1960s."

Cpl. Mario M. Hoppe
Facilities Chief
HQ Battery 1/12
Seattle, Wash.



Iwo Jima veterans share experiences with Camp Smith Marines

Lance Cpl.
Jacques-René Hébert
MarForPac Public Affairs

CAMP H.M. SMITH – Two Iwo Jima veterans shared their military experiences with Marines and Sailors from Marine Forces Pacific Feb. 23 here as a remembrance of the 56th anniversary of the raising of the American flag on Mt. Suribachi.

Donn Lewin and Richard Fiske, both Marine sergeants at the famous battle on that Pacific island, provided personal and historical perspectives to the audience of service-members. They also answered numerous questions from the audience about their service while in the Marine Corps and their battlefield experiences.

Lewin was born in 1926 in Buffalo, New York, and joined the Marine Corps in 1941, at the age of 15. After attending boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, Lewin went on to train with the prestigious Marine Corps Raiders led by then-Lt. Col. Evans F. Carlson and Capt. James

Roosevelt, son of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Raiders were known for their guerrilla-style battle tactics, Chinese-inspired philosophy and unorthodox leadership techniques.

Lewin described how he had been transferred to a regular infantry battalion, and shortly after his arrival, took part in an inspection with full battle dress.

“As they (the inspectors) came up to me while I was in formation, they looked at my long hair and my backpack stuffed with paper,” Lewin recollected, “One of the inspectors said, ‘That Marine just got here from the Raiders.’ The others nodded because they understood – the Raiders were different.”

Lewin’s Raider training gave him the survival skills he needed to make it through an island-hopping campaign that encompassed Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Guam and eventually, Iwo Jima.

A sergeant at the time, Lewin was struck in the left leg by a .31 caliber round and

taken to a hospital ship where he was quickly bandaged up and sent back into the fray. Once more, while leading a charge on Iwo Jima, he was wounded, this time by shrapnel from an adversary’s grenade.

The young sergeant found himself on a hospital ship, stranded – but not for long. With the aid of his .45 caliber side arm, he “convinced” the staff to let him off the vessel so he could rejoin his comrades. Apparently, Fate did not want him on the island, for he soon found himself wounded again, and back on the hospital ship. By the time of his discharge, Lewin had earned three Purple Hearts and a combat action ribbon.

Coming from a military family, Fiske was born in Boston in 1922 and traveled around the world before enlisting in the Marine Corps in 1941.

After finishing boot camp at MCRD, San Diego, Fiske went on to field music school, and later, to the USS West Virginia as a bugler.

When the Japanese devastated Pearl

Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, Fiske was on the quarterdeck of the West Virginia. Shortly after being attacked, the order was given to abandon ship and Fiske was able to swim to Ford Island and relative safety.

Almost three years after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Fiske was sent to the 5th Marine Division. By that time, he was a sergeant, and his bugle was taken away and he was made an assistant platoon leader. Shortly after, Fiske spent 34 days at Iwo Jima, participating in the dark and bloody battle.

Fiske enlisted with the newly established U.S. Air Force after the war, and retired in 1969 with the rank of master sergeant.

Since then, Fiske has volunteered at the Arizona Memorial and takes an active role in other veterans’ organizations and functions.

Though the two World War II veterans had many different experiences, they remain adamant about one thing.

“I hope you never have to be a part of a battle like (Iwo Jima),” Lewin mused, while Fiske nodded in the background.

Living and learning



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

President of the Aloha chapter of the Chosin Few, James Ward, a forward observer for 1st Signal Bn., 1st Marine Division HQ/ ANGLICO during the Korean War, tells Marines from 3rd Marine Regiment and 1st Bn., 12th Marine Regiment how harsh the weather conditions were during the battle of the Chosin Reservoir. Members of the Chosin Few spoke to the Marines during a Professional Military Education seminar at the Officer’s Club Friday. “We were looking to do something on the Chosin Battle, because the “Chosin” book was part of our book of the quarter program,” said Capt. Keith E. Burkepile, assistant operations officer for 1/12. “This was a bonus to have the Chosin Few come here and speak. These guys are true heroes of our time.”

BAND, From A-1

part of it and bring smiles to the so many faces.”

Marines continued their performances the next evening before several distinguished guests during a private gathering at a historic Kuwaiti residence.

The site was a landmark where many of Kuwait's liberation activists met during the resistance of Iraq's invasion 10 years ago.

The band performed for distinguished guests such as former President George Bush, General Norman Schwarzkopf, Secretary of State Colin Powell, and other dignitaries.

“I think it was awesome for the former President to attend the ceremonies and come together with the leaders of Kuwait who made the liberation possible,” said Sgt. Jose A. Morales, a clarinet player and native of Mission, Texas.

“Having seen so many prominent leaders showed how important the liberation ceremonies were,” added Cpl. Damon Boucher, a MarForPac trombone player originally from Enid, Okla.

Other guests included local friends and military servicemembers who witnessed the traditional flag-raising ceremony, which originally began 10 years ago after Kuwait was liberated from Iraq.

Liberation Day ceremonies continued the following morning as the band performed at the wreath-laying ceremony at the United States Embassy in Kuwait. Marines in the Show Band treated the community at Camp Doha to one final performance the next evening in appreciation for their support.

“I thought this was an excellent trip for the United States and the Marine Corps,” said Morales. “I got to see and experience how much the people of Kuwait appreciated us and our involvement in the Gulf War.”

Incoming



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

A formation of 11 CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopters from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 makes its way back to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, after participating in Hawaii Combined Arms Operations "Kona Winds 2001" on the Big Island.

KALAUPAPA, From A-1

and they travel frequently to Honolulu for medical treatment,” said Michael E. McCarten, Department of Health Administrator for Kalaupapa. “Pacific Wings has a government contract to service the patients, but they don't receive funds for things like wheelchair ramps.”

When one of the patients at the settlement, Elizabeth Bell, asked for help for the wheelchair and walker crowd, the staff of the airline went to work.

“There's a ramp at the Honolulu Airport, but there was no ramp here,” said Jerry M.

Matsuda, Hawaii Airports Administrator. “It's great to see the airline take the initiative to help the people of Kalaupapa.”

Once the airline had constructed the ramp at it's headquarters on Maui, the staff realized moving it to the austere airfield on Kalaupapa would be difficult. The ramp was too long to fit in any of the airline's plane, and was too heavy to be transported down the steep cliff by mule. That's when the Marines were called.

“The Marines have helped us out a lot here over the years,” said McCarten. “They were doing training in the area and said they would be happy to help.”

A CH-53D “Sea Stallion” carried the ramp from Maui to the airport, where all of the settlement's patients and residents turned out for the celebration.

“The Marines are so wonderful,” said Bell, explaining how she had to be lifted into the airplane by four or five people every time she had to leave Kalaupapa for medical treatment. “This is going to make life so much easier for so many people here.”

“This was the right thing to do for the people of Kalaupapa,” said McCarten. “The Marines have always been very supportive of this community, and they've come to the rescue once again.”

Hawaii Marines help educate Japanese researchers

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

Marines of Combat Service Support Group 3 and Military Police Co., Headquarters Battalion, MCB Hawaii, played host to members of Japan's Research Institute for Peace and Security, Friday and demonstrated some of the Marine Corps' methods of conducting disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

The Research Institute for Peace and Security is a program engaged in research and studies regarding international peace and security

that was established in Tokyo in 1978.

The program's mission is to conduct research, provide policy recommendations to the Japanese government, promote greater public awareness, and to advance international exchange of views and contacts with related institutes and specialists throughout the world.

The organization came to K-Bay to learn different methods of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

When they arrived, the researchers were served Meals Ready to Eat and were told that during humanitarian aid missions,

Marines typically give out MRE's to a hungry population because they are easily accessible, fast to prepare and nutritious.

Following lunch, the guests were briefed on the Marine Corps' participation in international disaster relief and humanitarian aid missions and a summation of the events of the Rim of the Pacific 2000 exercise, which included an evolution involving handling and caring for refugees.

The visitors then toured a static display of equipment set up by the Marines of MP Co. and CSSG-3.

The MP's displayed several pieces of equipment used for non-lethal crowd control and suspect apprehension. Included in the display were rubber and beanbag bullets, protective clothing, body armor and riot control gear.

The researchers were then treated to a demonstration by Quanta, a military working dog from MP Co.

A Marine simulated being an aggressive suspect and Quanta, once released by her handler, Lance Cpl. Noah S. Evermann, bit the suspect on the arm and detained him until more MP's could arrive.

The researchers then moved on to a display of Explosive Ordnance Disposal.

The EOD display included a sniper rifle used to detonate ordnance from a safe range, several different types of ordnance that could be encountered in a hostile area and devices used for detecting and disarming explosives.

The next stop on the tour was a Humvee provided by Medical Co., CSSG-3, which was modified for use as an ambulance. The guests were then educated on the job of a hospital corpsman, the history of the hospital corps, and the intricacies of the medical vehicle that stood before them.

Taking a step up on the size ladder, the guests came to a Logistics Vehicle System, a huge truck capa-



Candice Matsunaga, Research Institute for Peace and Security program specialist with Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command, experiments with a Meal-Ready-to-Eat during the RIPS seminar here Friday.



Lance Cpl. Tratia S. Brown, a hygiene equipment operator with Landing Support Co., CSSG-3, explains the process of purifying water with the reverse osmosis water purification system to the Research Institute for Peace and Security researchers gathered during their seminar here Friday.

ble of hauling 22.5 tons of equipment. Marines from Motor Transport Company, CSSG-3, briefed the visitors on the capabilities and usefulness of the LVS.

On the trailer of the LVS sat a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit. In front of the ROWPU stood two Marines of Landing Support Co., CSSG-3, who informed the visitors of the usefulness and abilities of the system, which can filter up to 1,800 gallons of water per hour.

In their short time here, the researchers were fed a lot of information, but in the end it appeared very educational.

"The classes were very good. I

learned a lot from the Marines," said Professor Yasue Mochizuki, a member of the research team.

The Marines also appreciated the opportunity to explain the jobs they do and why they are important.

"I feel good about passing my knowledge on to other people. It's part of my job to let people know what I do and what the job entails," said Lance Cpl. Tratia S. Brown, a hygiene equipment operator with LSC.

With their newly acquired knowledge, the RIPS researchers should now be able to pass on the techniques they learned and help to aid those in need all over the world.

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

Engineer conference reviews Corps' 21st century strategies

Sgt. Arthur Stone

Camp Lejeune Public Affairs

CAMPLEJEUNE, N.C. — Few Marines have impacted the Marine Corps' foreign relations around the globe as much as the accomplishments of Marine combat engineers.

Whether the task is repairing roads in hurricane-devastated Latin America, rebuilding schools in Indonesia, or purifying water and passing out food to a starving populace during a humanitarian assistance mission, the engineers have been there paving the way — sometimes quite literally.

The leaders of the Corps' engineering community gathered here Jan. 23-25 for the annual Marine Corps Engineer conference at the Paradise Point Officers' Club.

The conference theme was "Improving engineer support to the (Marine Air Ground Task Force,)" and was geared toward recommending engineering policy and procedures for the Marine Corps in the 21st century.

Hosted by the Marine Corps Engineer School, the conference was attended by leaders from within the engineering community, according to Col. Joseph Musca, commanding officer, MCEC.

"We have about ninety people here from the Combat Engineer Battalions, Engineer Support Battalions and the Marine Wing Support Squadrons — all of the engineering units," said Col. Musca. "We cover all the Marine Air Ground Task Force and come together to review requirements and equipment issues."



Cpl. Zachary A. Crawford

Marines from 2nd Combat Engineer Bn. and 9th Engineer Support Bn. fire an inert line charge during a breaching exercise.

In addition to Marine engineers, representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy Seabees, and the Department of Defense were also in attendance.

The ultimate goal of the meeting was to provide relevant information for commanders and planners to use as a baseline for engineering operations and strategic planning. They discussed the most critical capabilities and weaknesses of the engineers and wartime engineering missions that are neglected during peacetime.

Lieutenant Gen. Gary S. McKissock, deputy chief of staff for Installation and Logistics, Headquarters Marine Corps, detailed some changes the engineering community needed to see to remain in tune with Marine Corps mission in future warfare.

Lieutenant Gen. McKissock touched on the need to store surplus engineering equipment possessed by the Marine Corps that exceeds the number of engineers trained to operate the equipment. He also emphasized the responsibility of taking care of the Marines in the engineering community.

"A lot of great things were done by logisticians during the Gulf War, but the real work was done on the backs of lance corporals," Lt. Gen. McKissock said. "The people in the engineering community have got to realize

we are concerned not only with their professional life, but their personal life."

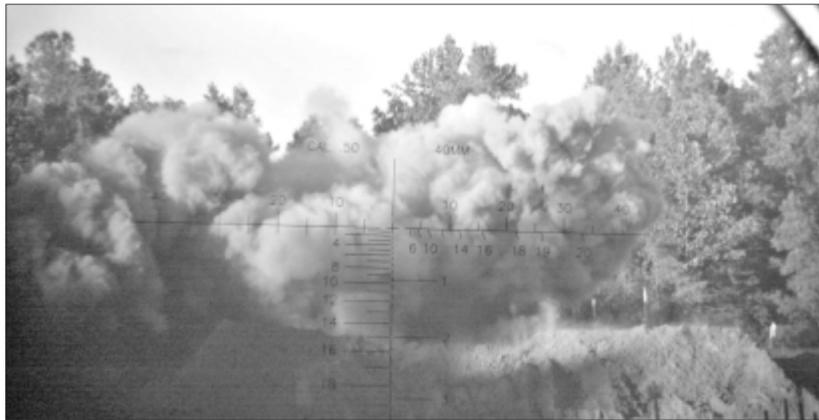
Lieutenant Gen. McKissock discussed the need of the Marine Corps engineering community to incorporate ideas and improvements by sources outside the military.

"It's important that we reach to civilians and people outside the Marine Corps and take their ideas," said Lt. Gen. McKissock, emphasizing the improvements in procedures and equipment in civilian companies. "You need to get out to civilian conferences and other places and see what is going on."

According to Musca, the topics discussed at the conference will have a long-range effect on the engineering community and the Marine Corps.

"Ultimately the recommendations from these meetings will filter to Headquarters Marine Corps so they can prioritize how the engineering community fits into the scheme of things as a whole and how they can better support the MAGTF," Musca said.

For more information on the engineering community, visit their web site at www.usmc-engr.com.



Cpl. Zachary A. Crawford

Marines from 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion and 9th Engineer Support Bn., take out a fortified bunker with a pair of Bangalore torpedos during a recent breaching exercise here. (Taken through a parascoped aboard an Amphibious Assault vehicle)