

Hawaii MARINE

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Sgt. Jereme Edwards

Corporal Frank Prinea, a member of 4th Force Reconnaissance Co., holds daughter KaceyLine and gives an interview to KITV-4 news reporter Caroline Sluyter, during the welcome home celebration Tuesday.

Marines return home to a hero's welcome

**Sgt. Jereme Edwards
and Cpl. Luis R. Agostini**
Hawaii Marine Staff

Tuesday marked a day of celebration for family members of 23 reserve Marines of 4th Force Reconnaissance Company and 28 Marines of 3rd Radio Bn., as each unit celebrated the return of its Marines from a seven-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 4th Force Reconnaissance Marines' mission was to plan, coordinate and conduct amphibious reconnaissance, deep ground reconnaissance and surveillance, battle space shaping,

and limited scale raids.

The Marines undertook each mission as it was given to them, and executed each with such precision that all Marines returned home safely.

After being deployed for seven months, the Hawaii Marines were definitely glad to be home again.

"We were prepared to stay as long as it took," said Maj. Mark Hashimoto, platoon commander with 4th Force Reconnaissance Company. "We were over there for seven months. But, I can definitely say that I'm happy to be home."

"I can sleep and eat real food again," said New York native Lance Cpl.

Richard Slinger, with 4th Force Reconnaissance Company.

"It was funny; all he asked for was a mom's home-cooked meal and my special potato salad," said Vera Slinger, proud mother of the lance corporal. "I'm really ecstatic and thank God that he is home safe, and I'm sure everyone in New York is just as thrilled as I am."

Mrs. Slinger wasn't the only mom attending the celebration to welcome her son home.

"I just thank God he's home and safe," said Kathie Earhart, the mother of Cpl. Brandon Earhart, a member of

See WELCOME, A-5

Whale's fight for survival closes peacefully

Sgt. Joseph A. Lee
Press Chief

The second of the two whales being treated aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, was euthanized mid-day Tuesday when it began showing signs of suffering. Veterinarians made the determination of non-survival.

Approximately one month ago, the University of Hawaii's Marine Mammal Research Program began the care aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, of the two stranded melon-headed whales that were found at the Hau'ula Beach Park.

The first whale was euthanized less than two weeks after it was rescued, while the other's health started on a downward path this week when the whale refused to eat.

"The whale's condition began to deteriorate Monday," said Dr. Robert Braun, attending veterinarian who cared for the whales. "In the necropsy, or animal autopsy, we found evidence of a severe pancreatitis, where the pancreas is trying to digest itself.

"In my opinion, it was something the animal couldn't recover from."

According to Braun, the animals likely beached themselves when they ate something wrong and came down with food poisoning, or infection of the stomach. The malady turned into ulcers and eventually pancreatitis.

CPRFP wishes fair winds, calm seas to commander

Navy Lt. Doug Houser
Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Force



WINNS

Captain William F. Moran relieved Rear Adm. Anthony L. Winns as Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, in a change of command ceremony held Sept. 12 at Hangar 105, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Admiral Thomas B. Fargo, commander of U.S. Pacific Command, was the keynote speaker at the ceremony.

During his speech, Fargo presented Winns with the Legion of Merit for exceptional meritorious service in his command of the Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"The last two years have been filled with excitement and history making events," said Winns. "After assuming command — and one day after the second anniversary 24 months ago this month — the

See CPRFP, A-7

MCBH has a 'Day of Remembrance'

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Editor

On Sept. 11, 2001, four U.S. planes hijacked by terrorists crashed into the World Trade Center, The Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania killing more than 3,000 people in a matter of hours.

Two years later, the horrors and sorrows of that day remain fresh in the minds and hearts of Americans, as they honor those who were lost and the heroes that emerged from the ruins.

To remember those who lost their lives and the heroes who made us proud, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, arranged a "Day of Remembrance" ceremony on the evening of Sept. 11, at the Pacific War Memorial.

The Marine Forces Pacific Band set the tone for the ceremony by opening the evening with such rhythms as "Eternal



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Patrolman John DiCarlAntonio and Lance Cpl. Michael Tobey prepare to place the memorial wreath by the Pacific War Memorial with the help of two Marines from MCB Hawaii.

Father, Strong to Save; God of our Fathers" and "Irish Tune from County Derry."

The classic songs were full of spirit and grace, and the band's performance seemed to draw a mix of sorrow and

pride from the crowd.

Following the band's performance came "March on the Colors" and the National Anthem, which were both greeted with patriotism and honor from the entire crowd

See REMEMBER, A-7

MCBH

NEWS BRIEFS

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR BEACH CLEANUP

Volunteers are needed for the Coconut Island Beach Clean-up on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Showtime is 7:45 a.m. at the base marina aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Boat transportation, lunches and drinks will be provided, free, for volunteers.

The day will not be all work, as volunteers will have time to relax and enjoy the beauty of Coconut Island.

Families are welcome to attend and RSVP today.

For more information, contact Jim Lakey at 782-6150, or e-mail him at lakey@hawaii.edu or lakey@hawaii.rr.com.

EFMP TO HOLD MEETING AT BASE CHAPEL

The MCB Hawaii Special Needs Information and Support Network, part of the Exceptional Family Member Program, will be holding a meeting Tuesday, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the base chapel's Religious Education Center, Bldg. 1090. Child care will be provided.

Guest speakers from different base resources will provide information on how their offices can improve the quality of life for all special needs families.

Also, the program manager for the Marine Corps EFMP, Belinda Sims, will be present to answer questions concerning the program.

For details, call 254-2135 or 257-7783.

OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS TEAM COMES HERE IN OCTOBER

The personnel management of officer assignments team will be visiting MCB Hawaii commands from Oct. 21 - 23.

Officers who wish to speak to the team, contact your career planner for more detailed information on specific command visits.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

On-Base Emergencies	911
Military Police	257-7114
Crisis Hotline	521-4555

Hawaii MARINE

Commanding General Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee
Base Sergeant Major Sgt. Maj. Anthony E. Franks
Public Affairs Director Maj. Chris Hughes
Public Affairs Chief Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans
Managing Editor Aiko Brum
Press Chief Sgt. Joseph Lee
Staff Writer Sgt. Joe Lindsay
Editor Sgt. Jereme Edwards
Staff Writer Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Editor Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Staff Writer Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

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

HAWAII MARINE, BOX 63062, BLDG. 216,
MCB HAWAII, KANEOHE BAY, HAWAII 96863
E-MAIL: HAWAIIIMARINE@MCBH.USMC.MIL
FAX: 257-2511, PHONE: 257-8840

IN THE CG'S MAIL BOX



BRIG. GEN.
MCABEE

I am with the Marine Forces Pacific Band aboard MCB Hawaii.

Coming from a base that didn't have an Enlisted Club, I was very excited to be a part of the opening ceremonies of the Kan-eohe Bay club. But, I was a little upset when I found out that [the club] wouldn't be open during lunch hours.

Having lunch with my Marines from time to time is important to me. It would have been nice to be able to do it at "our club."

I understand that there have been many factors as to the determined hours of the club.

I don't usually go out of my way to attend club functions, but one of the days I regularly try to get to the club is Thursday evenings, when a few of us enjoy 25-cent chicken wings. It's a good way for us to spend some time after hours together. It's low cost, and it's close to home.

However, the past few weeks there have been

Comment submitted by Sgt. Ignatius J. Keogh, MarForPac Band

"I was a little upset when I found out that [the club] wouldn't be open during lunch hours."

some discrepancies that myself and other Marines have noticed. Key personnel have been missing from work (a cook and a manager), and this has severely hurt the services of the club. I even found last Thursday that the club opened 45 minutes late.

If this continues, I am afraid that my attendance and probably that of other Marines will be affected.

I do not mean to hurt business, and I do like coming to the club when I can. However, I cannot invest my time if it is going to be questionable every week as to whether service is going to be running smoothly — or even at all.

Very respectfully,
Sgt. Ignatius J. Keogh

Dear Sgt. Keogh,

The commanding general asked me to respond to your e-mail of Sept. 2, since your concerns fall within my area of responsibility. The commanding

general appreciates that you took the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

Kahuna's Sports Bar + Grill was created specifically for the enjoyment of our enlisted Marines, Sailors, and family members.

Though it is not currently open for lunch, we will open it for lunch beginning Nov. 1 for a test period of approximately one month.

Our decision to keep it open after this period will be based in large part on interest and patronage.

Kahuna's current hours of operation are: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 12 p.m.; Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Fridays from 4:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.; Saturdays from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.; and Sundays from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. (effective Sept. 21).

I have looked into your other concern regarding key staff and their direct impact on the quality of service at Kahuna's. This issue has been resolved

and the service you can expect from Kahuna's and Marine Corps Community Services will be consistent and reliable.

If we ever fail to meet these standards, patrons can voice their comments and concerns directly to the manager or to me.

Customers can also use customer comment forms posted within the facility or simply send e-mail to MCCS via the following address: talktomccs@usmc-mccs.org.

Our MCCS takes all comments seriously and will take immediate action to correct areas found deficient. This is my commitment to you.

Thank you for taking the time to bring your thoughtful concerns to my attention via the "CG Mail" program. Should you require additional assistance, I can be contacted at 257-8877.

Sincerely,
Sgt. Maj.
Anthony E. Franks
Base Sergeant Major
MCB Hawaii

(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.

SMART is the road to recovery

Sgt. Joseph A. Lee
Press Chief

The benefits keep coming for service members and their families aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. One of the most under-used programs available to them on base may just be one of the most valuable.

The Sports Medicine And Reconditioning Team Clinic here is a program designed to help Marines rehabilitate after injury, recover from surgery, and recondition old joints and muscles to handle the stresses of a military career.

More than just a rehabilitation clinic though, the SMART Clinic offers many things that the military population may be unaware of.

"We do many things besides just physical therapy here," said Navy Lt. Dawn Bowman, physician assistant with the SMART Clinic. "The services most Marines think of when they hear of the SMART Clinic are physical therapy type stuff, something you might need after a serious injury. What they don't realize is that we offer things like running shoe evaluations, to determine exactly what kind of running shoe you should be wearing. We also do rehabilitation for sprained ankles, to strengthen and prevent common recurrences.

"Most Marines have some sort of ache, pain or recurring neck, back, or joint problem that they just figured would go away and hasn't," said Bowman. "Marines should take advantage of the sports medicine physician and assistants available at the SMART Clinic to find out the cause of the pain so they can be



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul Langner, a physical therapy technician at the SMART Clinic, unwraps a Marine's swollen ankle to take a look at it.

proactive about fixing the problem."

Providing added support to the clinic are several certified physical therapy technicians and on-the-job training corpsmen from other units on base. They work at the clinic to provide help and support for the customers.

"During the six months I'm over here with the SMART Clinic, I will learn a lot of things related to sports injury and medicine that I can bring back to my unit," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Nestor Lazo, an on-the-job

training corpsman from 3rd Marine Regiment. "After all, that's what most of the injuries we see over there start out from: football, PT or some other sports activity."

Hawaii is a haven for outdoor sports activities, and Marines are always ready to compete in any competitive sport, so the risk of injury while stationed at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is inherently increased.

With all the high-tech equipment available for use at the SMART Clinic, the specialists there can identify and work to heal certain injuries, while educating patrons on treating their own injuries with other pieces of equipment.

"One of our main goals is to give Marines the tools they need to take care of their own injuries," said Bowman. "We are available for safety stand-downs and local command visits to better educate unit personnel on what we do down here."

To find out if the SMART Clinic can assist with an injury or chronic pain, the normal procedures must be followed in going to medical, but according to Lazo, an indication to the doctor at medical that you would like the SMART Clinic to evaluate your injury should set up an authorized appointment.

The regular hours of the clinic are from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, but to visit the SMART Clinic for an initial evaluation, the hours of acceptance are from 7:30 - 9 a.m., and 1 - 2 p.m. every weekday except Thursdays.

For further information on the SMART Clinic, or to schedule an appointment, call 257-8708.

Crocodile 2003 invades Australia

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment

SHOALWATER BAY TRAINING AREA, QUEENSLAND, Australia — As Crocodile 2003 gets ready to swing into full force, Marines from all over the world continue to arrive here and set up shop in preparation for the biennial training evolution.

With the hard work and dedication of the Marines from Brigade Service Support Group from Okinawa, Japan, logistics, food, water and billeting were



available within days after they arrived Aug. 30.

Currently, more than 2,200 Marines from various commands in Hawaii and

Okinawa, Japan, along with reserve units from the United States are on the ground and charging hard while being supported by BSSG.

"Within five days of their arrival, the Marines from the III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group established 75 general-purpose tents and set up the Marine Expeditionary Brigade command operation center," said 1st Sgt. Russell Brown, first sergeant for Camp Sam Hill aboard the SWBTA and the III MEF Headquarters Group based in Okinawa, Japan."

As soon as the general-purpose tents were set up, the 7th Communications Bn., Okinawa, Japan, was hard at work installing the proper wiring necessary for a flow of electricity to the command operation center.

While making electricity possible for the command operation center, the engineers ran into a slight setback — the generators were only capable of supporting American power levels. To make it possible for the generators to serve the

See CROC, A-4

Marines show heart while 'down under'

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment

ROCKHAMPTON, QUEENSLAND, Australia — Two Marines with III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Okinawa, Japan, along with a soldier from the Australian Army and an airman in the Royal Australian Air Force, had a chance to spend some quality time with children from Rock Hampton North Special School in the heart of Rock Hampton, Australia, Sept. 8, while here in support of Crocodile 2003.

When Australian Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Phil Dorvall asked for volunteers to spend time with the children, Sgt. Ira Inniss, operations non-commissioned officer, and Lance Cpl. Carlos Ramos, an engineer, both with III MEF, were eager to go to the local school and let the children get a first-hand look at the equipment and rations used in Crocodile 2003.

"The Australian and U.S. military have a strong role in the community," said Dorvall. "The children were very curious as to why there were so many helicopters flying around the area and why there were military personnel wearing different uniforms.

"We wanted to give them a chance to meet some of the military personnel and explain to them what we do when we work together."

When the Marines arrived with Dorvall and Australian Army Cpl. David Thomas, a signal communicator with the 208th Signal Squadron, the children from the 5 - 6 and 7-year-old age group anxiously greeted the arriving service members.

Although the first group of children were too young to understand the concept of military operations, they still formulated several questions for the service members: about their uniforms, where they came from and what they were doing in Australia.

"I love working with kids because I have a daughter back home and I miss her dearly," said Inniss, while sitting with a group of smiling children. "We



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Sergeant Ira Inniss, operations noncommissioned officer, and Lance Cpl. Carlos Ramos, an engineer, both with the III Marine Expeditionary Force, brighten the day of a disabled boy at the Rockhampton North Special School, Australia, as they splash a series of tactical colors on his face — just like the Marines wear while they train in the bush during Crocodile 2003.

do not get very many opportunities to meet people in the community, especially on a deployment, so this is a treat."

The second group of students to meet the service members was the 13 - 18 year-olds, who were all eyes and ears as

the airman, soldier and two Marines introduced themselves.

"This is Lance Corporal Ramos and he is an engineer in the United States Marine Corps," said Dorvall as he introduced Ramos to the class. "He and

(Inniss) are our allies, and they are here to visit with you today and tell you all about what they do while they train with us in the bush."

After the introduction, the students asked a variety of questions about the equipment the service members brought into the classroom. After they explained features of the tactical equipment and the reason for the gear used in combat, the service members asked the students a question that excited them all.

"Who would like to volunteer to have their face painted and wear the flak jacket?" Dorvall asked the students.

Several students volunteered and one was selected to have camouflage paint applied to his face while another student donned a Kevlar helmet and put on a flak jacket.

Once the students enjoyed their first chance to wear the tactical equipment, Thomas and Ramos showed the rest of the class the field rations consumed by the two allies.

Along with seeing how the food was heated without the use of a stove or any kind of electricity, the students found it quite tasty and amusing to sample several of the different meals available in the American Meals Ready to Eat Package.

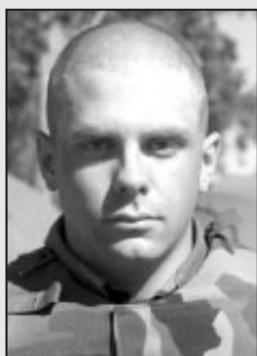
"All these students are aware of the military activity in the area, and they have asked us several questions regarding activities of service members, but we did not know what to tell them," said Cathy Thinee, a special education teacher at Rock Hampton North Special School. "The time the Marines took out of their schedule to pay us and our children a visit answered all of these children's questions and made their presence even more real.

"This shows the Marines are such nice people, and now the students realize what kind of people do the jobs Marines must do," continued Thinee. "We often try to get the children out in the community to provide a link between them and the outside world.

"This time the community came to us, and we all cannot express how much we appreciated this visit today."

Word on the Street

What do you like most about being deployed to Crocodile 2003?



"I like having the chance to work with my MOS after being in security forces for a year."
Lance Cpl. Blake Foyteck
Machinegunner
Weapons Co., 2/3



"I like being able to live in tents."
Lance Cpl. Joshua Ortiz-Hartshorn
Section Leader
Echo Co., 2/3



"I like the opportunity to train in an unfamiliar place, and the realism it provides."
2nd Lt. Lance Seiffert
Platoon Commander
Echo Co., 2/3



"I like the fact that I get to train with the Aussies and see the new terrain."
Lance Cpl. A.J. Keeton
Team Leader
Weapons Co., 2/3



"This is my first time to come here. I was looking forward to seeing the countryside."
Gunnery Sgt. William Heyob
Operations Chief
Weapons Co., 2/3

Marine scout messengers

Passing the word on 650cc Enduros

Cpl. Jason E. Miller

2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment

In 2002, motocross superstar Ricky Carmichael stunned the world when he completed the first-ever perfect motocross season. The same year, freestyle maniac Brian Deegan turned heads when he landed the first successful backflip on a dirt bike. The life of a pro rider can be full of action, money and worldwide recognition, but there are some professional dirt bikers out there who actually serve a more practical purpose.

Marine Corps scout messengers, mounted atop specially made Kawasaki 650cc enduro motorcycles, have the important task of relaying messages, delivering equipment and obtaining information on the battlefield. It may not be professional competition, but it's a job reserved for those who need speed and action as a part of daily life.

"It's gotta be the most fun job in the Marine Corps," said Lance Cpl. Mike Nolan, a scout messenger with Headquarters Co., 3rd Marine Regiment at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. "People come up to us all the time and ask us about our jobs. We just tell them the truth; we love to work."

The 3rd Marine Regiment has two motorcycles assigned to complete the messenger scouting tasks of its three infantry battalions. The constant flow of message traffic keeps the riders busy speeding between command positions and other key areas during training exercises across the world, throughout the year.

Johnny Campbell, the famed desert enduro racer reaches speeds more than 100 miles per hour during many races. Moving with speed and agility across rough terrain is a task better suited to a dirt bike than a Humvee because of its size and maneuverability.

"I think the bike could probably go that fast if I really opened her up," said Nolan, a Farmington, Conn., native. "We're really not allowed to do that though, because if you go down out there and hurt yourself, you're riding all alone and it could be a while before someone finds you."

Scout messengers wear full protective gear, much like pro racers, only they're olive green in color, and doesn't attract near as much attention. One of the main benefits of having tactical motorcycles is their small size and relatively quiet exhaust system.



Photos by Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Above — Lance Cpl. Mike Nolan, a scout messenger with Headquarters Co., 3rd Marine Regiment, finishes a delivery on his Kawasaki 650 enduro.

Below — Corporal Miguel Correa, also a scout messenger with Headquarters Co., 3rd Marines, is suited up in full safety gear to make a delivery run.



"They're pretty heavy bikes, really," Nolan said. "But having that big 650cc engine is really worth it when you're chugging up some of these huge hills. They're pretty powerful as well, and if you don't know what you're doing, you could hurt yourself pretty easily."

The scout messengers attend a two-week course offered by Base Schools at MCB Hawaii. The first week gets riders acquainted with the very basics of riding a motorcycle.

"They teach you everything, even how to sit on it," Nolan said. "But in the end you really do learn a lot."

The second week takes the riders out to MCB Hawaii Training Area Bellows, where they learn to ride in an off-road environment, through the training area's many trails and large hills and valleys.

"Getting to rip it all through those trails and mountains was a great time. I never imagined that of all the jobs in the Marine Corps, I'd end up with something like this."

Nolan recalled seeing Marine scout messengers in a recruiting video he saw before entering the Marine Corps. The images of Marines in full-on motocross gear stuck in his head, even after he was initially assigned as a radio operator with 3rd Marine Regiment.

"I just kept my eyes and ears open, because I knew they had bikes here. As soon as a position opened up, I jumped at the chance to go to school and become a messenger."

Nolan and other Marine Corps' scout messengers may never achieve the status or level of recognition received by superstars like Jeremy Mcgrath or Roger DeCoster, but like being a Marine, riding is a way of life that is hard for others who aren't involved to understand.

"I just love to ride," said Nolan. "I honestly can't think of a better way to spend an enlistment."

CROC: Marines get in full swing

From A-3

Australian electrical devices, the generators had to be converted.

One Marine with the III MEF Headquarters Group, was responsible for the rewiring of all the generators that support the COC. Lance Cpl. Antonio Pinkney, an electrician with the MEF, spent hours rewiring the generators, and within a day's work, he had the generators capable of supporting Australian electrical devices.

"It was difficult to get into the generators and rewire them to support the Australian electrical appliances," said Pinkney. "I knew it was not going to be easy, but it had to get done."

"I spent the day connecting and disconnecting wires, but in the end, the appliances were up and running. I'm glad I was able to help the entire camp."

As tents and infrastructures were established, workers with Marine Corps Community Services were there to support the Marines as they established a full gym. The gym includes weights and cardiovascular equipment, an Internet cafe and a phone bank so Marines could call home in their spare time. Along with these amenities, the Marines were glad to hear they could watch movies at night in a theater setting, also provided by MCCA.

"The MCCA establishments are strictly for the Marines' morale," said Maj. Clay Tipton, Camp Sam Hill commandant. "We want the Marines to be able to contact their loved ones while they are out here and be able to take a break from the day-to-day rigorous operations."

While the Marines work up an appetite from hours of hard work, the food service specialists are in the kitchens making the meals. They rise every morning at 2:30 a.m., knowing they have to properly feed more than 2,200 troops so they can perform and accomplish missions during Crocodile 2003. Everyday, the food service specialists provide two meals for the troops in the trenches and make sure they are issued a meal, ready to eat for their afternoon meal.

"The [food service specialists] are working some long hours in the kitchen," said Sgt. Hopeton Witter, head cook with the MHG, based in Okinawa, Japan. "We start preparing the meals four hours before they are to be served. They are working hard and not complaining at all."

In order for the Marines to get all the supplies necessary to complete the mission, Marines in the Camp Sam Hill Motor Pool made numerous six-hour roundtrips to Rockhampton bringing in supplies, vehicles and tactical equipment.

"The Marines have worked hard since the day they got here, and continue to make things happen," said Tipton. "This exercise has gone well and will continue to as long as the Marines perform the way they have so far."



St. Jude patient Cole Culley, the proud son of Navy Master Chief Rick Culley

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WELCOME, From A-1

4th Force Reconnaissance Company. "Moms aren't made to send their sons to war. I sent my dad, I sent my husband, but I wasn't ready to send my son. "I'm glad he's home and safe."

"He's been gone for seven months, it's good to have him home," said Mrs. Sonia Malloy, spouse of Gunnery Sgt. Arren L. Malloy, an analyst with 3rd Radio Bn. "I feel great. I couldn't wait to get home and see my wife and kids," said the gunny.

Being in the sand for seven months encour-

aged some to make a visit to the sands of Hawaii — where there is an ocean to cool off in — a priority.

"The first thing I'm going to do is go to the beach and get some surfing time in. I spent all that time in the desert, with no water around," said Slinger.



Sgt. Jereme Edwards

Kathie Earhart cries tears of joy as she is reunited with her son Cpl. Brandon Earhart, a member of 4th Force Reconnaissance Co. He returned from deployment in Iraq on Tuesday.

Cpl. White saves 44 lives

Pfc. Jared M. Plotts
Marine Forces Pacific

CAMP H.M. SMITH — The door flew open and the sun illuminated the small room. Cpl. Kenneth J. White, vehicle operator with motor transportation, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Forces Pacific, smiled as he set his bag of goodies from the exchange on the desk to his right. The other Marines laughed in amusement as White pulled a giant gummy rat from his bag. He wore a half-folded smile as he held the rat close to him and let out a sigh of pure happiness.

Two months ago, the same comical Marine avoided what could have been a terrible wreck. The brakes went out on the full 45-passenger bus he was driving and went careening down a hill through the busy intersection.

On the morning of July 11, about 90 Marines in two buses left Camp Smith and set out for Marine Corps Training Area Bellows for a battalion run. A few miles after exiting the gate, the brakes went out on White's bus. The lives of 44 Marines rested in his hands.

"We didn't slow down," said White. "Capt. McDaniel asked me if we had any brakes, and I told him we didn't."

Surrounded by vehicles on both sides, White stayed on course and stared down the red light in front of him like Clint Eastwood would glare at his enemy in an old Western flick.

Once he reached the intersection at the bottom of Halawa Heights Rd., a car came out of nowhere, just like in some realistic, cruel video game.

White kept his calm and jerked the



Pfc. Jared M. Plotts

Corporal Kenneth J. White received the Navy Achievement Medal for saving the lives of 44 Marines by stopping an out-of-control bus in July.

wheel to the right. Then, what seemed like a nanosecond later, he jerked back to the left.

"I think we were up on two wheels for a second. It certainly felt like it," said White. "The two Marines sitting behind me were screaming bloody murder. After we went through the intersection, the road opened up. There was a truck beside me and I almost clipped it."

"Everything was in slow motion," said White. "It was a little scary-well, not really. Wait, yeah, it was scary. I let out a huge sigh of relief when we finally stopped."

When the bus finally came to a stop, Capt. Michael P. McDaniel, S-3 officer, Headquarters and Service Bn.,

instructed White to make sure no one got off the bus while he checked outside.

White sat with his hands off the steering wheel, his heart still racing, but his mind was as calm as could be.

"I never really panicked. I was enjoying myself the whole time. I just couldn't show it," said White.

"Everyone thought we were going to get out of PT," joked Sgt. Darcy A. Redding, a noncommissioned officer from Pacific Command, and one of the 44 passengers that fateful day.

Despite the nerve-racking situation, and the rattled state of mind of some Marines, the battalion pressed on to Bellows after loading into the other bus and arranging for the brakeless bus to be towed.

White was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for his heroic actions, or reactions and quick thinking. The Merrimac, Mass., native plans on returning home after he wraps up his Marine Corps career in two weeks.

White's quirky behavior and unpredictability is well known by his fellow Marines. During the brake loss debacle, White's rarely seen cool, calm demeanor replaced his normal persona.

"He is a character. I have worked with White for three years. He is the motor pool," said Sgt. Dewayne Johnson, MarForPac motor transportation vehicle operator and dispatch chief.

"I think I am pretty quiet. I just keep it cool and go with the flow," said White, whose high concentration and low-key demeanor in the relaxed atmosphere played a huge part in preserving the safety of 44 Marines that day.



Pfc. Bernadette L. Ainsworth

Staff Sgt. Karen Goodman, the administration chief aboard MCB Hawaii, Camp Smith, received recognition for being an exemplary Marine and her involvement in the local community.

MarForPac home to Reservist of the Year

Pfc. Bernadette L. Ainsworth
Marine Forces Pacific

CAMP H.M. SMITH — Staff Sgt. Karen L. Goodman, administration chief here, was selected as the Marine Corps Reservist of the Year for 2002.

The award is presented to an enlisted Marine who, while serving with the Marine Corps Reserve, has made an outstanding contribution to combat readiness during the previous year.

Goodman contributed greatly to Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. She maintained the records of more than 800 active and reserve Marines during her tenure.

"Her knowledge and ability are crucial to this unit and getting personnel joined and checked into the unit diary," said Master Gunnery Sgt. Louis L. Schumacher, personnel chief here, who nominated Goodman for the award.

"I come to work and give my all to provide the best service and support I can to active duty and reserve Marines," said Goodman.

Along with the honor of being the Reservist of the Year, Goodman received a trip to Washington, D.C., 5 day hotel accommodations, a check for \$300, a dinner cruise down the Potomac River, and she will be presented with the Iwo Jima Award by the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

"It's an honor and a special time for me," said Goodman. "I never expected anything like this to happen to me."

Not only is Goodman an exemplary Marine, but she is also very involved in her community. She is involved in an organization called "Bless-a-Block."

The organization meets every Saturday and distributes food, clothing and furniture, and provides other services based on community needs.

Goodman also participates in youth rallies and church activities. She is the financial clerk for her church, teaches Sunday school, serves as an usher and plays the drums in her church band.

DUIs are career killers

Here's the
Real Deal:

**ZERO TOLERANCE
MEANS
ZERO
CHANCES**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reminds that impaired driving is not merely a traffic offense. Don't be fooled. Impaired driving is no accident nor is it a victimless crime.

Too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving don't mix. If you also find this too hard to figure out when you've had too many drinks to drive, don't risk it. If you're feeling "buzzed," you are most likely impaired. And, if you drive impaired, law enforcement will arrest you.

**You drink & drive.
YOU LOSE**

TO DO LIST

Before any activity that involves alcohol:

•Plan ahead.

•Choose a sober designated driver.

•Take mass transit or a

taxicab, or ask a friend to drive you home if you didn't plan in advance.

Spend the night where the

activity is being held.

•Celebrate responsibly.

•Report impaired drivers to law enforcement.

(Editor's Note: Per the commanding general of MCB Hawaii, those convicted of DUIs or drug-related offenses shall be publicized in the Hawaii Marine newspaper.)

Congratulations MCB Hawaii!

The Provost Marshal's Office reported no DUI incidents for the week of Sept. 8 - 13. Keep up the good work!

REMEMBER, From A-1

nights barely taking a moment to rest.

"I was there for almost 16 days before going home, and all I could think of was how could we possibly save all those people in those buildings," said DiCarlAntonio. "But no matter how hard it became, we carried on. But we are not heroes; it's our job. That's what we do.

"I knew most of the police officers we lost out there. But, when there is an emergency, you don't think twice about going forward. They should be thanked, not me."

As DiCarlAntonio shared his story, many members of the crowd reacted emotionally as though they were witnessing the horror firsthand.

"I am honored to be here and to tell my story," said DiCarlAntonio. "It is always hard, on both me and my listeners. But people need to hear what happened."

Following DiCarlAntonio's account, Lance Cpl. Michael Tobey, a basic rifleman from 3rd Bn., 4th Marine Regiment, slowly walked to the microphone, limping due to injuries he had sustained to his left leg

by Iraqi artillery fire.

Months before, Tobey had crossed into Iraq with the 1st Marine Division and fought north into Baghdad, where the amphibious assault vehicle he was traveling in was suddenly hit by Iraqi fire. The two other Marines he was traveling with were killed, Tobey sustained serious shrapnel wounds, which eventually required his medical evacuation from Iraq.

Tobey stood before a crowd of service members, civilians and media and told his story with honesty and emotion.

"I didn't even realize I was hit at first; I just saw this white explosion, and then I was on the ground," said Tobey. "I laid there for awhile. I'm not sure how long, and then I knew I had to get up before more Iraqi fire came."

With modesty, he said what he had gone through was nothing compared to what veterans of World War II and Korea had.

Tobey reminded everyone to pay respect to our veterans, because they gave up more than we could ever imagine.

"This is my dream. This is what I've always wanted to do, sitting with grunts and waiting for the fight," con-

fessed Tobey.

Once Tobey made his final remarks, the master of ceremonies called for a moment of silent remembrance for all those lost as a result of Sept. 11.

A wreath was then laid by the Pacific War Memorial by Tobey, DiCarlAntonio, and two Marines from MCB Hawaii, in honor of all the victims.

As the ceremony came to a close, the master of ceremonies gave the "Roll Call of Honor" as a chime was struck for each group, followed by the release of white doves into the air.

Marines from Alpha Battery, 1st Bn., 12th Marine Regiment, conducted a 21-gun salute, followed by "Echo Taps" by the Marine Forces Pacific Band.

A solemn silence overtook the crowd as Estabrook gave the benediction and the ceremony came to a close with the retiring of the colors and the "Armed Forces Medley."

"Today was a special day to be American," said Brigadier Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, commanding general, MCB Hawaii. "It reminds me of one of my favorite Winston Churchill quotes — a nation that fails to honor its heroes will have no heroes to honor."



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

White doves were released during the Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, in honor of all the victims of the World Trade Center bombings.

CPRFP, From A-1

United States of America...the free world, looked into the face of evil. We came to recognize our vulnerability, and the world came to recognize America with an attitude.

"This single event has changed our lives forever.

"Our war on terrorism had begun and is still going on and our Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance community quickly developed plans for a new set of challenges," continued Winns. "We responded by flying around-the-clock missions in the Gulf Region just two days after the terrorist attacks.

"America is profoundly grateful for all who serve her cause for freedom, and all who have given their

lives in its defense. I can't predict the future, however, I can say this: Wherever we go, the American flag will stand not only for our power, but for freedom," Winns explained.

Incoming commodore of CPRFP, Capt. William F. Moran, is genuinely looking forward to his tour.

Captain Moran graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1981. He has been assigned to four Patrol squadrons — the carrier USS Forestall, Patrol Wing Eleven, and the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Washington DC.

His last assignment was deputy executive assistant and executive assistant to Commander, U.S. Pacific Command, before returning to VP-30 for refresher training and follow-on duty as CPRFP.

"No doubt, we face more challenging times ahead," said Moran. "But this is also a time full of opportunity, and I expect we will attack the future with the same spirit and desire we witnessed when the first crews arrived on station in Afghanistan shortly after Sept. 11.

"I have great confidence that together we will make choices that will make you proud to be part of a bright future for this great community of professionals," Moran concluded.

The mission of CPRFP is to provide support to U.S. Pacific Fleet and unified commands by providing interoperable, combat-ready U.S. Naval Aviation Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Forces that are deployable, thoroughly trained, properly manned, well-maintained and fully supported.



Navy Airman Jeffrey P. Kraus

Rear Admiral Johnathan W. Greenert, deputy commander, US Pacific Fleet, passes command from Rear Admiral Anthony L. Winns to Captain William F. Moran during the change of command held for CPRFP on Sept. 12 aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.