

MARINE

Hawaii

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Your cooperation is appreciated



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.
Combat Correspondent

Since the events of Sept. 11, all military installations around the world, have been at a heightened state of alert, and the Marines in charge of providing this frontline security for MCB Hawaii and Camp H. M. Smith need everyone's cooperation.

These Marines perform this guard duty in 12-hour shifts and conduct thousands of searches during that time.

Also on hand to support these Marine are the military working dogs and the security augmentation force which ensures that no dangerous materials make their way onto the base.

While the additional security is welcomed by the more than 15,000 men, women and children who live, work and go to school aboard MCB Hawaii, there are still

Force Protection Pointers

- Follow these procedures if you witness suspicious activities. -

<p>MCB Hawaii residents, employees and patrons should report the following types of actions to appropriate law enforcement agencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suspicious personnel, particularly those carrying suitcases or other containers, or those observing, photographing or asking questions about military operations or security measures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unidentified vehicles parked or operated in a suspicious manner on, or in the vicinity of, U.S. installations, units or facilities. • Abandoned parcels or suitcases. • Any other activity considered suspicious. <p>Report suspicious activity to the military police by calling 257-2123.</p>
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those people who complain about the long line at the front gate and question the necessity of the additional security.

"Security is not going to be convenient," said Staff Sgt. Shannon G. Nottingham, accident investigation chief with the Provost Marshal's Office. "Security is meant to be inconvenient."

"These Marines are protecting my family. I live on base. I have two children. I want these Marines to be vigilant on their tasks."

Instead, Nottingham

suggests there are ways to decrease the amount of time it takes to get on base.

Those suggestions are:

- Have your I.D. out and ready to show the gate guards.

- Keep your vehicle clean and clutter-free.

- Don't ask the guards questions like "Why do I have to do this?"

- Stagger work arrival times.

Another way to save time in getting on base is to begin a carpool within a work section, or with a neighbor who works on

base, according to Nottingham.

Carpools would help to decrease traffic at the gates by cutting down on the number of vehicles trying to get on base.

To ensure that MCB Hawaii is safe for those who work and live aboard the base, it takes the dedication of people who are put in charge of controlling who and what is permitted on.

It also takes the understanding and patience of everyone to realize that the heightened security is for their protection.

1/12 sports Corps' new combat boots

Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA — While several parts of the new Marine Corps utility uniform are still being tested, Marines from Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, had the opportunity to put two new versions of the desert combat boots to the test during their training here.

The boots feature a rough leather outer layer and a new tan color to save the time of shining and polishing.

They are meant to be a better camouflage and are supposed to keep feet cool and dry in a variety of environments.

Thirty Marines from the battery were given new boots Oct. 17, to test them out for 30 days.

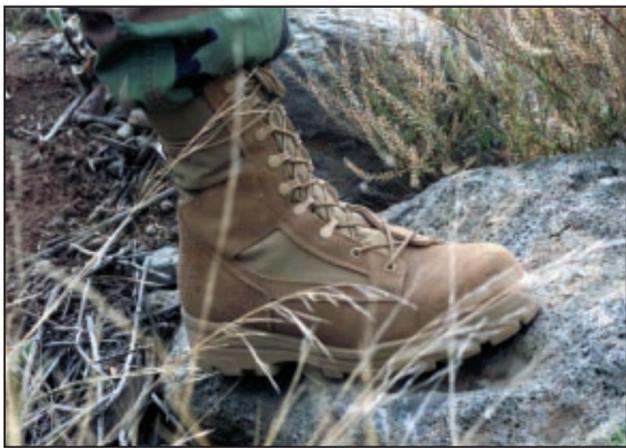
The Marines who were selected to test out the boots were in a wide range of military occupational specialties, said Gunnery Sgt. Jamie Deets, battery gunnery sergeant for Bravo Battery, 1/12. This should help give a better idea of how the boots will hold up in a range of areas.

During the 30 days of testing, Marines will spend the last week of a 30-day deployment to the Pohakuloa Training Area and three weeks back at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay performing basic everyday tasks before making a final judgement.

However, one of the first things that Marines noticed is how lightweight, comfortable and cool the boots felt in the PTA environment.

"I thought they were kind of ugly at first," said Lance Cpl. William Jackson, a wire-

See BOOTS, A-6



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Lance Cpl. William Jackson, a wireman for Bravo Battery 1/12 was one of the Marines chosen to test out the new boots.

Marine, Sailor foil assault

Sgt. Robert Carlson
Press Chief

Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, U.S. citizens are more willing to step up and take action when they see something wrong. For the Marine Corps and Navy though, doing the right thing has always been standard procedure.

A Marine and a Sailor from Headquarters and Service Co., 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, stopped an assault at the Ala Moana Shopping Center Oct. 14.

Sergeant John B.



Sgt. Robert Carlson

Sergeant Johnson and Petty Officer 3rd Class Stepp stopped an assault at Ala Moana Center Oct. 14 while visiting a friend.

Johnson, Headquarters and Service Co. police sergeant, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Richard B. Stepp, an H&S Co.

corpsman, witnessed a man attacking a woman and stepped in to help.

"We were walking through the shopping

center and we saw a man in his mid 20s acting violently toward a woman," said Stepp. "We pulled the man off of the woman and tried to calm him down, but he wouldn't stop."

Stepp and Johnson said the man took off running after the woman at every opportunity and that the man assaulted them as they waited for police.

See 2/3, A-6

4th MEB antiterrorism unit activates

Sgt. Joshua S. Higgins
Combat Correspondent

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — With America's war against terrorism in full swing, the concern over our nation's security is at the forefront of everyone's minds. Accordingly, in times like this, the Marine Corps is stepping up to the plate.

A ceremony will be held Monday at Soifert Field here to reactivate the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (Anti-Terrorism).

The brigade will provide the Unified

Commanders with a rapidly deployable antiterrorism force to deter, detect, defend, and conduct initial incident response to combat the threat of terrorism worldwide. It will also allow the Marine Corps the opportunity to coordinate all antiterrorism efforts under a single command to ensure rapid response.

The command will help identify threats outside the United States through forward-based units and individual Marines, coordinate information and training with other federal enti-

ties and agencies, take actions to prevent the loss of American lives or destruction of U.S. property overseas, and support actions by other federal agencies to actively reduce the terrorist threat.

According to Brig. Gen. Douglas V. O'Dell Jr., 4th MEB commanding general, the brigade will have the ability to reach out and eliminate potential threats should they occur close to the brigade's locations.

"The activation of the 4th MEB," said O'Dell, "puts the world on notice that there will be Marines guarding our

nation with increased vigilance and attitude as we have done for 226 years."

The brigade was formed by combining existing capabilities of a Marine Security Guard Battalion, Marine Corps Security Force Battalion, and of Chemical, Biological, Incident Response Force Marines, with a specialized antiterrorism battalion under a brigade command element.

Initially, the brigade will consist of an estimated 4,800 Marines, many of whom are cur-

See MEB, A-9

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

X-RAY HALLOWEEN TREATS

Both the Kaneohe Bay Branch Medical Clinic and Tripler Army Medical Center will X-ray Halloween treats to ensure their safety. No appointment is necessary.

The Department of Radiology at Kaneohe's BMC will X-ray treats Thursday, only, from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. Tripler's will X-ray candies Wednesday from 8 - 10 p.m. and Thursday from 8 - 10 a.m.

Parents and their children can just walk into the clinics at either facility for assistance.

For more details, call Kaneohe at 257-2131, ext. 105, or Tripler at 433-5313.

NMCRS NEEDS STAFF

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society needs people with compassion and commitment to assist Marines and Sailors.

If you'd like to increase your self esteem, grow professionally and acquire marketable skills such as interviewing clients, public relations, retail sales management and more, call 254-1327 or 1328 to volunteer.

Volunteers are reimbursed for child care expenses and mileage to and from the NMCRS, which is located in Bldg. 216, directly behind the Windward Federal Credit Union.

MOKAPU SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Mokapu Elementary School invites you to join children and faculty participating in National Make a Difference Day, Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The school hopes to accomplish several projects such as painting, making benches and general clean up of school grounds.

Lunch will be provided.

Contact Cathy Burns at 254-7964, to register to participate, or for more details.

KALAHEO SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, Kalaheo High School needs volunteers to help paint exterior walls in the school's courtyard and elsewhere, to install sprinkler system components, and to plant trees and shrubs.

If interested, contact Gay Jennings at 254-5500 or Meg Gammon at 254-7900.

Work is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and volunteers should bring water with them. Lunch will be provided.

DENGUE FEVER PREVENTION

Visit www.CleanWaterHonolulu.com for info about how to prevent the spread of dengue fever in your neighborhood.

Hawaii MARINE

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The Hawaii Marine is an unofficial newspaper published every Thursday by RFD Publications, Inc., 45-525 Luluku Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Marine Corps under exclusive contract to the U.S. Marine Corps. This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services.

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'Prepare for hardships,' says JCS

Army Sgt. 1st Class
Kathleen T. Rhem
American Forces Press
Service

WASHINGTON — Fighting terrorism is the most important thing America's armed forces have been asked to do since World War II, the military's top officer said.

"Everything else, at least for the next couple of years, will probably pale in comparison to efficiently and effectively carrying out the orders that the president of the United States has given us," said Joint Chiefs Chairman Air Force Gen. Richard Myers.

Myers, in an American Forces Radio and Television Service interview to be broadcast to U.S. forces overseas, said he's counting on troops to stay focused on their missions and to take care of them-

selves and their comrades.

He warned that America is entering a whole new era of military engagement and that servicemembers should be prepared for long tours of duty away from home.

"We are at war," Myers said. "We will stretch the force, and I would just hope the force is going to understand that ... this is a global war on terrorism.

"It is defending what every soldier, sailor, airman, Marine, (and) Coast Guardsman said when they raised their right hand and they took their oath — to defend and support the Constitution of (these) United States.

"I mean we're defending freedom in the most specific and the broadest sense of that word," he added.

Myers said there's no question in his mind that there will be personal hard-

ships among servicemembers and their families. But, he added, he and the rest of the Joint Chiefs will do their best to mitigate that impact.

"Our job is going to be try to balance our war on terrorism with our exercise programs and everything else that we have going on, and try to balance it in a way that puts the minimum hardship on our people," Myers said. "But I hope the troops out there understand, this is really the most important task I've been assigned since I've been in the military."

The chairman also asked servicemembers' families to stand strong. "You're part of it, too, just like you always are," he said directly to families, then added, "so I would ask for their support of the servicemember piece of their family and we'll get through this

just fine."

Deployed servicemembers also need to make every effort to communicate with family members back home.

"If you're overseas, particularly, your family's going to worry about you, so communicate with them as you can," Myers said. "If you have access to e-mail, then e-mail them.

"Write letters the old-fashioned way. But stay in contact, because, naturally, moms and dads and spouses are going to worry about members forward deployed. So, as you can, reassure them."

But most of all, he wants troops to believe in what they're doing. "If we're successful, then our nation will be victorious, and in the end, freedom will be victorious," Myers said. "And that's what it's all about."

'Up to full throttle!'



Petty Officer 1st Class Greg Messier

ARABIAN SEA — The Shooter signals the pilot of an F-14D Tomcat from the "Blacklions" of Fighter Squadron Two One Three (VF-213) to bring his aircraft up to full throttle just prior to being launched from the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson. The Carl Vinson is patrolling the Arabian Sea participating in Operation Enduring Freedom.

All urged to help reduce utility bills

Sgt. E. J. Caceres

Energy Management Branch, Base
Facilities, MCB Hawaii

The month of October is dedicated to Energy Awareness, and during Oct. 22 - 26, the Energy Management Branch is promoting the use of efficient energy. Help us reduce the cost of energy by doing your part and being energy smart.

Little actions count a lot.

Turn off lights when you leave a room. In fact, keep lighting to a minimum. If you don't need a light, turn it off.

If everyone aboard MCB Hawaii would use utilities prudently — as if each one were paying the utilities bills him or herself — we could save not only money but also our resources.

Kaneohe Bay and its tenants spend \$12 million on electricity each year and an average of \$1.8 million for water.

On average, Navy and Marine Corps utilities consume 38% of the Base's operating support budget. However, if everyone makes energy efficiency a habit, organizations can save several millions each year and reduce pollution.

Energy-Saving Tips



To help reduce the cost and waste of our natural resources, here are a few things you can do:

- We all need time off — and so does your office equipment. Turn off photocopiers, printers, computers, monitors and other office equipment that is not needed at night and on weekends. K-Bay could save approximately \$20 thousand a month in electric bills if we all played our part.
- The spotlight's on you, but that may be all the light you need. Use task lighting when you need lighting in one small area and then reduce background or ambient light levels.
- Irrigation is permitted only for plantings, not for pavements. Use care to minimize oversprays. Limit

opening of valves or faucets to only enough flow to soak into the ground.

Irrigation of landscaping is limited to the minimum necessary to assure viability of plantings. Personnel aboard K-Bay are permitted to irrigate two days a week, from the hours of 6 - 8 a.m. or 6 - 8 p.m.

Don't waste our precious potable water, trying to unnaturally make the grass green.

Remember, secure all valves when not in use. Hoses must have a nozzle with automatic shut-off valve or a sprinkler attached and cannot be left unattended.

• Why set your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner? It will not cool faster. It will merely cool to a lower temperature than you need and use more energy.

Clear the air and save energy. To ensure efficient operation, clean or replace filters regularly on your air conditioners.

The Base Energy Branch reminds you that you're saving more than natural resources when you do your part in using energy wisely.

Energy and water conservation deliver a wide range of additional benefits such as dollar savings, reduced pollutant emissions, and in many cases, increased productivity.



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Lance Cpl. Alejandro Villalpando breaks open an MRE for evening chow at Pohakuloa Training Area.

Creativity makes MREs a delicacy

Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA — "Grilled beefsteak, Yak!

"Maybe if I add a little cheese and cocoa powder, it'll be ok."

This is an all-too familiar scenario for Marines who spend a lot of time in the field eating pre-packaged meals.

The food that comes in those little brown and green packages is sometimes not exactly what a person wants for dinner, but luckily Marines are not only highly trained warriors but they're also gourmet chefs when it comes to those wonderful food masterpieces known as MREs.

The Meals Ready to Eat, which have a shelf life of more than five years, come with a variety of side items along with a main meal that, when mixed together, can bring about new ways to enjoy the rations.

The recipes range from simple to downright disgusting, according to several Marines, but some of them actually turn out to be quite good, say others.

One of the best condiments that can come along with an MRE is cheese spread. Jalapeno style or

otherwise, cheese spread can be used for a variety of different recipes, like mixing it in with noodles and butter-flavored sauce. If it's heated up, it makes a nice field version of macaroni and cheese.

Peanut butter spread is another favorite of Marines in the field. Any food with a surface area that is solid enough to have peanut butter spread on it has been home to a peanut butter recipe.

Many of the desserts that come with MREs turn out really good when covered with a light layer of peanut butter. The pound cakes and the fudge brownies are two favorites.

By far though, the most versatile condiment to come with the MRE, according to seasoned Marines, is none other than the famous cocoa beverage powder.

Its dirt-like texture and chalky fudge taste make it a favorite of anyone wishing to make a field recipe out of an MRE.

Of the countless cocoa powder recipes, none seem more inviting than field pudding. Just mix cocoa powder with an equal part of water and the coffee creamer from your accessory packet and you've got a brown pasty substance that will not only satisfy your



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

A Marine spreads out his MREs and decides which he will enjoy first.

"The most versatile condiment to come with the MRE is none other than the famous cocoa beverage powder."

A discriminating gourmet Marine
Pohakuloa Training Area

sweet tooth, but also keep you awake and running hard for the next 72 hours. Mixing cocoa powder with peanut butter can also create a frosting that compliments the MRE desserts really well.

It's impossible to list all of the recipes that can come from the myriad of MREs. Spending time in the field with nothing but a few packages and an open mind is the best way to experience what the MRE has to offer.

Pre-packaged chow's a staple in the field

Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Combat Correspondent

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA — When Marines are in the field, it often means eating pre-packaged food



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Marines make their way through the chow line for dinner at PTAs dining facilities.

that sometimes lacks in comparison with what they are accustomed to eating at their local chow hall.

When Marines at the Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island go to the field, they can still expect two hot meals a day, thanks to members of the dining facility at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, who run the local chow hall at the base camp of PTA.

Chow is delivered to the Marines on 5-ton chow trucks that are assigned to each unit in the field.

The base camp chow hall, which is run by some 40 cooks and messmen, is also open twice daily for breakfast and dinner for Marines not in the field.

Much of the food at PTA's chow hall differs from that at a regular dining facility because it has to last for extended periods of time.

It mainly consists of dehydrated foods that can be prepared quickly, in order to feed the troops.

The mess hall at PTA is also meant to be a field simulation of what the cooks might be exposed to while in a combat environment.

The cooks, who are assigned to different units at PTA, use their time as training for something that they might encounter in a combat situation, said Sgt. Marc Rodriguez, chief cook at the PTA chow hall.

"This job isn't as easy as some people might think," Rodriguez said. "Getting food out to 1,500 people at a certain time can get a little stressful, but it's a welcome challenge to most of us out here."

The Marines who get the chow seem to appreciate the work that the cooks do for them, Rodriguez said.

"The food might not be as good as some meals that they might get back at K-Bay, but they definitely appreciate these rations" he added.

"It tastes a lot better than MREs, and it's hot."

WORD ON THE STREET

What is your favorite field chow?



"The Chili Macaroni MRE, because it just tastes good."

Cpl. Jason L. Norton
DEERS clerk
Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii

"I like the beef stew MRE smothered with the jalapeno cheese, Tabasco sauce and crackers, because it tastes... mmm, mmm good."



Cpl. Heather L. Dyer
Administrative clerk
Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii



"Frankfurters, I love the hot dogs in that MRE."

Sgt. William R. Stutsman
Wrecker operator
CSSG-3

"The spice cake from the T-rations, because it's awesome with a carton of that chocolate milk."

Lance Cpl. Jim Jaekel
Wrecker operator
CSSG-3



"Once, at PTA we had steak, shrimp, rice and canned soda."

Lance Cpl. Jason C. Smith
Machine gunner
2/3



2/3 conducts smart training for the modern warrior

Staff Sgt. Jesus A. Lora
Community Relations Chief

Around the globe battalion commanders train their Marines using many different tactics. The Island Warriors of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, have adopted a plan called the Dedicated Training Period that has the battalion in the field for 8-9 days a month and is doing this training 10 times before going back to Okinawa for their 7-month deployment.

Lieutenant Col. Robert F. Castellvi, 2/3 Battalion Commander, kicked off the first DTP on Sept 19.

The idea originated from 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines back in 1986 and 1987, and it focused on warfighting readiness throughout the entire training cycle.

"It deviates from the system approach we all grew up with in the Marine Corps," said Castellvi.

"The system approach to training said you start at the small unit level then you build yourself up into eventually handling collective company and battalion level tasks."

When the battalion returned from Okinawa, the command staff looked at the training plan. They found that it needed to be changed in order to provide

the battalion a higher level of readiness throughout the entire year.

First, the battalion had to get out of the mental cycle where Marines were back in Hawaii for 14 months building up to a certain level of readiness, then going to Okinawa for seven months to do essentially the same thing.

Since a majority of 3rd Marine Regiment's training occurs on Army ranges at Schofield and Kahuku, scheduling and transportation limit the actual training time the Marines get during a trip to the field.

According to Castellvi this plan had to be revised and changed.

"It just didn't work for us. It didn't work because we were only getting two days of training out of a four-day investment. We knew we had to make every training day count," said Castellvi.

So 2/3 decided to spend longer periods of time in the field. Now the investment of time can be spent focusing on warfighting skills all the way down to the fire team.

"In a two-day field evolution, there is no way a battalion commander can evaluate a squad, platoon, company, and battalion. But if you give me eight days, now I can focus on live-fire ranges as well as individual skills," said Castellvi.

"I can give them collective training skills at platoon and battalion levels, and finish up every dedicated training period with a battalion field exercise."

By using the DTP, 2/3 is not waiting until next April or May to start thinking about putting the whole battalion together to focus on battalion level skills. They are doing it during every field evolution.

By using the weekends as training days, the battalion has more flexibility on all of the live-fire ranges. A good example was on Columbus Day when the battalion had all the ranges to itself.

Some of the Army units



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

With the DTP, 2/3 Marines have increased training opportunities on ranges like the MOUT facility at Schofield Barracks.

don't train on the weekends, which leaves the ranges wide open. Over an eight-day period, the battalion can cycle all of the companies to all the ranges at Schofield, and also rotate them into the Kahuku where they have rough terrain skills, and train at the mount facility.

"With these ranges the battalion can train throughout the entire spectrum of conflict and use that eight-day period to run scenarios for the companies, explained Castellvi.

"Scenarios range from military operations other than war all the way to the upper end of the spectrum for high intensity combat," said Castellvi.

An advantage of the DTP is having the battalion together when it gets out of the field to focus on maintenance readiness, pre-deployment readiness, annual training requirements, safety stand downs and administrative issues.

The plan also helps improve the quality of life for the Marines. It's built to give them block periods of liberty coming out of the field.

The first 96-hour pass and the next weekend they get a 72-hour pass. The Marines may lose a weekend, but it is made up to them in the form of back-to-back liberty passes.

"I love this DTP. It gives my husband more time off at home, and more time with his newborn and his family," said Carla Moss.

The foundation of the DTP focuses on

all levels of the Individual Training Standards and teaches them battalion operations.

Every DTP is planned and has a feel of a Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation.

"I really like this DTP. It has given me training that I have not seen in a long time. It is well organized, and is giving me experience I can use as a team leader," said Lance Cpl. Jacob Martinez, team leader, 1st Platoon Golf Co., 2/3.

The DTP puts together all of the elements of a Marine Air-Ground Task Force and exercises the battalion's ability to work with the Combat Service Support Element and the Aviation Combat Element.

Every one of 2/3's exercises includes operating as the ground combat element of a MAGTF.

Another benefit of the DTP was the improvement of the Key-Volunteer program. Membership went from three volunteers to 26 in just two months.

This is high priority in the battalion as family readiness is just as important as warfighting readiness.

"My long range goal is to maintain combat readiness until it becomes a way of life well after I'm gone," said Castellvi. "I want all Marines to look back and say that they were part of the best fighting unit there could possibly be, had quality family time, and really felt that they were a band of brothers."



Staff Sgt. Jesus A. Lora

Lieutenant Col. Robert F. Castellvi, 2/3 battalion commander, improves the combat readiness and quality of life for his Marines.

Marine Corps seeks full funding to fix, test V-22

Press Release

Headquarters Marine Corps

Washington — The Marine Corps made clear Oct. 17 that the V-22 Osprey will not be rushed into the war on terrorism, maintaining that only progress in correcting the aircraft's deficiencies would dictate its return to flight testing and eventual deployment.

"Regardless of our need for the Osprey, returning to operational flight will be a deliberate and methodical process that will occur only after the resumption and completion of all necessary testing and evaluation," Gen. James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine Corps, said. "The safety of my Marines is my number-one concern."

Speculation about accelerating the program came on the heels of a recent visit by Jones and Gen. Charles R. Holland, Commander in Chief, U.S. Special Operations Command, with lawmakers to discuss funding to fully fix and test the V-22.

Though the latest budget discussions came as the bombing

campaign in Afghanistan was set to begin, Corps officials point out that they have been making the case for adequate funding since May, when an independent panel appointed by the Secretary of Defense concluded a sweeping review of the V-22 program.

"In the wake of the two tragic accidents last year, the Secretary of Defense, at the request of Jones, convened a panel of experts to conduct a comprehensive review of the program.

They concluded that the technology was sound and recommended that the program be funded at a rate sufficient to sustain the industrial base until the engineering deficiencies and panel recommendations could be implemented," said Marine Corps spokesman Capt. David Nevers.

"That is the message we have consistently shared with lawmakers since the panel completed its review last spring, and that was the purpose of Gen. Jones' recent visit to Congress," said Nevers.

Concluding that the Osprey's



Official Navy Photo

An MV-22 Osprey in flight over the Atlantic

engineering deficiencies could be fixed, the panel concurred with the findings of 17 prior studies that found the Osprey to be the most cost-effective replacement for the Marine Corps' aging fleet of medium-lift helicopters and the only aircraft capable of fulfilling its 21st century mission requirements.

Foremost among those requirements were greater speed, range and lift capacity.

The panel made a series of recommendations to correct the aircraft's engineering deficiencies, to extensively test the fixes, and to improve management of the program.

It recommended cutting production of the V-22 to the mini-

mum rate necessary to sustain the industrial base.

Panel members also agreed that sufficient funding was crucial to efforts to implement the recommendations and put the program on solid footing.

"What's resonated throughout [our review] is that this is a marginally funded or an underfunded program," said panel chairman retired Marine Gen. John Dailey.

Industry officials have since determined that the minimum sustainable rate of procurement is 12 aircraft per year. Anything fewer, they say, threatens the future of the primary and sub-contractors.

The Corps' interest in the tiltrotor aircraft concept, which began in the 1970s, rose significantly after a failed high-profile operation made apparent the need for a significantly more capable assault-support aircraft.

In April 1980, special opera-

tions forces attempted a rescue of 53 Americans being held hostage in Iran. The mission required crossing the vast Great Salt Desert merely to reach a staging point from which to insert the rescuers.

The transport helicopters' limited speed and range meant frequent refueling stops, necessarily done under cover of darkness.

During one such attempted refueling, still 250 miles short of the target city of Tehran, an RH-53 Sea Stallion helicopter collided with a C-130 Hercules tanker aircraft.

Eight servicemen, including three Marines, were killed.

While many observers agree that the V-22 is ideally suited to operate in mountainous, landlocked Afghanistan, the Marine Corps insists the aircraft is not yet ready.

"We're not about to rush the process or trade safety for an earlier deployment date," Jones said. "The nation needs this aircraft, but our Marines are more important than our machines. "We're going to do this right," he emphasized.

Commissaries designated as 'key and essential'

Rick Brink

Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. – The Defense Commissary Agency is doing more than just having its stores stay open to support U.S. military installations under various force protection conditions.

Shortly after the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Agency Director Air Force Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter Jr. asked installation commanders to designate commissaries as "key and essential," which means the stores will remain well-stocked and open for business within installation security guidelines.

Heightened security at all military installations has made it a challenge to coordinate product deliveries, but store directors are working with installation officials to keep the trucks rolling and the shelves stocked, DeCA officials said.

The agency is operating a 24-hour Emergency Operations Center at DeCA's Fort Lee headquarters that works in concert with the agency's four regions to keep the worldwide operation running smoothly.

Nearly a third of the agency's 281 commissaries were closed the day after the attack in accordance with local force protection conditions. However, within a short time, all commissaries were open with supply and dis-



Aiko Brum

Lt. Cmdr. Adam Moore (above) and Ensign Robert Fry (right), collect groceries for personnel stationed on the island of Kauai at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands. Oahu boasts the nearest commissaries for Kauai servicemembers.

tribution channels fully engaged and supporting the system, said DeCA officials.

"It's important that our customers know they can count on us to deliver the quality commissary benefit during these difficult times," said DeCA's deputy director, Patrick Nixon. "Commissaries have always been focal points for military quality of life on the installations, and that's even more the case now."

The quality commissary benefit includes continued inspections of commissary items by the network of military food inspectors, who provide an extra

level of food safety to help ensure military readiness.

Besides ensuring a safe food supply, DeCA employees and their business partners are working to ensure their military communities receive the support they need to accomplish their missions.

The Fort Myer, Va., commissary, which is near the Pentagon, quickly responded to support emergency operations. After the post released all nonessential personnel following the terrorist attack on the Pentagon, the store supported purchases from six units stationed at Fort Myer, Henderson



Hall's Marine Corps Base and the Pentagon, for items ranging from water and sandwiches to energy bars and fresh fruit.

The next day, while closed to the public because of force protection measures, they delivered 20 cases of apples, oranges and pears, donated by a local produce company, to the Red Cross at the Pentagon.

Nearby, commissary officials at Andrews and Bolling Air Force bases reported similar responses.

Because installation force protection measures affect commissary operating hours, commissary officials advise customers

to be aware of local news announcements concerning the status of operations on their installations. When in doubt, customers can always call their commissary to make sure it is open when an installation changes its force protection status.

The Defense Commissary Agency's vision statement is: "The Commissary Benefit — Cornerstone of Military Quality of Life. It is our goal to deliver the premier quality of life benefit for our military efficiently and effectively."

With headquarters at Fort Lee, Va., the agency operates a worldwide chain of 281 commissaries to provide groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families.

Commissary patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5 percent surcharge, which covers the construction of new commissaries and the modernization of existing stores.

Patrons save an average of 30.4 percent on their purchases compared to commercial prices. These savings, worth more than \$2,400 a year for a family of four, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families.

A valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries help the United States recruit and keep the best and the brightest men and women in the military.

BOOTS, From A-1

man for Bravo Battery. "We just got them and it will still be a while before a decision is really made on them.

"They are definitely a lot lighter and more comfortable than the ICBs that we have now," he said.

There are a few concerns from some of the Marines who are wearing and testing the new combat boots.

For instance, Marines who work in areas with a lot of grease or other chemicals such as the motor pool or the flightline stand a risk of staining the boots. With the boot's light color, stains will show up, unlike on today's black boots.

"I have no real qualm with these boots other than that the sole tends to pick up some rocks," said Deets. "If this is the new boot that the Marine Corps decides to adopt, I think it's good to go."

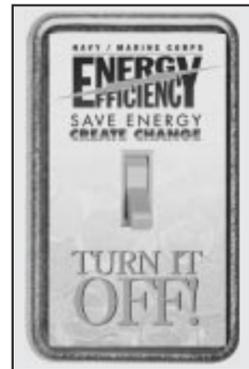
2/3, From A-1

Johnson said he and Stepp were able to restrain the man until police arrived, but the man escaped from police custody and ran after the woman again.

The police were able to get the man under control and take him away.

The woman pressed charges against the man, and so did the security officers at Ala Moana, said Stepp. The police told us they were happy we helped out.

"I don't like seeing anyone be mistreated," said Stepp. I'm just a compassionate person; that's why I'm a corpsman. Helping people is what I do."



Stop Loss:

Sept. 11 attacks affecting military leave, separations

Army Sgt. Bradley Rhen

U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs

The Sept. 11 attacks in New York City and at the Pentagon have had widespread impact on Americans throughout the country.

Also affected are U.S. servicemembers throughout the world, who are facing policy changes that could affect their leave and their ability to separate or retire from the service.

Sgt. Maj. Frank Raby, the senior enlisted adviser to the commander in chief of U.S. Pacific Command, said servicemembers should be patient until they get all the information.

"I think even as things get on to a routine operating basis – because even in war time we get into a normal routine of how we conduct business – and once that's established and we see what areas are impacted more, we'll have a better idea of who and how many people [will be affected] or even if we need to have Stop Loss at all," Raby said. "So right now the main thing is don't panic, be patient and let's see how things play out."

On Sept. 19, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld delegated Stop Loss authority to the heads of the military departments, and both the Air Force and Navy have since enacted their Stop Loss programs. The Army and the Marine Corps have not announced any plans to initiate a Stop Loss program.

The Air Force's program went into effect Sept. 22, to all active, Guard, and reserve forces, stopping all separations and retirements for at least 30 days. The Air Force said it would re-evaluate the situation after 30 days depending on its needs at that time.

The Navy implemented a limited Stop Loss program Oct. 10, affecting more than 10,500 Sailors in certain specialties.

In a memorandum, Navy commanding officers were told they should encourage Sailors affected by Stop Loss to voluntarily extend their reenlistment or

reenlist in order to lessen the risk for adverse impact on pay and benefits for Sailors and their families.

Stop Loss allows the defense secretary, through a presidential executive order, to involuntarily extend servicemembers on active duty. This means that servicemembers cannot retire or leave after serving their obligatory time of enlistment.

Exceptions to the Stop Loss policy allow the involuntary discharge of soldiers for criminal acts, under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or for medical reasons.

Raby said five or six people at PACOM have been affected by Stop Loss and the command is working with them to ensure things are moving as smoothly as possible.

"We do have a few people affected, but we'll take care of them to the best of our ability so they can continue on as soon as possible with their plans," Raby said.

Raby reiterated that there are exceptions to Stop Loss, and even if there is a "blanket" Stop Loss policy, servicemembers may be able to find an exception that would allow them to retire or exit service as was originally planned.

"It's easy to say to be patient and keep focused on your job ... if you're not the one that's affected and you've been gearing up

towards separating or retiring and now you can't. That can be stressful and a little traumatic because of arrangements and plans that you've made."

The attacks will also affect servicemembers who had leave that was in a "Use or Lose" status at the end of the fiscal year, which was Sept. 30. Previously, any leave in excess of 60 days would be lost if the servicemember didn't use it by the end of the fiscal year.

In response to the attacks, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy has granted special Leave Accrual so that servicemembers who were recalled from leave or had leave cancelled can keep any leave that would have been lost.

The Navy's policy for special leave accrual has not yet been finalized, but at a minimum, all Navy personnel who were recalled from or not authorized annual leave may accumulate a maximum of 90 days annual leave, according to a message by the Chief of Naval Operations.

The Marine Corps is using the stricter criteria that only active duty servicemembers who were recalled from or not authorized annual leave due to operations associated with the Sept. 11 attacks.

Commanders were directed to authorize Marines who meet these specifications up to 20 days of special leave accrual.

Air Force personnel with 20 or fewer days of "use or lose" leave will automatically have their leave carried over to the next year. Those who lose in excess of 20 days must follow normal procedures to request to get those additional days restored.

According to Army policy, soldiers will be allowed to carry up to 80 days of leave into the new fiscal year, meaning that up to 20 days of leave that were in use/lose status will not be lost. Any more than 20 will be lost since they wouldn't have been able to be used by then end of the fiscal year even if the events of Sept. 11 had not occurred.

Raby said he is keeping everyone informed about all changes to these policies as best as he can, and said servicemembers should seek information from their chain of command.

The main point, he said, is for servicemembers to remain calm until they get all the information.

For more information, contact U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs at 477-1354.

Four more years



Staff Sgt. Jesus A. Lora

Aboard the USS Missouri and with Pearl Harbor as backdrop, Sgt. Willie Moss, chief cook at Headquarters and Service Co., 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, reenlisted for four more years, Monday.

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

Warfighting lab tests info warrior in Okinawa

Sgt.
Stephen L. Standifird
Combat Correspondent

OKINAWA, Japan — Marines from Lima Co., 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment (assigned to 3rd Marine Division as part of the Unit Deployment Program) assaulted an opposing force as part of a three-week experiment with the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory.

The concept being evaluated is the Information Warrior — a rifleman with an AN/PRC-148 radio who communicates with the platoon commander, the platoon sergeant and each squad leader.

The goals are to determine both the value of adding an information warrior as well as the utility of adding the radio to the current equipment list for the infantry.

The lab is experimenting with putting more radios at the lower echelon of the platoon to better communicate, according to Randy Gangle from the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab.

"This experiment will seek to improve overall decision making, maneuver and combat ef-

fectiveness through improved situational awareness," Gangle said.

"The Warfighting Lab will seek to determine if the inclusion of personnel dedicated to observing, recording and the passing and receiving of information

at the squad and platoon level will enhance decision making and operational effectiveness in the infantry platoon," he added.

The experiment basically takes a rifleman, gives him the radio and adds to his main mission.

The Marine still carries a rifle, Gangle said. But he just has a little more to do.

"Small unit leaders at the company level and below have three primary functions: self-protection, decision making for the employment of their unit, and communicating with lower, higher and adjacent units," said



Sgt. Stephen L. Standifird

During the experiment on the information warrior Marines assisted with evaluations and surveys on what did and did not work.

Gangle, a retired Marine colonel.

"With all these competing demands, it is the third element, communication, that is often most neglected.

"This in turn leads to a reduction in overall situational awareness throughout the unit at all levels," Gangle added.

Corporal Oscar Rauda, squad leader, Lima Co., 3/4, believes the information warrior will help the squad leaders move their teams more accurately.

"As a squad leader, you're mostly in the fight and you're maneuvering your team leaders, which means the more information that's given to you, the better aware of the situation you are and of what's going on at all times," Rauda said.

"I think with the equipment we have right now, all the information coming from higher up



Sgt. Stephen L. Standifird

The information warrior experiment was used to test how the use of a squad radio — connecting squad leaders to the platoon sergeant and platoon commander — could result in better communication in an urban environment.

makes you a better leader.

"It gives you better control of the mission," Rauda added.

Throughout the experiment, surveys and observations were gathered from the squads and data was collected to make the final decision.

The last day of the experiment, the assault on the opposing forces, brought everything together while the Warfighting Lab observed.

"Personally, I liked the pro-

gram that we did," said Cpl. Bobby Cospo, squad leader, Lima Co., 3/4. "I think the stuff we used out here is going to improve the infantry a lot in the future."

Okinawa was chosen for information warrior testing because of the terrain found on the island: semi-open, urban and jungle terrain, the only site in the Department of Defense with jungle terrain for training and experimentation.

Oct. 23: A day to reflect on a distant tragedy, Beirut

Sgt. **Joshua S. Higgins**
Combat Correspondent

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — Major Bob Jordan lie asleep in his rack in Beirut, Lebanon. It was a Sunday morning, and normally he would have proceeded to the field mess tent and had eggs made to order, but not on this fateful day.

Jordan was a public affairs officer attached to the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit. The unit was stationed at the Beirut airport in 1982 after the United States agreed with Lebanese government officials to provide a peacekeeping force in the conflict between Muslim and Christian factions.

The Muslim came to perceive the Marines and sailors of the MAU as a threat, and began to lob mortar, artillery, and small arms fire.

At 6:20 a.m. on Oct. 23, Jordan was awakened by an explosion and falling debris.

"I had been under fire in Vietnam and was under fire the whole time I was in Beirut, but this was the loudest and flattest explosion I had ever heard, said Jordan. "I was confused as to what it could have been."

After freeing himself from the rubble, Jordan rose to his feet

only to see that the ceiling of the once airport fire station turned command and control center had partially collapsed and the doors and windows had been destroyed by the force from the explosion.

Jordan made his way outside the building, and discovered that the Marine barracks had been attacked by a suicide bomber and was completely destroyed.

"I was shocked to see the airports' control tower because the Marine barracks usually blocked it from sight," said Jordan.

Jordan would soon find out that an explosive-laden truck driven by an unknown terrorist crashed through two security checkpoints and into the side of



Photo Courtesy of Maj. Robert Jordan

Major Robert Jordan, a public affairs officer who was stationed in Beirut in 1983, observes damage caused by a suicide bomb which killed 241 U.S. servicemembers.

the barracks. The bomb exploded demolishing the building and significantly damaging several others around it. The explosion and collapse of the building killed 241 Marines, Sailors, and soldiers and seriously injured 80 more.

Jordan quickly but cautiously made his way to the barracks to assist in any way he could.

"When I reached the site most of the Marines were in shock," said Jordan. "My first instinct

was to dig through the rubble for survivors, load them in a nearby jeep and have one of the surviving Marines drive it to the battalion aid station."

After an hour or more of searching for the wounded and deceased, 24th MAU

Commanding Officer Col. Timothy J. Geraghty approached Jordan and instructed him to handle media queries.

"Colonel Geraghty told me he had enough Marines to help with rescue efforts, but he had only one public affairs officer," said Jordan. "The hardest thing I've ever had to do was walk away from helping those Marines," he added.

"The colonel had a point

though," said Jordan. "My public affairs training took over, and all I could think about was to show people back home through the media this cowardly crime against humanity."

According to Jordan, the following days were very physically and mentally challenging for him. Every waking hour was spent escorting and monitoring media, or helping with rescue efforts.

"The media personnel were very understanding," said Jordan. "I recall one reporter in particular.

I had taken a moment to step behind one of the buildings for a cry and he saw me. He came to where I was sitting and said to me, 'We (media) have everything we need. Why don't you just kick us out?'

"So I looked at him and said, 'You know what? You're right. Get the hell out.'

"Those were the hardest 106 days I served throughout my military career," said Jordan. "We were constantly under fire and it's amazing we took no more casualties than what we did.

"This was highly due to the discipline and professionalism of the Marines stationed there and I commend them."

MILITARY BLOTTER

Traffic Court

There were a total of 22 traffic citations issued.

The Blotter

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown stole various personal items, and miscellaneous items of his 782 gear, from his privately owned vehicle, which was parked at his barracks.

-Two Marines were apprehended for assault when a verbal altercation turned physical.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown had gained access to the engine compartment of his POV and had disconnected various wires, thereby destroying one wire.

-A Marine was arrested by the Honolulu Police Department for driving under the influence, was processed and held on \$500 bail.

-A civilian was apprehended for tres-

passing aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

-A Marine was apprehended for a DUI, as he attempted to enter K-Bay via the main gate.

-A Sailor was apprehended for fraudulent use of a Department of Defense decal.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown had stolen his wallet containing various personal items.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD for robbery (2nd degree) and is being held without bail.

-A Marine was apprehended for DUI and underage consumption while attempting to gain access to K-Bay via the main gate.

-A civilian employee reported that person(s) unknown stole his wallet containing personal items from a wall locker at the commissary.

-A military spouse reported that person(s) unknown stole her green bicycle, from the back porch of her quarters.

-A military spouse reported that person(s) unknown stole her silver bicycle, from the carport of her quarters.

-A Marine was involved in a traffic accident when he failed to maintain sufficient distance from a vehicle in front of him, which was stopped at a stop sign.

-A Marine was involved in a traffic accident when he failed to maintain sufficient distance from a second vehicle.

-A civilian employee reported that person(s) unknown stole a sheet metal rollaway toolbox, containing numerous tools, from his work section.

-A Sailor was apprehended for driving without a drivers' license, after military police conducted a traffic stop at the main gate, and the suspect failed to provide a drivers' license.

-A Marine was involved in a traffic accident while backing and failed to maintain sufficient distance from a concrete pillar.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown had forcibly entered his POV and

stole various stereo equipment and had caused damage to the door lock, while his POV was parked at his barracks.

Lost and Found

To contact Lost and Found, please call Cpl. Fernandez at 257-2103, ext. 325.

Neighborhood Watch

Crime Prevention is looking for neighborhood representatives to take charge of local neighborhoods.

If you're interested in getting involved, call Crime Prevention at 257-2103, ext. 314.

Crime Prevention

Contact Cpl. Gordon Scott at Crime Prevention about any crime prevention issues or for more information regarding the program.

Call 257-2103, ext. 315.

MEB, From A-1

rently forward-deployed as part of pre-existing units.

For most elements of the brigade, it will be business as usual, as the concept of the MEB combines the antiterrorism capabilities the Marine Corps has already into one rapidly deployable unit.

"Many missions will remain the same for CBIRF, Security Forces and MSG Marines," said O'Dell, a native of Pottstown, Pa. "We have some of the very best Marines in the Corps already fulfilling these responsible and dangerous duties.

"CBIRF, for instance, puts their lives on the line every day," he added.

The CBIRF element of the MEB is ca-

pable of rapid response to chemical or biological threats.

Should an incident occur, CBIRF would immediately deploy to the affected site and provide a number of significant capabilities to include coordinating initial relief efforts, security, detection, identification, expert medical advice, and limited decontamination of personnel and equipment.

With these elements in place and continuing routine training, albeit with a heightened sense of urgency, the main focus is on the enhanced training of the Anti-Terrorism Bn.

Currently, Marines from 3rd Bn., 8th Marine Regiment — the AT

Bn. — are spending many hours learning new security techniques and weapons skills and refreshing their memory of old ones.

"Training is going great," said Col. Mastin M. Robeson, commanding officer of 8th Marine Regiment and deputy commander of 4th MEB. "Our Marines love to train and we're fortunate that 2d Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Security Force Battalion have all been very generous and supportive by offering us school quotas and mobile training teams."

Though 3rd Bn., 8th Marines is the

lead element for the brigade and its focus is antiterrorism training, it won't be the only battalion to be affected.

"It is important to note that the Marine Corps' desire is to embed the antiterrorism capability in every infantry battalion," said Robeson, "not just the MEB."

The exact missions and capabilities of the MEB are still uncertain, but according to O'Dell, all elements of the brigade are expected to be fully mission capable by the close of 2001.

"We're training hard to meet that goal," he said, "and beyond that we'll continue to train and further equip ourselves for the missions that lie ahead."