

Hawaii MARINE

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Ditching, Ditching, Ditching

Hawaii Marines get increased survivability with new egress trainer

Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero
Combat Correspondent

"Ditching, ditching, ditching," roared one of the instructors prior to the training vessel being swallowed by hundreds of gallons of sparkling blue water at the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, swimming pool during a Modular Amphibious Egress Trainer demonstration, Nov. 7.

The newly installed MAET provides some necessary underwater egress training for the base "frequent-flyer" Marines and Navy corpsmen of the Ground Combat Element who ride as combat passengers in helicopters and amphibious vehicles.

"The training is designed to give the Marines the knowledge, practice and skill to significantly increase the chances of surviving a mishap that leaves them in the water or underwater, possibly inverted, and possibly in the dark," said Petty Officer 1st Class Fernando Santos, a corpsman with Branch Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor.

The MAET is commonly called a "dunker" and its cabin section is re-configurable to replicate the type of seating and emergency exits found on Marine Corps helicopters and amphibious vehicles.

"The training teaches students how to properly react when a water ditching occurs," said Chad Copeland, military sales and training manager for Survival Systems Groups USA Ltd., which designs and manufactures the training devices. "The MAET system is designed similarly to the CH46 "Sea Knight" and CH53E "Super Stallion" helicopters with escape hatches and exits to provide Marines with a realistic scenario."

Furthermore, the MAET is made of a stainless steel



Sgt. Alexis Mulero

James Gumling, MAET instructor and retired Navy corpsman, awaits the lowering of the training vessel.

See MAET, A-7

Driver classes come to K-Bay

Sgt. Robert Carlson
Press Chief

Driver's training is coming to Hawaii, and MCB Hawaii's Marine Corps Community Services is working to make it more convenient and affordable than what is currently offered.

The contracted courses will be held on MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, and the certified instructors will provide the necessary classes and important experience required for new drivers to pass their driving test and get a driver's license.

Schofield Army Barracks offers similar programs now, and each unit there has a program in place to train drivers.

The MCB Hawaii program will be similar, with the same or better prices, and will serve all MCB Hawaii family members who are ready to start driving. The Hawaii Marine Newspaper will run an article in a future edition which will outline the program's requirements and the costs involved. The MCB Hawaii program is scheduled to start Dec. 16.

Parents of kids aged 15-17 who are interested should contact MCCS at 254-7679 and answer a short survey to help officials customize the program to residents here.

Governor, Hawaii residents honor veterans at State Cemetery



Pfc. Monroe Seigle

Members of the Chosin Few and other veterans organizations join Father Rubie in a prayer at the ceremony.

Pfc. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

The Governor's Veteran's Day Ceremony took place at the Hawaii State Veteran's Cemetery, Monday, to honor those who served in wars past and present.

More than 50 veterans organizations were present from every branch of service.

"This is a great way to honor all my fellow Marines and veterans who didn't come home from combat," said Father Richard Rubie, a priest from the Assisiceltic Catholic Church and a veteran of World War II and the

Korean War. "They are true heroes and they must not be forgotten for the sacrifices they made for our country."

Rubie gave the invocation during the ceremony and said a prayer for all the veterans who died during combat.

The Veteran's Day address was given by Governor Benjamin J. Cayetano, who gave a heartwarming speech about how America's veterans have made our country the strong nation it is today through their courageous actions during combat.

"Today we join Americans everywhere to honor our veterans," said Cayetano. "Our grati-

tude goes out to them and their families."

After retired Sgt. Maj. Allan Kellogg, a Medal of Honor recipient, placed a wreath, Marines from Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment, performed a military honors rifle salute followed by a flyover by Company C, 193rd Aviation Regiment, of the Hawaii National Guard.

"Our veterans are the lifeblood of our freedom," said Rubie. "They gave their lives for our freedom and were the protectors of peace when our nation's security was compromised. We must remember them not only on this day, but everyday."

Ohana Hotels, employees say "Mahalo" to Hawaii Marines and Sailors

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

Outside the entrance to the Ohana East Hotel, Marines and Sailors from MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, piled onto the sidewalk. As they exited vehicles, Ohana East employees placed leis around their necks and kissed their cheeks, welcoming them with aloha.

In honor of the Marine Corps' 227th birthday, 40 K-Bay Marines and Sailors, including Sgt. Major

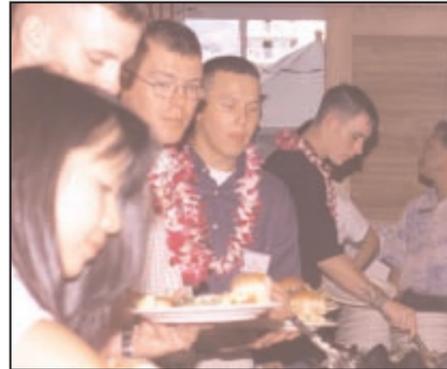
Filipo Ilaoa, base sergeant major, attended a free luncheon, Nov. 6, compliments of Ohana Hotels Corp. in Waikiki.

Marines and Sailors from 1st Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment; 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment and 1st Radio Bn. attended a luncheon held at Duke's Restaurant located in the Waikiki Outrigger, while the Marines and Sailors from Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii and Combat Service Support Group 3 attended a separate luncheon in the Ohana East

conference room.

Mildred Courtney, corporate director of government and military liaison for Outrigger Hotels and Resorts, felt that the company really needed to do something special for the Marine Corps' birthday, said Chuck Shishido, director of operations for Ohana Hotels. Courtney suggested and arranged the two luncheons with the help of the Ohana Hotels staff.

See OUTRIGGER, A-7



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Marines and Sailors feasted on the buffet during the luncheon at the Outrigger Hotel and at Duke's restaurant.

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

'CONCERT ON THE COURT' BEGINS SUNDAY AT 5 P.M.

Jim Peters of Global Training Ministries International will delight MCB Hawaii military, family members and civilian personnel with a concert of faith, for all backgrounds, Sunday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Kaneohe Bay Chapel.

The "Concert on the Court" performances will include comedy and other entertainment, as well as looks at core values.

Dan Siangco, with the band "One Heart and One Soul," will open the event with musicians from several local churches.

COMMISSARY OFFERS NEW HOURS STARTING MONDAY

The Commissary is changing hours to better serve the community.

Starting Monday, it will be open Saturday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

MOKAPU HOSTS CONTEST

The students and faculty of Mokapu Elementary School aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, started their recycling contest today, and participants are dashing to see who can collect the most aluminum cans before Dec. 18. The contest involves students from kindergarten through sixth grade, and all participants will win prizes.

The class that collects the most weight in cans will be treated to a pizza party and a field trip to the Base Recycling Center, which is supporting the event by picking up the cans at the school each week, weighing them and providing progress reports.

Environmental Compliance and Protection Department officials remind all that America Recycles Day 2002 is a great time to start a recycling program at home.

A collection point for several kinds of recyclables sits adjacent the lending locker and family housing office.

DEERS, CAC RELOCATE

The MCB Hawaii Defense Enrollment Eligibility System (DEERS), and Common Access Card (CAC) identification system has moved to Bldg. 216, Room 75.

The new center is located next to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society office, and hours have expanded from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Hawaii MARINE

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CG'S MAIL BOX

"Lately, the housing office has been issuing citations ... in a random fashion."



BRIG. GEN. MCABEE

Submitted by Jennifer Nichols, family member

"I would like to address the issue of citations being issued for lawn maintenance in housing.

I live in the Capehart housing area and have a lawn service that cuts and edges my lawn once a week, at a cost of \$100/month. We employ the service due to the rigors of my husband's det schedule and the fact that we have small children.

Lately, the housing office has been issuing citations for lawns that, although they are being cut once a week, have the "shooters" growing through as a result of the reseeded process that is common this time of year. Furthermore, these citations are being levied in a random fashion.

Houses on my end of Bancroft were given 48 hours to remedy the situation or pay a \$65 fine, while around the curve on Bancroft, lawns and bushes were clearly in violation of the regulation and no notices were served.

Finally, I might suggest that if the base regulation is going to be enforced so stringently, more attention should be given to maintaining the common areas, for which the maintenance department is responsible.

Adjacent to my yard is a steep hill that is not my responsibility, yet this grass is only trimmed every other month or so. It routinely grows to 12 inches or more.

The Marine Corps and Naval officers who live in my area work long hours, and it is not uncommon for them to return home at night after dark.

Most of the wives work or have small children at home during the day. In the evenings, most time is allocated for soccer, baseball or homework.

I think that perhaps some flexibility in enforcing the regulation is in order, taking into account the rate at which the grass grows this time of year.

I think a reasonable standard would be to expect residents to cut and edge once a week. Most of us do care about the general appearance of our neighborhood, as is evidenced by the improvements we have made to the landscaping around our quarters, at our own expense.

Thank you for your attention to this matter."

Jennifer Nichols

Mrs. Nichols,

I have been asked by the commanding general to respond to your email of Oct. 9 since your recommendation and concerns fall within my staff responsibilities. He appreciates that you have taken the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

Let me start by saying that we appreciate the extra effort you put into your yard. It is apparent that you take great pride in the appearance of not only your quarters, but also the neighborhood, and for that, you have my admiration and respect.

The Family Housing Resident Handbook, provided in each quarters, covers lawn maintenance guidelines. These guidelines not only help prevent havens for pests such as insects and rodents, they ensure the overall quality of life for all our residents. Specifically, paragraph 4001.1 states that residents should mow their lawns as often as

necessary to keep them neat. It also states that grass should not be shorter than one inch and no longer than three inches high.

I am aware that at different times throughout the year the grass will go to seed; however, these seed stems are unsightly, do not present a neat appearance, and therefore must be mowed down.

Currently, two family housing department employees issue citations for lawn maintenance violations aboard MCB Hawaii (Kaneohe Bay, Camp H.M. Smith, and the Manana housing areas) sighting over 2,600 housing units. This process is lengthy and takes several days to complete. It is very likely that they could sight one housing area on Monday and not get to an adjacent area until several days later.

You make a valid point with regard to the common areas maintained by the base. In fact, we too are taking steps to increase more frequent mowing. We have included the mowing of all housing common areas in our new Family Housing Maintenance contract, which is programmed to begin in January 2003. In the interim, if you feel that the common area adjacent to your yard needs to be maintained more frequently than what actually occurs, please contact your area inspector. He will contact the facilities department to schedule the requested maintenance.

Again, thank you for taking the time to express your recommendations and concerns via the "CG Mail Program."

Mr. Kent Murata
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4

(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.

Prohibited Civilian Attire Marine Corps Base Hawaii



'What is prohibited civilian attire for everyone aboard MCB Hawaii?'

Civilian clothing regulations aboard MCB Hawaii are the focus of a new campaign to get residents and visitors to adhere to the rules. This guide will be posted at public places around the base to remind patrons at the Marine Corps Exchange, Annex, 7-Day Store, Package Store and other places, of what is not acceptable as civilian attire. Base Order 1020.5B spells out new regulations, and includes clear interpretation of existing regulations.



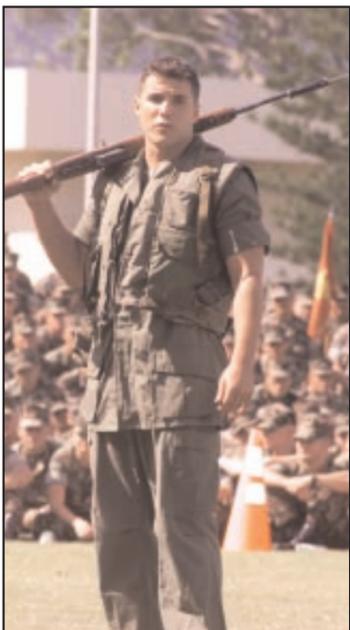
Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero

Above — The 2002 uniform pageant at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, displayed the many uniforms Marines and Sailors have worn since the birthday of the Corps, Nov. 10, 1775. Below Right — Sergeants James S. Lock and Cynita Morales, both of the Personnel Service Center, MCB Hawaii, represent present day United States Marines.



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Marines re-enacted the raising of the flag over Mt. Suribachi. As they ran screaming onto the field and raised the flag, the crowd gave a standing ovation.



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Lance Cpl. Craig Bochnak, Communications Center operator, G-6, stands in the full Marine Corps uniform worn during the Vietnam War.

The female Marines who participated in the 2002 uniform pageant pose with the oldest Marine present, 91-year-old Vivian Thompson.



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Reliving history

Hawaii Marines, Sailors bring Corps' past to life

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

Hundreds crowded Dewey Square and watched in wonder as Marines and Sailors brought the past to life and told the story of the United States Marine Corps.

In celebration of the Corps' 227th birthday, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, held its traditional uniform pageant and cake-cutting ceremony Nov. 8.

Dressed in period uniforms and armed with weapons reflecting the chronological history of the Corps, Marines and Sailors began the Marine Corps story at Tunn Tavern, Philadelphia, Pa., birthplace of the Corps.

As each ring of the bell tolled, another piece of history came to life, from the Revolutionary, Civil and Korean wars, to the Marines of today.

The pageant's final display was a heartfelt re-enactment of the raising of the flag over Mt. Suribachi. The crowd gave a standing ovation as the American flag unfurled overhead in the center of the field.

Following the uniform pageant, Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, commanding general of MCB Hawaii, quoted an unknown Marine from Khe Sanh who left a note pinned to an empty MRE package, "For those who have fought for it, life has a special meaning that those protected will never know."

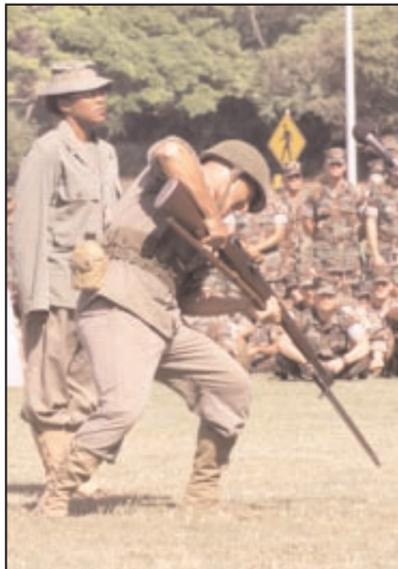
"Today was a great celebration of our beloved Corps. I could not have been more pleased with the pageant Marines' poise and motivation," said Brig. Gen. McAbee. "I was also proud to see the genuine affection from our Marines in the crowd when we called upon our veterans to stand and be recognized."

Former Marine Vivian Thompson, 91, was the oldest Marine present at the pageant and was served the first piece of cake during the cake cutting ceremony. During the climax of World War II, Thompson served in the Marine Corps as a supply officer. Ann Schuster, a



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero

The 227th birthday celebration included the traditional cake cutting ceremony.



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Sergeant Sean Habian, a military policeman with Military Police Dept., MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, thrusts his rifle in a motivating performance of a World War II Marine.

family member and substitute teacher at Mokapu Elementary, brought her sixth grade class to the pageant.

"This was very educational and enjoyable; it taught them a lot," said Schuster.

"It's a great morale boost, sharing good "esprit de corps," said Sgt. Randal Lundquist, a communications technician for Marine Corps Air Facility. "It's a way to remind our junior Marines where we came from and what we are still here for today."

As Brig. Gen. McAbee re-emphasized during his speech, our uniforms may have changed but our motives have stayed the same. The Marines have landed, and everything is well in hand.

WORD ON THE STREET

"What was your most memorable Marine Corps Ball, and why?"



"This year's MALS-24 ball was my first ball since I enlisted last year, and I loved the camaraderie in it."

Lance Cpl. Gerardo Banda

Administrative clerk MALS-24



"Last year was my first ball, and it was at the Dole Cannery. I had a lot of fun."

Ines Perez

Family member



"When I was stationed at 2nd Maintenance Bn. in Camp Lejeune, N.C., there was a lot of camaraderie between the Marines I worked with, and everyone had a lot of fun because all of us wanted to be there."

Sgt. Jesse Wilson

Training NCO 1st Radio Bn.

"In 1994, I was in a real small, but tight unit while stationed at MAG-12 in Iwakuni, and we celebrated our ball in one of the hangars."

Sgt. Arturo Vigil

Staff auditor Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii



"My ball in 1986 when I was attached to BSSG-1 was the first one I spent with my wife as a married couple."

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Darryl Hicks

Fiscal officer CSSG-3



Research proves club drug dangers

Across the country, teens and young adults enjoy all-night dance parties known as “raves” and increasingly encounter more than just music

Alan I. Leshner, Ph.D.

Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse,
National Institutes of Health

Dangerous substances known collectively as club drugs — including Ecstasy, GHB and Rohypnol — are gaining popularity. These drugs, however, aren’t “fun drugs.”

Although users may think these substances are harmless, research has shown that club drugs can produce a range of unwanted effects, including hallucinations, paranoia, amnesia, and, in some cases, death.

When used with alcohol, these drugs can be even more harmful. Some club drugs work on the same brain mechanisms as alcohol and, therefore, can dangerously boost the effects of both substances.

Also, there are great differences among individuals in how they react to these substances. No one can predict how he or she will react.

Some people have been known to have extreme, even fatal, reactions the first time they use club drugs. And studies suggest club drugs found in party settings are often adulterated or impure — even more dangerous.

Because some club drugs are colorless, tasteless and odorless, they are easy for people to slip into drinks. Some of these drugs have been associated with sexual assaults, and for that reason, they are referred to as “date rape drugs.”

A Primer on Club Drugs

“X,” “Adam,” and “MDMA” are slang names for Ecstasy, which is a stimulant and a hallucinogen. Young people may use Ecstasy to improve their moods or get energy to keep dancing; however,



chronic abuse of Ecstasy appears to damage the brain’s ability to think and regulate emotion, memory, sleep and pain.

“G,” “Liquid Ecstasy,” “Georgia Home Boy” or Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) may be made in homes by using recipes with common ingredients.

At lower doses, GHB can relax the user, but, as the dose increases, the sedative effects may result in sleep and eventual coma or death.

“Roofie” or “Roche” (Rohypnol) is tasteless and odorless. It mixes easily in

carbonated beverages. Rohypnol may cause individuals under the influence of the drug to forget what happened. Other effects include low blood pressure, drowsiness, dizziness, confusion, and stomach upset.

“Special K” or “K” (Ketamine) is an anesthetic. Use of a small amount of ketamine results in loss of attention span, learning ability and memory. At higher doses, ketamine can cause delirium, amnesia, high blood pressure, depression and severe breathing problems.

“Speed,” “Ice,” “Chalk” or “Meth” (Methamphetamine) is often made in home laboratories. Methamphetamine use can cause serious health concerns, including memory loss, aggression, violence, psychotic behavior and heart problems.

“Acid” or Lysergic Acid Diethylamide

(LSD) may cause unpredictable behavior depending on the amount taken, where the drug is used, and on the user’s personality. A user might feel the following effects: numbness, weakness, nausea, increased heart rate, sweating, lack of appetite, “flashbacks” and sleeplessness.

A Medical Researcher’s Bottom Line

“Raves” or all-night dance parties continue to attract teens and young adults who may think Ecstasy, GHB, Rohypnol and other club drugs are harmless. This is not true.

While researchers continue to study club drugs with a sense of urgency, treatment and prevention strategies are being developed. The bottom line is simple: even experimenting with club drugs is an unpredictable and dangerous thing to do.

Golden Eagles depart for Misawa, Kadena

Lt. j.g. Teresa Owens
Patrol Squadron 9

Beginning the day after Thanksgiving, the nearly 400 members of Patrol Squadron 9 will pack their bags, kiss their loved ones goodbye and depart Hawaii for a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia.

Known as the "Golden Eagles," Sailors assigned to VP-9 are stationed at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, and operate P-3C Orion patrol aircraft. Though originally designed for long-range antisubmarine warfare, the Orion's missions have expanded in recent years to include intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, precision strike targeting, maritime interdiction operations, counter-narcotics, and search and rescue.

The Golden Eagles have had a busy and successful year. Following their return from a highly successful deployment to the Middle East last December, the Golden Eagles set out almost immediately to begin the year-long process of training and preparing for their December deployment.

Having been among the first to participate in air missions supporting Operation Enduring Freedom after Sept. 11, the aircrews and maintenance personnel had developed a high level of expertise in maintaining and operating the P-3C under extremely challenging conditions.

This expertise would prove an invaluable asset to the Golden Eagles during their Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. But they would not rest on their laurels; each deployment presents unique challenges and new hurdles to overcome.

Navy Cmdr. Brad Carpenter, commanding officer of VP-9, is very pleased with his squadron's progress over the past year.

Following a deployment, many senior members of a squadron transfer to other

"Each of our maintainers, aircrew and administrative personnel will be challenged to support widely diverse missions."

Navy Cmdr. Brad Carpenter
Commanding Officer, Patrol Squadron 9



Courtesy of VP-9

Patrol Squadron 9 is scheduled to deploy with their P-3C Orion aircraft to Japan.

commands, and they are replaced with new personnel. The purpose of the IDTC is to bring everyone in the squadron to a level where they are deemed "combat ready" and able to deploy.

"The men and women of VP-9 have worked extremely hard over the past year to prepare for our upcoming de-

ployment," said Carpenter. "It has been an extremely busy and compressed home cycle, but the entire squadron has performed marvelously."

During this IDTC, the Golden Eagles successfully completed an Operational Readiness Evaluation, Aviation Maintenance Inspection, Fleet NATOPS Evaluation, and Qualification Cycles for eleven aircrews.

Additionally, VP-9 has supported exercises and flown more than 500 hours during JTFEX, RIMPAC 2002, Fleet Battle Experiment Juliet and ASWEX. They have sent planes, aircrews and maintenance personnel on detachments to San Diego, Calif.; Fallon, Nev.; and Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

In late May, the Golden Eagles conducted overwater navigation and cold weather operations training on a flight to Kodiak, Alaska.

In July, an aircrew from VP-9 located a kayaker adrift off the Big Island, who had been missing for nearly a week, and directed rescue swimmers to his location. The diligence of this Golden Eagle aircrew undoubtedly saved the man's life.



Now, after nearly a year of training, preparation and anticipation, the Golden Eagles of VP-9 are about to embark on their next challenge: a deployment to Japan.

Though primarily deployed to Misawa AFB in northern Japan and Kadena AFB in Okinawa, the Golden Eagles could find themselves spread across the Western Pacific.

When deployed, the Golden Eagles will fall under the command of Task Force 72, whose area of responsibility encompasses more than 56 million square miles, extending from the Northern Pacific Ocean, bordering Russia, to the South China Sea and westward over the entire Indian Ocean, from the southern tip of Africa to the Gulf of Aden.

Task Force 72 is comprised of two patrol squadrons (one of which will be VP-9) together with special squadron detachments and assigned surface ships.

In addition to the previously mentioned mission areas, the Golden Eagles may have the opportunity to participate in joint exercises and operations with the armed forces of other countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Korea, Japan and Australia.

Though uncertain as to what exactly the next six months will bring, the Golden Eagles of VP-9 stand ready to play their role in the continuing war on terrorism and in supporting the nation's interests overseas.

Carpenter summarized it best when he recently addressed squadron members and their spouses at a briefing in preparation for deployment: "Each of our maintainers, aircrew and administrative personnel will be challenged to support widely diverse missions."

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you. Your contributions and sacrifices have directly contributed both to the success of the Golden Eagles and to the security of our nation."



Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero

Instructors discuss the functions of the training vessel with a few of the installation's commanding officers.

MAET, From A-1

frame with the general shape of the cabin section of a helicopter. It is nearly 18-feet-long and more than eight feet in diameter. Typically, it can hold a maximum of 10-12 Marines at one time, and begins its training cycle from a position suspended over a pool from a large, permanently mounted crane.

The hoist lowers the MAET into the pool to simulate ditching, and then raises the MAET after the practice egress is complete. During the cycle, as the dunker enters the water, it usually rolls right or left to a disorienting, inverted position.

The training course lasts two days and includes classroom time in which instructors cover various hazards while submerged, the proper use of available equipment, and the correct way to conduct an escape/egress from a submerged helicopter or vehicle.

After the classroom session, the Marines move on to the Shallow Water Egress Trainer that is a floating chair with a frame similar to a seat in a helicopter. Students practice holding their breath, gaining un-

derwater orientation using procedures to assist in finding an escape exit, and conducting egress to the water's surface.

Upon completion of the SWET training, the Marines move into the deep water for several rides in the dunker. The Marines perform six to seven ditching cycles and during some of the cycles, they are exposed to "lights out" or night conditions.

"Anyone would find it tough to deal with the disorientation of being upside-down," said Perry Dunn, program manager, American Systems Corporation. "Add that to the uncomfortable feeling of having water up your nose and in your ears, and not having air to breathe for 20 seconds or so.

The MAET is undergoing final inspection testing and is scheduled to be ready for use Dec. 1.

"When Marines complete this training they express a high level of confidence because they can remain calm, stay strapped in until motion stops, use their leverage to open an exit, pull themselves to and through the exit, swim to the surface, and survive to fight another day," said Dunn.

OUTRIGGER, From A-1

"We wanted to help celebrate the birthday of the Marine Corps, and show our appreciation to the Marines and Sailors for all the help they have given our company," said Shishido. "They defend our country, stay in our hotels during their liberty and allow us to come to Kaneohe Bay and participate in public functions, such as BayFest, and promote our hotels. We wanted to honor them for all that they do."

A small number of Ohana employees from each of the 14 hotels owned by the corporation were invited to attend the luncheon and spend the afternoon with the Marines and Sailors.

Staff and military members were seated together at each table, giving them a chance to interact with one another.

Lance Cpl. Ruth Corrigeux, a weather observer with Marine Corps Air Facility, spent most of

the luncheon discussing Waikiki and the Marine Corps way of life with Lily Tran, guest service manager for Ohana Hotels.

"This was a great idea. It gives us a chance to get to know the outside community and the company many of us depend on," said Corrigeux. "It's nice to know who is responsible for our service and to have a personal relationship with them, rather than nameless faces."

Tran felt that it was an opportunity to "pull back the curtain" on a Marine's everyday life.

"Marines are portrayed as tough, shoot 'em up types. But the public never gets to see what life is like on an everyday basis. It's really amazing how much work these Marines and Sailors do outside of combat."

The luncheon was served as a buffet, allowing guests to have as many servings as they wanted.

The buffet offered guests a wide variety of foods such as

fruits and salads, rice, potatoes and chicken.

Following the buffet, a dessert table was opened up; the centerpiece being a large white cake decorated with the words "Happy Birthday Marine Corps."

"This was a good way to show their respect, by actually sitting and talking with us," said Lance Cpl. Justin Arnold, an explosive detection dog handler with the Provost Marshal's Office's canine unit. "We work hard, and it's kind of a thankless job. It's nice to get some gratitude."

The Marines and Sailors were each given a gift package of Ohana Hotels merchandise including a beach ball, a tee shirt and a hardcover tour book of Oahu and Ohana Hotels.

As the luncheon came to an end, there were hearty handshakes and even a few embraces as the guests left with not only full stomachs but also a better understanding of one another.

SALUTES

Marine Corps Air Facility

Promotions

Gunnery Sergeant Randy W. Walden
Staff Sergeant Dave D. Gibson
Staff Sergeant Melissa L. Ohm
Staff Sergeant James W. Seeger
Sergeant Leavorrn Dy
Sergeant Daniel E. Johnson Jr.
Sergeant Randal D. Lundquist
Corporal Nathan A. Peterson
Lance Corporal Nolan J. Miles

Meritorious Service Medal

Major James V. Parran

Navy & Marine Corps Commendation

Master Sergeant Christopher W. Edwards

Good Conduct Medal

Staff Sergeant Nephtali D. Ricafrent
Corporal Gabriel Cruz