

Hawaii MARINE

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Admiral Fargo takes command of Pacific

Press Release
U.S. Pacific Command

Admiral Thomas B. Fargo becomes the 20th officer to lead the U.S. Pacific Command following the change of command ceremony at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, May 2.

Admiral Fargo, the U.S. Pacific Fleet commander since 1999, relieved Adm. Dennis C. Blair and assumed control of the largest unified command in the world.

"My mission has two clear and distinct objectives," said the admiral. "We need to reach and maintain the very highest state of readiness and to ensure the personal as well as the professional development of each man and woman in our respective services," he added.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul E. Wolfowitz and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, were among the distinguished guests in attendance.

"There is no question that the men and women of Pacific Command will continue to shape our future.

"As the President has told us from day one, this war against terrorism will be a long, hard fight. But, Admiral Blair leaves each of you here today ready, willing and able to carry on that fight.

"And let me add this — there is no doubt we will win in this war," explained Wolfowitz.

"As we bid farewell to one fine commander, we proudly welcome another. There is no better person to step into Denny Blair's large shoes than Admiral Tom Fargo — another leader on whom we already depend for out-

standing leadership here in the Pacific," Wolfowitz added.

Admiral Fargo will direct Marine Corps, Navy, Army and Air Force operations across more than 100 million square miles and becomes the senior commander of U.S. military forces in the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas.



Tech Sgt. Paul Holcomb
Admiral Thomas B. Fargo (right) assumed command of the Pacific from Admiral Dennis C. Blair.



Tech Sgt. Paul Holcomb
Admiral Thomas B. Fargo speaks to members of the U.S. Pacific Command and distinguished guests, including (from left) the Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul E. Wolfowitz, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers.

German, Israeli military confer at Kaneohe Bay



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero
Courtesy of HMH-463, a Marine from 1/3 takes a ride on the fast rope during a demonstration April 30.

Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero
Combat Correspondent

MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, played host April 29 to May 3, to international leaders attending the 9th Annual Training Coordination Group Conference, a meeting which looks at technical issues regarding the CH-53 helicopters.

The group of more than 40 civilians, officers and enlisted personnel from the U.S., Germany and Israel discussed ideas to further enhance the capabilities of the CH-53 helicopter.

Topics of discussion included the joint use of parts by all involved, preserving assets critical to the twin engine variants of the CH-53, and identifying shared discrepancies and aircraft anomalies.

"We're here to learn



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero
Lance Cpl. Manuel Guzyk, a machine gunner with Alpha Co., 1/3, aims down the barrel of his M16A2 service rifle, while a fellow Marine fast ropes behind him.

from each other and to try to accomplish a lot of ideas that someday could make this aircraft perfect," said Israeli Air Force Maj. Wolf Lury.

German Air Force representatives were also eager to learn fast rope techniques, and they reviewed proper aircraft rigging with Helicopter Rope

Suspension Training team members, Staff Sgt. Edwayne Delacruz, Sgt. Travis Peterson, and students from 3rd Marine Regiment.

"It was undoubtedly the best TCG conference since the inception of the conference nine years ago in terms of support, facilities, organization, and overall knowledge gained by conference attendees," said Lt. Col. Ernst Reinhard Prigge, CH-53G program manager, GAF and Maj. Zdroievsky, Israeli Air Force.

Besides attending conferences, the foreign ambassadors took advantage of their visit to enjoy this world-renowned paradise.

"Hawaii is one of the greatest places on earth," Lury added. "The Marines here are very fortunate to be stationed on such a beautiful island."

1st Rad. Bn. takes NSA's top cryptology award

Cpl. Luis R. Agostini
Combat Correspondent

The Marines of 1st Radio Bn., the premier Marine Corps signals intelligence unit in the Pacific region, have been selected to receive the 2001 National Security Agency Director's Trophy.

The NSA Director's Trophy is awarded annually to the single best tactical cryptologic unit from each service that has made the most outstanding contribution to the signals intelligence mission for the preceding year.

The NSA director will recognize 1st Radio Bn. at the Worldwide Awards Ceremony at the NSA Headquarters, Fort George G. Meade, Md., later this year.

The Marines and Sailors of 1st Radio Bn. participated and supported many operations and exercises during 2001.

They supported Marine-led joint task forces; Marine Expeditionary Units

(Special Operations Capable) from I Marine Expeditionary Force and III Marine Expeditionary Force; participated in several combined arms exercises at Twentynine Palms, Calif.; Weapons and Tactics Instruction at MCAS Yuma, Ariz.; joint programs initiatives; and conducted operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Leaders of 1st Radio Bn. expect to maintain and raise the high standards of excellence of their unit, said 1st Radio Bn. commanding officer, Lt. Col. Darrell Rector.

"We are going to continue to do what we have been doing, as well as reinforce personal responsibility, accountability and team cohesion for their deployment training," explained Rector. "We are also going to continue to make sure that we clearly understand the requirements of the Marine Air Ground Task

A message from the CG

"The Secretary of Defense has proclaimed today as Military Spouse Appreciation Day.

On behalf of all our Marines and Sailors, I want to convey to every military spouse our gratitude for your indispensable role in nurturing our families, supporting our community, and strengthening our military.

You endure the hardships of the frequent Permanent Change of Station moves, keep the home fires burning during the long separations of deployments, and stand fast during the uncertainties of contingencies.

Your personal and moral support, while often unspoken, is never forgotten and is always appreciated.

Each of you contributes significantly to the defense of our great nation by maintaining and enhancing family readiness.

You also make Marine Corps Base Hawaii a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

As we pause to celebrate Military Spouse Appreciation Day, I want to personally thank our military spouses for all they do, for all of us."

J.C. McAbee
Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding General, MCB Hawaii

See 1ST RADIO, A-3

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

PMO HOSTS BLOOD DRIVE, TODAY

The Provost Marshal's Office will host a blood drive today from 8 a.m. until noon — or until it receives 30 units of donated blood. The drive will take place in Bldg. 1095.

All MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, service members, their families and civilian employees 18 years of age and older, and who weigh at least 110 pounds, are encouraged to donate blood. However, some exceptions apply if you have had tatoos, body piercing, colds, antibiotics, certain vaccinations and medical conditions, dental treatment, or visits to selected countries. Call 433-6195 for specific details regarding exclusions.

CHAPEL EXTENDS MOTHER'S DAY INVITATION

Sunday is Mother's Day, and the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Base Chapel invites all mothers to a special service honoring them.

Every mother attending Sunday services will be honored and presented with a gift. This will be a great opportunity for anyone who wants to honor his or her mom in a special way.

The schedule for services follows:

- 8 a.m. — Liturgical (Protestant) service
- 9:30 a.m. — Catholic Mass
- 11 a.m. — Contemporary Protestant service

For more details, contact the chapel at 257-3552.

BACK GATE HOURS EXTENDED

The MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, back gate, on Mokapu Road, is now open seven days a week, from 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The hours were extended to better support the base and its military community.

"OFF LIMITS" AREAS POSTED

The following areas and establishments have been declared and placed "off limits" to all military personnel, until rescinded by the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board:

- Hawaii Natural High at 343 Saratoga Rd. in Honolulu.
- Nimitz Mart at 3131 N. Nimitz Hwy. in Honolulu.
- Pearl Kai Mini-Mart at 98-199 Kamehameha Hwy. in Aiea.
- The Dungeon/Temple/Atomics at 142 Mokauea St. in Honolulu.
- The Shelter/Club 1739 at 1739 Kalakaua Ave. in Honolulu.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

On-Base Emergencies 257-9111
Military Police 257-7114
Crisis Hotline 521-4555

Hawaii MARINE

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Public Affairs Director
Public Affairs Chief
Press Chief
Managing Editor
Sports Editor

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Maj. Chris Hughes
Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans
Sgt. Robert Carlson
Aiko Brum
Lance Cpl. Jessica Mills

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To contact the MCB Hawaii Public Affairs Office use the following addresses:

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FAX: 257-2511, PHONE: 257-8840

C.G.'S MAIL BOX

'...Wondering if we will be starting up a recycling program again.'



BRIG. GEN.
MCABEE

- Submitted by Amy Rains, family member

"I have noticed a problem that I think that you should be aware of.

The MCB Hawaii clinic is unable to carry all of the medication that its doctors prescribe.

In the past, there was a courier that went between Tripler Army Medical Center [TAMC] and the MCB Hawaii clinic, daily, and brought the medication that was needed. So, if a medication was prescribed and was not carried at our clinic, then it would be here the next day.

Unfortunately, this courier service is no longer offered for most patients. Now, when I need a medication filled, I must pack up my children, drive to Tripler, and stand in line at the TAMC pharmacy with the scores of other patients forced to do the same. This can take half a day and is very inconvenient.

My inconvenience, I am sure, is minimal when compared to the many retirees without transportation who have relied upon this service for their refills.

Sir, I recommend that the courier service be reinstated.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter."

Amy Rains

Dear Mrs. Rains,

I have been asked by the commanding general of MCB Hawaii to research and respond to your email of April 2 since your recommendation falls within my area of responsibility. He appreciates you taking your time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

Your recommendation to reinstate the pharmacy shuttle so that medications prescribed by physicians at the Branch Medical Clinic (BMC) are available for pick up at this clinic is noteworthy.

As you correctly state in your email, there was a time when BMC physicians could order medications, which were not stocked at BMC, from the Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC), and have them delivered to the Kaneohe clinic via the pharmacy shuttle.

This shuttle service was modified due to the commencement of a new, innovative program called Special Formulary Drug Request (SDR) that allows clinics to order medications directly from suppliers.

As part of this new program, the BMC has established new procedures to ensure medications pre-

scribed for patients at our clinic are still available for pick up at our clinic. Consequently, the 1-2 days it takes medications to arrive at the clinic is very similar to that experienced with the shuttle service.

Here is an example of how the program works:

- If a patient requires a certain medication that is not available at the clinic such as Vioxx or Viagra, the physician will fill out an SDR. The pharmacist at the clinic will order the medication from a local drug company, and it will be available for the patient to pick-up at the clinic within 1-2 working days.
- There are a few special classes of drugs such as controlled substances, that we are unable to obtain from local companies. In those cases only, the physician will inform the patient of where they may "choose" to pick up their medications.

In closing, let me say that your Branch Medical Clinic is dedicated to providing you the best possible medical care and services available, and we welcome any suggestions that might help us serve you better.

Again, thank you for your interest in the Kaneohe Branch Medical Clinic and your participation in the "CG Mail" program.

Cmdr. K. Loveless, NC
Director, Branch Medical Clinic,
Kaneohe Bay

"My first sergeant and his family recently checked in aboard the base and are residing at the TLF [temporary lodging facility]."

In order to keep his TLF funding and find a home, he is forced to find 10 homes a week. In order to find a realtor, he must use the phone. However, the phone at the TLF is not free.

In order for tenants to make local calls, they must pay fifty cents per call [at the TLF]. And these calls are not reimbursed by TLA or the TLF.

When I arrived on island, I stayed at the Hale Koa and was forced into the same situation as my first sergeant. However, the Hale Koa drops the phone charges when you check out, due to your status.

Sir, I feel it is a crime to force our Marines to pay for local calls on a military installation.

The TLF is an ideal setting for

Marines checking in and off the island and can help generate a lot of revenue on the base that the Hale Koa and Hilton were receiving in the past.

However, when MCCA [Marine Corps Community Services] passes on its unnecessary expenses on us, it's just another reason to look elsewhere for business."

Capt. Mike Wilonsky
Golf Co., 2nd Bn., 3rd Marines

Capt Wilonsky,

Thank you for participating in the CG Mail program. As you know, the commanding general assigns recommendations, like yours, to the appropriate staff agency for research and response. He appreciates you taking the time to participate in this program.

You have recommended that we remove the charge for local calls from the rooms at our temporary lodging facility because the calls are not-reimbursable to the service members. We have found a way to accommodate your recommendation.

With the recent addition of the 50 units to our TLF, an updated phone system was purchased for more than \$100,000. Additional lines to accommodate the upgraded system cost an additional \$15,000. The monthly phone bill for basic services is \$1,700 per month.

Therefore, you can see that we must not only recover the cost of the investment, we must also pay the monthly telephone bill.

We have been using an industry-accepted practice in passing the cost of the telephone service to those who use it. However, you have brought up the very appropriate concern that PCS [permanent change of station] families need to make calls daily for which they are not reimbursed.

Therefore, we will incorporate the cost of our telephone system into the daily room fee beginning May 1, 2002. This will allow local calls to be made "free of charge" to the service member, while still allowing the TLF to be reimbursed for phone service by the active duty member's temporary lodging allowance (TLA).

This is definitely a win-win for both the TLF and all service members who will use the facility.

Thank you for your suggestion.

Lt. Col. Michael B. Williams
Director, MCCA

*(Editor's Note: Letters of any length may be trimmed and edited in the interest of good taste and brevity.)
The commanding general invites input from the base community via C.G. Mail on the following topics: What are we doing that we shouldn't be doing? What are we not doing that we should be doing? What are we doing that we should be doing better?*

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

For more information about how to send C.G. Mail, see the MCB Hawaii C.G. Mail page at www.mcbh.usmc.mil/command/cgmail.htm.



KERCHNER

HMH-463 gets new commander



Lieutenant Col. Scott E. Kerchner (left) assumed command of HMH-463 during a ceremony May 3. Kerchner previously served as the operations officer at Marine Aircraft Group 16 from June until March 2002. He replaces Lt. Col. Mark C. Sempf, who will be the new executive officer at MAG-24.



SEMPF

Local Sailor named best in Pacific

Cpl. Luis R. Agostini
Marine Forces Pacific
Public Affairs Office

CAMP H. M. SMITH — Petty Officer 1st Class Mark W. Goldschmidt was recognized as the 2002 Marine Forces Pacific (Sea) Senior Sailor of the Year here Friday morning by Lt. Gen. Earl B. Hailston, commanding general of Marine Forces Pacific.

Goldschmidt, a hospital corpsman with 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, was one of 27 Sailors throughout the Pacific Fleet chosen to represent their command at the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet Sailor of the Year Board. He was also awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal May 3. (Petty Officer 1st Class Antonio Jose R. Delatorre, an administration/personnel officer with Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., was named as the 2002 MarForPac (Shore) Senior Sailor of the Year.)

Before being selected, the Pueblo, Colo., native competed on other Sailor of the Year boards, beginning with the

2/3 Sailor of the Year Board. He then went on to win the 3rd Marine Regiment board, the 3rd Marine Division board, and the III Marine Expeditionary Force board, before being recognized as the best in all of MarForPac's 27 major subordinate commands.

Lieutenant Gen. Hailston expounded on the Marine and corpsmen relationship before awarding Goldschmidt the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

The general explained that nowhere else will one find a stronger example of a parenting bond than that of a Marine and his corpsman.

"Marines will fight, attack, defend and do anything else they have to do to protect their corpsmen.

"When it's over, all you want to hear is 'Corpsman up!'" declared Lt. Gen. Hailston.



GOLDSCHMIDT

Goldschmidt, along with his peers, hopes to use this award to influence his peers and subordinates.

"I always tell the people that I work with, that when you go the extra mile and give the extra effort, people take notice," said Goldschmidt.

"I'm sure that anyone who follows in his footsteps will do well,"

said MarForPac Command Master Chief Kevin Brannigan.

In his 11 years as a corpsman in the U. S. Navy, Goldschmidt's current duties are his first with the Marine Corps' infantry. His current assignment is his third tour with the Fleet Marine Force, and according to Goldschmidt, the Marines make it worthwhile.

"There's nowhere else I'd rather be than the FMF," said Goldschmidt.

SEAS conference visits MCBH



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Colonel Paul D. Adams, commanding officer, CSSG-3, discusses humanitarian assistance and disaster relief capabilities with more than 30 members of the Symposium on East Asia Security May 2 at GP 216 aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. The group, which included delegates from Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, China, and several other countries, dined on Meals Ready to Eat, and browsed a display of selected Marine Corps equipment.

Defense Department authorizes medal for U.S. 'war on terrorism'



The National Defense Service Medal

Rudi Williams
American Forces Press
Service

WASHINGTON — All service members, including Coast Guard personnel, who were on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, are eligible to wear the National Defense Service Medal, defense officials announced May 1.

"The sacrifices and contributions made by the armed forces in direct response to the terrorism attacks on the United States and to the long-term resolution of terrorism merit special recognition," said Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz.

Members of the National Guard and Reserve may also be awarded the medal if they

were on federal active duty on or after Sept. 11. Exceptions are if they were on active duty for training, on short tours of active duty to serve on boards, courts, commissions and the like, or on active duty solely to get a physical exam.

Service members previously have worn the National Defense Service Medal for duty in three distinct periods, starting with the Korean War era, defined as June 27, 1950, to July 27, 1954.

Executive Order 11265 authorized the secretary of defense to establish periods of eligibility after Dec. 31, 1960. The second period of eligibility was a loosely termed "Vietnam War era" of Jan. 1, 1961, to Aug. 14, 1974.

The medal was again authorized by a memo-

randum from the secretary of defense dated Feb. 20, 1991, for active service on or after Aug. 2, 1990 — the beginning of Operation Desert Shield. The termination date was later set as Nov. 30, 1995.

No closing date has been established for this newest period.

Eligible service members can receive and wear the award immediately. Those already awarded the medal for an earlier period will receive a bronze service star device to attach to the ribbon.

Established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on April 22, 1953, the National Defense Service Medal indicates military service during a time of war or conflict, regardless of the service member's station of duty.

1ST RADIO, From A-1

Force commanders.

"The award is the recognition of the hard work and sacrifice of our Marines, Sailors and their families over the course of the last year," said Rector. "The nature of business is much different than that of the in-

fantry battalions.

"We are continuously sending out small detachments all over the MarForPac theater of operations underneath low noise levels of day to day operations."

To give credit where credit was due, Rector emphasized the lion's share of 1st Radio Bn.'s outstanding leader-

ship during 2001 came from its previous battalion commander, Lt. Col. Michael Donovan, who relinquished his command June 14, 2001. However, he knows who is truly responsible for 1st Radio Bn.'s accomplishments.

"The credit goes to the Marines and Sailors of 1st Radio Bn."

WORD ON THE STREET

"What are you going to do for your mom on Mother's Day?"



"I ordered flowers on the Internet and sent a greeting along with it."

Gunnery Sgt. Penelope Benton
Systems administrator
1st Radio Bn.

"I'm going home for Mother's Day, as a surprise. My mom doesn't even know I'm coming. What could be better?"

Cpl. Clayton Schmidt
Platoon sergeant
Charlie Co., 1/3



"I'm going to fly to Arizona, and my mother and I are taking a trip together to Mexico. But before I leave, I'm going to call her and tell her I love her and miss her anyways."

Jennifer Strong
Cashier
MCX, MCCS

"I'm going to write my mother a letter and send her a card to let her know I love her. She lives in South America. I want her to know I miss her."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Royston R. Baker
Corpsman
Branch Medical Clinic, Kaneohe Bay



"I am sending my mom a package consisting of a card, a bouquet of flowers and a packet of Hawaiian Kona coffee. Plus a message telling her how special she is to my family and me."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Ashley R. Edwards
Corpsman
Branch Medical Clinic, Kaneohe Bay



EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

Hawaii Marines learn 'enhanced' combat skills

Story and Photos by
Cpl. James S. McGregor
 III MEF Public Affairs Office

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa — More than six months after the terrorist attacks on the United States, which led to America's war against terrorism, Marines around the world have been pushing to become more alert and force protection conscious.

Marine Corps units such as the leathernecks of Kilo Co., 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, have been conducting numerous classes and exercises to prepare Marines in force protection skills.

The 3/3 Marines held a weapons skills and force protection package here and at the Central Training Area Combat Town March 19 to April 5.

The package involved more than 140 Marines with skills in physical security, nonlethal weapons, marksmanship and Enhanced-Military Operations in Urban Terrain (E-MOUT) tactics.

Each of these skills was geared toward possible terrorist threats, said 1st Lt. Anthony J. Guess-Johnson, training officer, 4th Marine Regiment Headquarters.

Physical security included skills in observation techniques, vehicle checks, personnel checks and personnel extraction, Guess-Johnson said. This also included making a security plan and securing bomb threats.

The nonlethal weapons skills portion of the training included the use of riot control formations, batons, open-hand control and nonlethal munitions, Guess-Johnson said.

Decidedly different than annual rifle qualification, the marksmanship training consisted of precision shooting from

close range in short amounts of time, Guess-Johnson added.

Marines practiced multiple target identification, shooting and moving, and speed reloading.

The E-MOUT training took total combat MOUT to a higher level, adding in skills for protecting civilians, or any other valuable item in a given situation, Guess-Johnson said. The skills offered in the package were simply enhancements to previous training.

"This will give them more training capabilities," he said. "This helps them to better adapt to nonconventional warfare environments.

"The bottom line is that Marines will always overcome and adapt, and we're just enhancing their ability to do that."

With the company participating in exercise Balikatan in the Philippines this month, the enhancements will surely impact the Marines' operational capabilities, said Capt. Edward W. Novack, company commander, Kilo Co.

"This force protection training will enable us to provide security for the area, as well as logistical for off-loading and on-loading," the Kailua, Hawaii, native said. "When set up, this will enable us to have a force capable of techniques used against a possible terrorist threat."

The skills will benefit Marines in other situations as well, he added. "This training gave the battalion viable capabilities that could be used in any area with that kind of threat. This provides more extensive procedures to techniques used in a force protection situation.

"It also advises Marines with a different set of skills, allowing them to operate in environments where there are possible noncombatants, or an asymmetrical



Marines of Kilo Co., 3/3, aim downrange at a weapons shoot during the company's antiterrorism force protection training at Range 15, March 26. The Marines did not have much time to pick their shots as there was a time limit on each round.

threat."

Specifically, the training gave Marines the ability to operate as a tightly-knit unit in a different environment than they were used to, according to Pfc. Michael L. Fails, rifleman, 2nd Platoon, Kilo Co.

"This training is going to help a lot in MOUT with teaching Marines to stick together," he said. "We're learning that a MOUT environment is different than a typical jungle environment. It'll benefit us if we come up on a village and have to evacuate noncombatants."

Novack added that Marines would al-

so reap such benefits as enhanced leadership skills.

"Any training like this is good training because it allows the Marines to grow as a team, and it builds cohesion in the company, platoons and squads," Novack said. "It's good for the small unit leaders because it allows them to make decisions and understand their fellow Marines."

Guess-Johnson concluded by noting the increased importance of force protection since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11. "After recent events, we have realized the threat even more."



Left — Private First Class Michael L. Fails, rifleman, K Co., 3/3, takes aim on a target at a weapons shoot during the company's antiterrorism force protection training. During the shoot, Marines practiced shooting at multiple targets, from different stances, from different distances and in short amounts of time. Above — A 3/3 Marine fixes a bayonet on his rifle. Firing weapons with bayonets was one of many skills the Marines practiced.

SALUTES

Marine Corps Air Facility

Promotions

Lance Cpl. Sara K. Sorensen

Good Conduct Medals

Lance Cpl. Jeremiah D. Crouch

Lance Cpl. Ryan P. Distefano

Cpl. Daniel R. Passante

Certificates of Commendation

Cpl. Edward Koh

Cpl. Brandon D. Link

Cpl. Eric R. Schleher

GUNG-HO



DEVIL
DOGS



MARINES WANTED

Sergeants and below who dare to become Combat Correspondents and would pride themselves on telling the Marine Corps story can seize the opportunity with a lateral move into the 4341 occupational field.

Contact Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans, base public affairs chief, at 257-8832 or 257-8840, for more information.

MCBH celebrates military spouses, says 'thank you'

L.I.N.K.S. to give flowers to military spouses

Ginger Phillips

L.I.N.K.S. Team Leader

For as long as there have been Marines and Sailors, there have been military spouses. Through peacetime and war, they have supported the military community, their families, and our great nation. They have allowed military units to focus on the task at hand: combat readiness.

Today we celebrate these unsung heroes who work behind the scenes to prepare their families for deployment and ensure family readiness. These ordinary people — who often learn to become extraordinary, sometimes overnight, though it can be difficult — become both mother and father, cheerleader and disciplinarian, and the everyday constant for young children when the Marine or Sailor has deployed.

These men and women become the sole parent, accountant, gardener, housekeeper, mechanic, chauffeur, medic, handyman and juggler of crises at a moment's notice. They love and support their Marine or Sailor and their country. They become strong, capable and accomplished by the time reunion arrives.

Through the years, thousands have done so. Many more will in the generations to come.

Military Spouses' Day is a reminder for all of us to recognize and appreciate all that spouses do every day of the year. In celebration of Military Spouses Day, the Lifestyle, Insights, Networking, Knowledge & Skills (L.I.N.K.S.) team will hand out 400 flowers to military spouses, today at 11 a.m., at the Marine Corps Exchange and at the commissary on MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, for as long as supplies last.

Remember to say "Thank you for all you do," to a military spouse.