

MARINE HAWAII

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September 5, 2003

MCB Hawaii, safest in Corps again

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Press Chief

After yet another successful year aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, the Base Safety Center here has been honored by the Secretary of the Navy for the second consecutive year with the Department of the Navy Safety Excellence Award for keeping the base as the safest in the Marine Corps.

"This is really a big thing," said Bo Irvine, Base Safety Center director. "We are very proud to be recognized among so many installations in the Marine Corps. An award like this really goes to show the commanding general's com-

mitment to the safety of all the Marines and Sailors in Hawaii."

Irvine and other key officials directly involved in earning the award for the base have traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael Hagee and the Secretary of the Navy, the honorable Hansford T. Johnson, to be personally recognized for the base's achievements.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii has gained recognition Marine Corps wide as the safest base for three consecutive years.

One project that makes the MCB Hawaii safety program so superior, is the constant presence of safety authorities, even in tacti-

cal situations. Marines training in any of Hawaii's training areas are always accompanied by safety officials, whose only job is to look out for the welfare of the Marines.

The base safety center is also heavily involved in a traffic safety program and awareness package that helps keep traffic accidents aboard MCB Hawaii to a minimum.

"Winning is really a testament to the credibility of the commanders and the Marines," said Irvine. "We're definitely going for the three-peat (for the SecNav award). We look to carry on and win again next year by keeping the accident numbers down and being as safe as possible."



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

The MCB Hawaii Base Safety Center has received Corps-wide recognition for three straight years from the former commandant of the Marine Corps. For the second year in a row, MCBH has been recognized by the Secretary of the Navy.



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Private First Class Craig Murphy, Guns platoon, Bravo Battery, 1/12, viciously attacks a mock enemy target as he negotiates through the Bayonet Assault Course aboard Schofield Barracks, Aug. 26.

1/12 takes a stab at Schofield

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

"AHHHHHHH!" yells a hard-charging United States Marine as he plunges a sharpened bayonet through an awaiting target, then swiftly moves on to the next.

He is motivated to keep his close combat skills sharp because he knows that if he runs out of ammunition he will have only his hands, his body and his bayonet to fight with.

The Marines from Bravo

Battery, 1st battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, know that their secondary mission is to become a provisional rifle company when push comes to shove on the battlefield.

With this in mind, the Marines from Bravo Battery decided to stray from their normal missions of sending massive amounts of high explosives down range and destroying targets, and head to Schofield Barracks August 26 to show unrelenting war-fighting motivation and viciously attack a

bayonet assault course.

"It has been almost a year since I have had a chance to get some good training with the bayonet," said Lance Cpl. Boo Jernigan, a cannoner with Bravo 1/12. "I know that during Operation Iraqi Freedom, the artillery batteries became grunts on the battlefield. It is always better to be prepared for the worst-case scenario and that would be when you are fighting the enemy face to face."

See 1/12, A-8

Former Recon Marines reunite as brothers at K-bay

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

Marines who have served in Force Reconnaissance have some stories to tell that usually involve some pretty gruesome scenes in combat zones.

Although many of them would rather put those memories behind them, they are still bound by a strong brotherhood with their fellow Marines who share those same memories.

It was a beautiful Hawaiian day aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, when 55 retired, civilian and veter-

an Marines who honorably served in Force Reconnaissance units came together August 26 for a chance to reunite with their brethren to enjoy a little "quality entertainment."

To kick off the day, Marines from the Provost Marshals Office aboard MCB Hawaii put on a three-part simultaneous capabilities demonstration.

The military working dogs that sniff out danger on a daily basis showed their bite was bigger than their bark when an MP, dressed in a bite-proof suit,

See RECON, A-6



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Sergeant Adam Black, a military dog handler with the Military Police Department, was presented a signed poster sized print of a painting entitled "Ripley at the Bridge" by Col. John Ripley, USMC Ret, a member of the Force Reconnaissance Association, for being Marine of the Year for 2002.

Asst. Commandant Gen. Raymond G. Davis passes away

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Press Chief

Wednesday, the United States Marine Corps lost one of its greatest leaders. General Raymond G. Davis, a multi-war veteran, Medal of Honor recipient and former assistant commandant of the Marine Corps died of a heart attack on September 3.

General Davis spent more than 30 years as an active duty Marine, and fought in such places as Guadalcanal during World War II, and Chosin Reservoir during the Korean War. It was in Korea that Davis earned the Medal of

Honor, for heroically leading his Marines through heavy gunfire and treacherous terrain to help rescue a surrounded rifle company.

General Davis also commanded the 3rd Marine division in the jungles of Vietnam. He is an icon that has been immortalized in history books and Marine Corps lore, and will be sorely missed by many that knew him and served under his command.

On February 23, 1971, President Nixon nominated General Davis for appoint-



DAVIS

years on active duty.

Before his passing, Gen. Davis was the most highly decorated living Marine.

ment to the grade of general and assignment to the position of Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. Confirmed by the Senate, he received his fourth star on assuming those duties on March 12, 1971. He retired from active duty March 31, 1972, after more than 33

Other than the Medal of Honor, his personal awards include the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star in lieu of a second award, the Silver Star Medal with Gold Star in lieu of a second award, the Legion of Merit with Combat "V" and Gold Star in lieu of a second award; the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V", the Purple Heart, the Presidential Unit Citation with four bronze stars indicative of second through fifth awards, the Navy Unit Commendation, the American Defense Service Medal with Fleet clasp, the

See DAVIS, A-7

MCBH

NEWS BRIEFS

SEPTEMBER 11 REMEMBRANCE

A September 11 remembrance ceremony will be held Sept. 11 at the Pacific War Memorial aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Featuring a live performance by the Marine Forces Pacific Band, remarks by the commanding general, guest speakers John DiCarlantonio, a New York City Patrol Officer, and Lance Cpl. Michael Tobey, an Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran, will headline the event. All are invited to attend the ceremony which is set to begin at 6 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR BEACH CLEANUP

Volunteers are needed for the Coconut Island Beach Clean-up on Saturday, September 20, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Showtime is 7:45 a.m. at the base marina. Boat transportation, lunches and drinks are 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. Please RSVP by September 19.

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

LOST & FOUND ITEMS AT MPD

If you are missing valuables or other items, contact Lost and Found at the Military Police Department, to see if anyone has turned in the item(s).

Lost items on hand include I.D. cards, bicycles, wallets, keys, cell phones and miscellaneous jewelry. An inquiry log is maintained for all item(s) retrieved.

Call Sgt. Gordon Scott at 257-2103, ext. 315, for prompt assistance.

Also, the Crime Prevention section of MPD is looking for neighborhood watch representatives to get involved in their communities, by taking charge of local neighborhoods.

For more information call 257-2103, ext. 314. or 315.

Hawaii MARINE

Commanding General Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee
Public Affairs Director Maj. Chris Hughes
Public Affairs Chief Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans
Managing Editor Aiko Brum
Staff Writer Sgt. Joseph Lee
Staff Writer Sgt. Joe Lindsay
Editor Sgt. Jereme Edwards
Press Chief 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

Dear Brig. Gen. McAbee,

The concerns I would like to express concern the parking in 802 Housing. We have lived in 802 housing for 7 years and in the past 2 years, we have seen a dramatic increase in on-street parking, as well as abandoned vehicles. We reside on Malabey Court and the two primary concerns are:

1. At the end of the street where it meets Cabanayan, cars parked on the street along Cabanayan are parked right up to the curb - thus severely reducing our line of vision when trying to pull on to the street. I have witnessed numerous near misses with cars pulling out of Malabey Court and other cars, as well as kids on bikes. I understand there was a "study" done previously where they didn't identify any issues, but it was done by a government agency who usually works after 8:00 am and not on weekends, which is either an hour after cars start leaving for work and kids start going to school and the weekends. That's another problem in itself.

I would like to suggest a solution: Paint the curbs red for at least 10 feet. This would reduce the hazard while still allowing adequate parking.

2. At the end of the cul-de-sac, where we live, we have had numerous abandoned cars. One car was in the general parking lot for 16 months. After numerous complaints the car was finally removed when we found someone who knew someone that could get it towed. Now we have three cars that have not moved in the last 3-4 months. I understand that some of these vehicles may be deployed members. But, why isn't there a storage program like Hickam or Pearl? They actually advertise this service, give tips on how it reduces insurance

Question submitted by Maggie Palmer, family member

"I would like to suggest: Painting the curb red for at least ten feet from the corner."

and that they assist in getting the vehicle started upon return from deployment. This could be a great solution to reducing the amount of cars left in general parking. Also, as another solution; consistent patrolling. I mean the cars that are left abandoned don't receive any sticker, while if I park my vehicle on my lawn to wash it the MP's are very timely in knocking on my door to move it. When I mention the abandon vehicles, all I receive is a "we'll look into it," yet the vehicles remain. In the past when the abandoned vehicles did receive a sticker there was no follow up to tow the cars. Rumors also circulate on our cul-de-sac that service members are "watching" vehicles for other deployed members. So, they park their cars in our spots.

Housing has contacted us and their only solution was to say they are thinking of painting the curbs in our cul-de-sac red so there is NO parking! What sense does that make? I'm all for providing safety for children who may be riding their bikes and to allow fire trucks access, but eliminating any parking in our area would impact our quality of living; i.e., no parking for us nor our guests as we often entertain other service members during the holidays, weekends, etc. My solution is that our cul-de-sac has an eyesore of a "common area" that is a grassy area that irresponsible pet owners use as a dumping ground for their dogs feces. It could be re-configured to put in more parking spaces - eliminating the grassy area while still providing access to the mail box and more parking. I would also like to see the spots painted "no long term parking" to eliminate abandoned and deployed parking.

Thank you for your

time and consideration.
Maggie Palmer

Dear Mrs. Palmer,
I have been asked by the Commanding General to research and reply to your e-mail regarding your concerns in the 802 housing area.

We have taken measures to address the safety concerns you raised. Parking has been limited to one side of the street to ensure that emergency vehicles have clear access if there is requirement for them. The curbs have been painted as you recommended at the intersections to prevent people from parking too close to the corner. The Military Police will be patrolling the area regularly to ensure compliance.

The problem of abandoned vehicles is a concern of the entire MCBH community. The Inspector General has investigated this issue and has concluded that the Provost Marshall Office (PMO) followed the correct procedure. The Base Provost Marshall is personally involved in monitoring this issue and is a high priority of the Commanding General. In fact, within the last few weeks PMO has removed a number of abandoned vehicles from the 802 housing area.

If you have reason to believe that a vehicle has been abandoned, please notify your housing inspector at 257-1257 or send him an email with the specifics to family housing@mcbh.usmc.mil. The Military Police will investigate and properly remove the vehicle, if warranted.

Getting the word out is necessary to address the issue of effectively dealing with abandoned vehicles. We will be running an article in the *Hawaii Marine* on how to report abandoned vehicles and how the removal process

works.

In response to your concerns about parking of deployed vehicles, our Marines and Sailors who live in Base Housing, including 802, may park their vehicles as they normally do, as long as the vehicle is in proper running condition and has valid registration and safety inspection. We allow this as part of our desire to take care of the families of our deployed Marines and Sailors. Families with deployed service members create no net gain in the vehicle load within our housing areas. We provide parking lots for those service members not living in base housing who are deploying. This parking is free of charge, and the lots are patrolled by the PMO.

The center islands, located within the 802 cul-de-sacs, are not considered the best option to be converted to parking as the number of parking spaces created will not adequately solve the problem while doing so will eliminate scarce green space. To help with the parking problem, tenants are urged to use their garages and driveways, as intended to park their vehicles.

Residents, who presently use their garages for storage of household items, are encouraged to take advantage of the new MCCS Storage facility when it is completed in spring 2004. Also, MCCS is in the process of increasing boat storage on Base. Once that storage area is open, the primary storage location for boats will be in the designated areas only.

We appreciate your thoughtful comments and your desire to make our base a better place to live and work.

Sincerely,
Kent Murata
Asst. Chief of Staff G4

(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.



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Ship Shape

Boat owners aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay are reminded that privately owned boats may only be stored in the driveways of base-housing area homes. Boats may not be parked on the street or on the lawns of base housing areas. Keeping streets clear for traffic and housing areas safe for children are prime concerns when dealing with safety aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Base Environmental instructs DOE

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Editor

Recently, in response to environmental problems found during regular State of Hawaii Department of Health inspections done of 17 Hawaii high schools, a need was determined for instruction of Department of Education teachers regarding proper management of hazardous materials and waste.

As part of an agreement the Marine Corps has with the DOH, six civilians from the MCB Hawaii Environmental Compliance and Protection Department and one from Base Safety assisted in instructing the DOH's HAZMAT management training seminar Aug. 26 at the Radisson Prince Kuhio Hotel in Waikiki.

"As part of the agreement, we are providing these schools with consulting services on how to improve compliance with environmental regulations and to provide a safer educational environment for students and staff," said Carolyn Irvin, the pollution prevention program manager at MCB Hawaii EC&PD.

This past year members of the MCB Hawaii Environmental Team went to Castle and Kahuku High Schools and to inspect their HAZMAT storage and to find out how the teachers were handling their HAZMAT and waste.

"At the schools we found that areas like the science, automotive and custodial departments

had the most need and interest in management of hazardous materials and waste," said Michele Chang, training program manager for the MCB Hawaii EC&PD. "So we really focused on how to manage toxic chemicals, especially in those areas."

According to Karen Balabis, an environmental protection specialist with MCB Hawaii EC&PD, no high school should buy more hazardous chemicals than they need or accept donations of HAZMAT, especially in large amounts.

"Having all those excess chemicals can be detrimental to your student's health as well as your own," said Balabis. "Depending on how long those chemicals sit in storage, they could leak or become contaminated. If that happens the fumes or chemicals themselves could spread through the school."

Balabis recalled actual HAZMAT incidences that occurred aboard various U.S. bases, pointing out that HAZMAT is dangerous anywhere it is not managed correctly, even in the military.

In 2002, the Department of Education also gave a number of Hawaii high schools Used Oil Compliance Notices of Violation during their annual inspections. If the schools receive a second violation, than it is considered a repeated offense and they will be charged a sizeable fine including any clean up costs.

To try and prevent this from



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

The MCB Hawaii Environmental Team spent months working on this project for the Department of Health. Pictured (clockwise from left to right) Mike Nash, Karen Balabis, John Ramos, Carolyn Irvin, Michele Chang and Pat Oshira.

happening, Mike Nash, a compliance inspector with MCB Hawaii EC&PD, discussed the proper storage and disposal of used oil extensively; focusing mainly on the automotive departments at the schools.

"These teachers are in the trenches of the schools every day, we are just trying to give them the tools to employ proper HAZMAT management while they are there," said Irvin.

Many other topics were covered including classification of hazardous materials, mismanagement of storage containers, chemical spills and residue, and wastewater issues.

One of the biggest problems



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Karen Balabis, an environmental protection specialist with the MCB Hawaii ECPD stresses the importance of HAZMAT management during the HAZMAT training seminar Aug. 26.

the schools seem to be having with compliance is the lack of manpower and the lack of finances to manage the HAZ-

MAT. Both of these issues are being examined by the Departments of Health and Education.

A true Marine to the depths of his soul

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

In June of 1957, many Marines in our beloved Marine Corps had not been born yet.

It this same year, a young man who had always dreamed of becoming a Marine, left his home in Radford, Va., at the age of 17, and took his first steps on a journey to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Retired Col. John Ripley's mother cried when he left home to join the Marines. His father beamed with pride he knew his son would succeed in becoming a member of the world's fighting force.

"When I went to boot camp, it was a tough experience," recalled the salty, blue-eyed colonel with a chuckle. "I was

physically fit, and I was a tough kid, but no one could be prepared for what lied ahead of us. Twenty-five percent of the platoon did not make it through recruit training."

Ripley can still recall how the Marine Corps was everything he thought it would be and how he felt the day he pinned on the Eagle, Globe and Anchor.

It was only a year after Ripley had earned the title Marine that he was nominated to be a fleet appointee and earn a commission in the Marine Corps or Navy. In June of 1958, the private first class reported to the U.S. Naval Institute. Although the determined, young war-



Ripley

rior was usually first in all the inspections and set records on the obstacle course that to this day have yet been broken, academics were a tough challenge for him.

"I struggled for four years in most of my classes," recalled the colonel. "I had to work and study like crazy to stay abreast of the other students as far as academics were concerned.

"I remember in 1962 I was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the Corps, and let me tell you - I was ready to get back into the fleet," said Ripley. "The Marine Corps was already part of me, and I knew I wanted to be a Marine

for the rest of my life."

After graduating from the Naval Academy, Ripley was granted one month of leave; however, the gung-ho warrior had no interest in going home and wasting time. He was ready to go back to the fleet as an infantry officer.

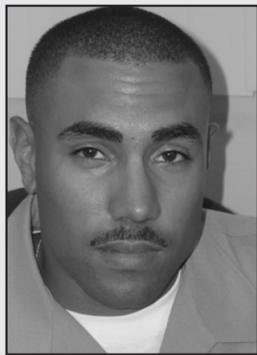
As a commanding officer, Ripley enjoyed leading his troops. He was the commanding officer of three companies and a reconnaissance platoon. He was the type of Marine that other Marines in his charge looked up to and respected as a leader. This proved to be an advantage when he led Lima Co., 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment into combat in the gruesome battles of Vietnam.

During the spring of 1972, in the mist of the Vietnam conflict, Ripley found

See RIPLEY, A-6

Word on the Street

What did you do over the Labor Day ?



"I got stuck on duty while my friends went out and had a good time."
Cpl. Edwin Arce
Dispersing Clerk
Headquarters Bn.,
MCB Hawaii



"I had a barbeque and called my family back on the mainland."
Lance Cpl. Damien Pearson
Radio Technician
H&S Co. 2/3



"I stayed at home and saved some money while my friends spent theirs."
Lance Cpl. Alfredo Fernandez
Golf Co. 2/3



"I went to the movies and planned my upcoming leave."
PFC. Guilebaldo Nieto
Golf Co. 2/3



"I lost my tooth and played in my pool."
Ty Shaw
1st Grader
Nimitz Elementary
School

MCB Hawaii Marine awarded title of Firefighter of the Year

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Editor



LINK

Military firefighters may be some of the hardest working Marines in the Corps. They put blood, sweat and tears into their training and drills, all in an effort to perfect their skills in saving lives.

Each year these Marine firefighters tally their experiences, education and performance from all year together and compete for the prestigious title of Marine Corps Military Firefighter of the Year.

On Aug. 27, Sgt. Brandon Link, a primary rescue man for Crash, Fire, Rescue aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, attended the DoD Fire and Emergency Service Awards Banquet in Dallas, Texas, where he was named the Marine Corps Firefighter of the Year for 2002.

Link, who is also pursuing an associates degree in fire science at the University of Maryland and Honolulu Community College, did not expect the honor.

"We don't really get that many emergency incidents here at MCB Hawaii," said Link. "So, they had

to look more at my overall performance than experiences, I did not think I had a chance really.

"They looked at my ideas for improving Crash, Fire, Rescue, my performance record as a Marine and a firefighter, my qualifications and promotions, as well as my outside education and volunteer work."

Although MCB Hawaii may not have had many emergency incidents, when situations did come up, Sgt. Link always played a role.

In May of this year, a wildland fire broke out by the front gate of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, on the H-3. Although Link was not at the site during the fire, he was in charge of establishing all the crews that were tasked with fighting the fire.

In 2002, he was the Halon 1301 chief for CFR, which means he was in charge of servicing, checking and maintaining the 150 lbs. Fire extinguishers that are placed throughout the flightline. He was also the fire warden for the entire flightline.

"As a primary rescue man I am

responsible for pinning the aircraft, rescuing victims and extrication procedures," said Link. "If something happens and there are victims in there, I am going to go in with a hand-line man and rescue them. No questions asked.

"In this field you train for the worst, but hope for the best. I train to pull victims out of danger, but I hope that day never comes," said Link. "But that is why I love this job, I get to do something exciting and help people every chance that comes."

Link is also trained as a first responder, which includes CPR, rescue breathing and Heimlich maneuvers, which he continually updates when required.

Link also competed with firefighters from other services for the Department of Defense military Firefighter of the Year, but he did not win.

"This is a big enough honor anyway, I was speechless when they called my name. I was caught by surprise," said Link. "It is a great feeling to be awarded for something you enjoy doing."

Link plans on pursuing fire science after the Marine Corps and hopes to continue to be a firefighter.



Drinking & Driving Doesn't Pay

Cpl. Freddy A. Uzhca, of Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment was arrested for driving under the influence. His license was suspended August 24, his decal was removed from his vehicle, which was removed from base August 25.

Lance Cpl. Nathan Fontenot of Heavy Marine Helicopter Squadron 463 was arrested for driving under the influence while under age, with a blood alcohol content level of .06%. His license was suspended August 30, his decal was removed from his vehicle, which was removed from base the same day.

EVERY CLIME & PLACE

Lava Dogs unleashed at Jungle Warfare Training Center

Cpl. Ryan D. Libbert
MCB Camp Butler

CAMP GONSALVES — They suffered tremendous heat conditions, the absence of two companies, and a typhoon; still, nothing was going to stop the Marines from 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division from completing their scheduled training.

Three companies from 1/3 took part in three different training packages that the Jungle Warfare Training Center at Camp Gonsalves offers. The training was designed to give the "Lava Dogs," as they are also known, a good taste of what it is like to operate in the jungle said 1st Lt. Racine M. Brown, battalion training officer.

"The three packages we are putting the companies through are the rough terrain and rope package, the jungle shooting and patrol package, and the survival package," the Chapin, S.C. native said. "We are also doing an endurance course when the training is complete where the Marines will negotiate every obstacle JWTC has."

Each package is three days long. The companies participating, Charlie, Headquarters and Weapons, will switch to another package once they have completed the one they had started.

The rough terrain and rope package puts Marines in situations where they rely on each other and their tools to overcome obstacles, according to Brown.

"Our Marines will be crossing rope bridges, doing a hasty rappel down the cliff and receiving rope management classes during this package," Brown stated. "They will also be taught the various ways to cross streams and then be graded on how they perform doing so."

The jungle shooting and patrol package involves Marines conducting assaults through the thick trees and brush that surrounds JWTC.

"The patrol package starts off with Marines receiving classes on shooting

See LAVA DOGS, A-7



Cpl. Ryan D. Libbert

Marines assigned to 1st Battalion 3rd Marine Regiment emerge from the lake at the Jungle Warfare Training Center at Camp Gonsalves. Crossing the lake was just one of many obstacles during the endurance course which 1/3 participated in.



Cpl. Ryan D. Libbert

Balance, Strength and a little determination is all it takes for these Marines from 1st Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment to make it across the two-rope bridge during their trip through JWTC's endurance course.

RIPLEY, From A-3

himself in a desperate situation. More than 30,000 North Vietnamese troops were pushing through defensive points during a major assault when Ripley put himself in personal danger to set high explosives and destroy a key bridge in Dong Ha. This single act of bravery thwarted the North Vietnamese troops assault and destroyed 200 of their tanks in the process. Ripley later received the Navy Cross, the nation's second highest award for heroism, for his personal sacrifices in the line of duty.

Ripley returned to the Amphibious Warfare School after his tour in Vietnam to serve as an instructor, only to once again find himself longing for the action of front lines. He returned to Vietnam to serve as an advisor to the Vietnamese Marines.

"I was given a chance to serve with some magnificent warriors during my tours in Vietnam," he recalled with a touch of emotion. "There were Marines out there that would have put their lives on the line without thinking twice."

Ripley continued to serve in the Marine Corps after his second fight in Vietnam. He eventually attained the rank of colonel and retired from the Corps in 1992. Today, he continues to keep the Marine Corps close to his heart as he serves as the director of the Marine Corps History and Museums.

"If I can say anything to the Marines today, I would explain to them that being a Marine is a great privilege, never a right. It is something that you earn and if you prove to be good enough, then you can serve," said the colonel sternly. "If you ever think for a moment you can just take off your pack and call it quits, you are wrong."

"We have a tremendous legacy to uphold and everything we do must burnish that reputation," he continued. "There is no easy way to be a Marine and there never will be. You are a Marine every day and it is your responsibility to uphold the legacy that Marines in the past have so dearly established."

RECON, From A-1

was chased down and taken to the ground by a military working dog within seconds after the dog handlers order to attack. The military dog handler's explained to the Force Reconnaissance Marines the procedures involved in training the dogs and showed them how the dogs are controlled.

"We used just the working dogs when we were in Vietnam," said Allen Bierlien, a veteran of the Vietnam War who served in 5th Force Reconnaissance out of Camp Pendleton, Calif. "I remember those dogs could sniff out just about anything. We relied on them just like we did other Marines."

Not only did the military policeman show off some of the finest working dogs in the military, they also gave the veterans a first-hand look at all the equipment used by the Special Reaction Team. The veterans also viewed a live demonstration of the Marine Corps Martial Arts

Program.

The veterans and their spouses watched bodies fly as the Marines showed off their warfighting skills, demonstrating kicks and punches along with a variety of counteractive maneuvers.

The action was not over yet. The veterans and their families then moved indoors to the Indoor Simulator Marksmanship Training center and received a chance to fire current weapons used by Marines with a simulated live-fire.

After enjoying chicken and steak hot off the grill, prepared by the civilian Marines of the Game Warden Department, Force Recon Marine from the Military Police Department was presented an award by another Marine who served with distinction.

Sergeant Adam Black, a military working dog handler with

the Military Police Department, earned the title of "Marine of 2002 the Year" for MCB Hawaii.

He was presented a poster-sized print of a painting entitled "Ripley at the Bridge" by the legendary Marine Corps artist, Col. Charles Waterhouse. The Marine selected to present the signed print to Black was Col. John Ripley, USMC Ret., who was awarded the Navy Cross for single-handedly destroying the bridge at Dong Ha on Easter Sunday, 1972, thus thwarting a major offensive by the North Vietnamese Army. The painting depicts Ripley moving into position to set explosives under the bridge as shots from NVA artillery explode around him.

"It's one of the greatest honors to be a Marine," said Black. "However, when a Marine with so much history behind him, such as Col. Ripley, personally tells you that you are an outstanding Marine and presents

you with an award, it becomes more than an honor, it's something you will cherish for the rest of your life."

The visitors then went to the 4th Force Reconnaissance Company area. There, Marines of the 1st and 4th Force Recon provided static displays of today's Recon equipment and answered questions about whether and how Force Recon procedures had changed over the years.

Throughout the visit to MCB Hawaii, which ended with a stop to the Pacific War Memorial, the FRA Marines agreed it was good to be back with their "brothers," with whom they had stood side-by-side in the heat of battle.

"These are the same faces I saw when I was fighting in the trenches of Vietnam," said veteran Allen Paul. "A lot of us fought side-by-side, there, and regardless of how much time passes or how old we may become, we remember each other like those times were just yesterday."



DAVIS, From A-1

American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one silver star in lieu of five bronze stars, the World War II Victory Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star, the Korean Service Medal with four bronze stars, the Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars, the National Order of Vietnam, 4th Class, the National Order of Vietnam, 5th Class, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with three Palms, two Korean Presidential Unit Citations; the United Nations Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

**LAVA DOGS,
From A-5**

and moving through the jungle," Brown explained. "They will then conduct force-on-force assaults at the platoon level and company level to practice what they learned."

The final training package 1/3 participated in was the survival package where Marines were drilled on how to stay alive in the jungle with only the bare minimum of supplies.

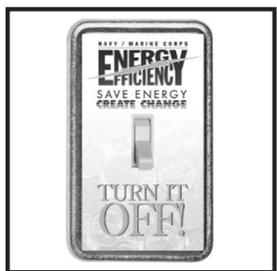
"The survival package starts in the classroom where Marines learn what plants to eat, how to build shelter, and how to avoid the dangers of the jungle," Brown continued. "They are then put out in the jungle for two days where they must use what they have learned to survive."

The Marines of 1/3 currently in their first UDP to Okinawa claim the JWTC experience is a good challenge and differs somewhat from their home in Hawaii.

"It's a lot hotter out here and the jungle is really thick," said Lance Cpl. Mark D. Roberson, mortarman with Weapons Co. and Sparta, Ga., native. "The terrain and weather forces us to watch out for each other a lot more."

As the battalion begins to finish up their instruction at JWTC, Brown reflects on the importance of such training in Okinawa.

"Many of the countries in the AOR (area of responsibility) of 4th Marines have terrain and environment very similar to Okinawa," Brown concluded. "It would behoove all UDP battalions to take full advantage of what JWTC has to offer."



Initiative helps environment, saves space

Karen Balabis
Environmental Compliance Department

MCBH Kaneohe Housing residents can now take their useable but unwanted hazardous materials (motor oils, paints, bathroom cleaners, and more) to the Housing Self Help Store for reuse. A relatively new addition to the Self Help Store, the Reuse Room was established to divert household hazardous waste from the local landfill.

Housing residents may simply bring in their unwanted materials to the Self Help Store where they will be logged, dated, and stored in the Reuse Room. Any military or civilian living or working aboard MCBH can then go the Reuse Room and take materials such as antifreeze, wood stain or propane for their own use. It's a great way to save money and protect the environment.

It's an especially valuable service for families that are transferring into or out of Hawaii. Since movers cannot ship haz-

ardous materials, families transferring off the island have to leave these items behind. Families arriving in Hawaii without any of these items in their household shipment usually have to spend a lot of money restocking their supply of common household cleaners such as floor, tile, and window cleaners.

Self Help personnel encourage all base users to stop by the Reuse Room to see what's available. The Reuse Room is conveniently located inside the Self Help Store (Building 1505) on the corner of Cushman Avenue and Lawrence Road, and is open from 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Monday – Friday. The Reuse Room is also open on Saturdays from 8 a.m.-12 noon for base users to check out materials only.

For more information on the Reuse Room, contact the Self Help Store at 257-2042 or Karen Balabis of the MCBH Environmental Compliance and Protection Department at 257-6920 ext. 239.



Courtesy of Base Environmental

Randall Hu (left), a customers at Self Help, is being helped by Terry Mitchell, an employee of the Self Help Department aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

1/12, From A-1

Along with attacking the bayonet assault course, the Marines also showed their capabilities in being able to shoot, move and communicate during battery training operations.

Although frayed at the edges from the bayonet assault course, the Marines had no problem moving a seven-ton truck into position with all their equipment and springing into action. As soon as they leaped out of the back of the truck, they quickly unhooked the 155mm Howitzer

and prepared the sights for accurate firing.

As two Marines prepared an ammo pit on the sides of the truck, they quickly received a fire plan along with a shooting series by the company commander. Within minutes, the large cannon on the Howitzer is sending explosives down range to destroy enemies that are attempting to break the artillery battery's perimeter.

"In combat, the artillery can nail large targets, but we can't always get all of them from long distances," said Jernigan. "That

is why we have to incorporate our bayonet skills with our regular training."

According to 1st Lt. Nathan Rylander, executive officer for Bravo 1/12, the bayonet training gives the Marines within the battery a fresh perspective on war fighting, along with a welcome break from the normal routine.

"All these skills are perishable, stated Rylander. "Continual training is necessary to maintain proficiency in all standards. We have to maintain our infantry skills in order to be effective on the battle field."



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Two Marines from 1/12 prepare an ammo pit during battery training operations at Schofield Barracks Aug. 26.