

# Hawaii MARINE

## INSIDE

Word on the Street	A-3
Tonga Wrap-up	A-4
Skinny Dragons	A-8
Every Clime and Place	A-10
Military Blotter	A-12
Salutes	A-13
1/12 at Schofield	A-14
UH & Youth Sports	B-1
MCCS	B-2
Sports	B-3
K-Bay Chapel Annex	B-4

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September 6, 2001

## 'Hauoli maoli oe' and 'Mahalo'

MCB Hawaii to change command this evening; Brig. Gen. Parker reflects upon past two years

**Sgt. Robert Carlson**  
Press Chief

As he prepared for his change of command ceremony and retirement, Brig. Gen. R.E. Parker, Jr. took time out to reflect on the evolution of MCB Hawaii over the past two years and the people who have made it a success.

Brigadier Gen. Parker is scheduled to hand over command of MCB Hawaii to Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee in a change of command ceremony between hangars 101 and 102 this evening at 5:30.

The Marine Corps has always been a continually evolving institution, and since Brig. Gen. Parker pinned on his 2nd Lieutenant bars in November 1971, the ability to change and adapt are the qualities he said impress him most about the Marine Corps.

"In our Corps, you see change and adaptation everyday. That's what the nation expects, and we're better at it than anyone else in the world," Brig. Gen. Parker said. "We've always adapted to what we needed to do — from developing and deploying new weapons systems to changing the combat uniform."

The Marine Corps has always been fortunate to have the right leadership too, he added, and has been able to give America more bang for the buck because of that leadership and the willingness to adapt when necessary.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii has

*-Here's to your happiness and Thank You-*

changed and adapted as well, and one of the most recent milestones has been the satisfactory absorption of the Navy personnel and families from Barber's Point.

Another important change, according to Brig. Gen. Parker, is the progress and success made in obtaining funding for construction of projects like a new youth center, new housing, a new temporary lodging facility, a storage facility, a car wash, a new air traffic control facility, and several other quality of life and operationally-critical improvements.

"The people who made this happen are the ones who work here at MCBH and had the vision to work the issues through, not the person sitting at the CG's desk," Brig. Gen. Parker said. "Those people understand that service and support is an important mission, and they do it better than anyone I've ever seen. It's been a real privilege to work with them."

Brigadier Gen. Parker said the more than 1,700 civilian employees at MCB Hawaii are truly incredible people.

"We have people like Carol Shimada in the comptroller's office who has given her heart and soul to MCB Hawaii for the past 50 years," he said. "We're fortunate to have people like Connie Cruz at the Red Cross, Auntie Pat at the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, Kent Murata running our G-4, J. O. Park at Housing, Todd Murata running the Klipper course, Sgt. Maj. Porter at MCCS, and Gus Bechert at the commissary, and the list goes on and on. To all these people, and the hundreds of others like them, their jobs are the most im-

portant things in the entire world.

"That's why they were able to make a difference to the operational units on the base. It's really a great community and when I leave, I'll think of those people and all of the others like

he said, and is the reason projects like replacing all of the housing on base by 2010 and all of the bachelor enlisted quarters by 2005 have been moving along as projected. Other projects include a new Iwo Jima memorial at the front gate, more support for transient MEUs including a new state of the art Military Operations in Urban Terrain facility, a new range complex at Pu'uloa, a new gym at MarForPac, and several others.

Brigadier Gen. Parker added that the Marines, Sailors and civilians of MCB Hawaii can continue their success by treating their existing job as it's the most important thing in their professional lives.

"That will accomplish two things," he said. "It will make them very successful at what they do, and

more importantly, it will make a differ-

See GENERAL, A-11

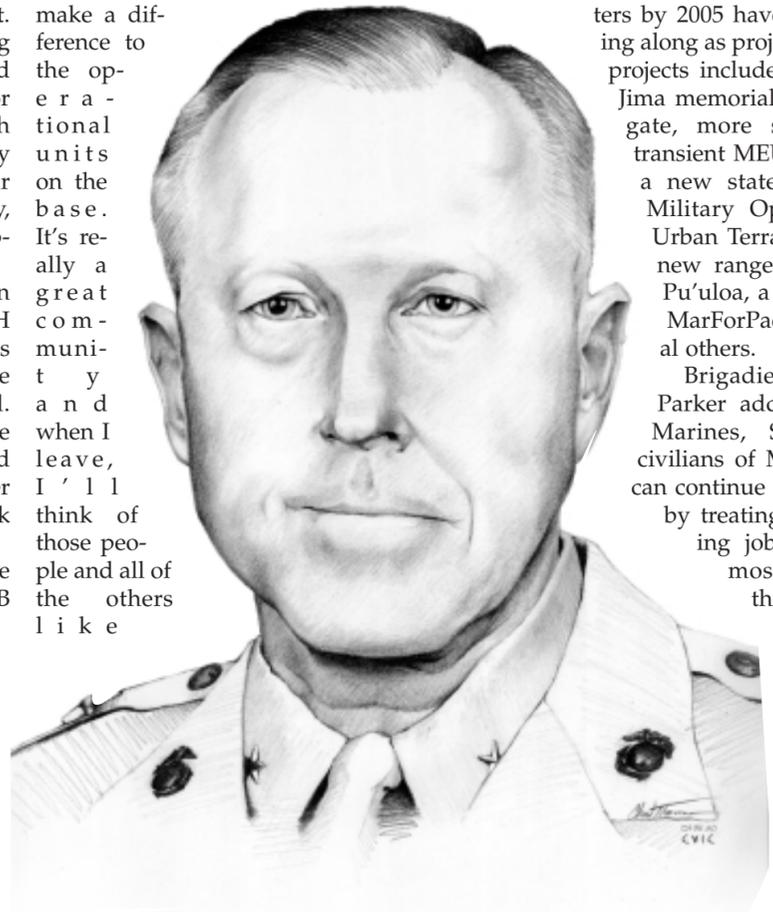


Illustration by Pfc. Chad Thomas

them," Brig. Gen. Parker added.

Staying focused has helped keep MCB Hawaii on track with its strategic plan,

### K-Bay loses Sailor to boating mishap

MCB Hawaii Public Affairs Office  
Press Release

Marines and Sailors of MCB Hawaii attended a memorial service for Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael B. Hudson, Jr. at the base chapel Friday.

Hudson, an Oakland, Calif. native, died Aug. 28 while conducting maintenance at the base fuel pier. He was assigned to Waterfront Operations, Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii. The incident is under investigation.

"He lived a short, but very, very fulfilling life," Hudson's father said during the memorial. "At the age of two, we knew he was a good man in a kid's body."

Friends, neighbors and fellow Sailors spoke of Hudson and the kind of person he was. "He was the best Father, husband and son I have ever

See IN MEMORIUM, A-4

## U.S., ROK Marines experience new gear during UFL-01

Cpl. **Jacques-René Hébert**  
Marine Forces Pacific  
Public Affairs Office

**PALAN, Republic of Korea** – The future of Marine Corps clothing and equipment was brought to Marines and Sailors from Marine Forces Pacific and the Republic of Korea Aug. 29-30 during the final stages of the Ulchi Focus Lens 2001 combined command exercise.

"Mid-July, Lt. Gen. (Frank) Libutti (former Marine Forces Pacific

commander) suggested that the Marine Corps Systems Command send a team out to show our new equipment to the R.O.K. Marines," said Maj. Stuart Muladore, a project officer with individual combat-clothing and equipment section of MARCORSYSCOM, based in Quantico, Va.

Among the items demonstrated were the new utility uniform, a proposed frame backpack design, a new flak jacket, and a nuclear, biological, and chemical weapon-resistant water bladder

backpack. These items and others are expected to get into U.S. Marines' hands as early as next year, according to Marcus Treiber, a project officer for MARCORSYSCOM.

"Much of the new technology is hybrid, using civilian technologies with military specifications," explained Treiber, who is a former Marine infantry squad leader.

"As a former squad leader, I feel this equipment is not only innovative, but practical and useful," continued Treiber. "Marines have been using

outdated equipment to do their job in the new millennium. They're finally replacing those antiquated items with modern technology."

The new utility uniform, or "cammies," is made with a more durable material than the current cotton/nylon blend. Removable foam elbow and knee inserts are also available for extra protection.

When asked his opinion on the new utilities, Lance Cpl. Richado Tsosie, a mo-

See UFL, A-11

## Marine general of three wars lauds lance corporal as best K-Bay chef

Lance Cpl. **Luis R. Agostini**  
Combat  
Correspondent

As the dining room filled with memories of past and present, Brig. Gen. R. E. Parker, Jr., commanding general, MCB Hawaii, Gen. Ray Davis, members of the Chosin Few Aloha Chapter, Medal of Honor recipients, and K-Bay Marines

dined on award-winning cuisine at the Chef of the Quarter luncheon Aug. 30 at Anderson Mess Hall.

Lance Cpl. Gabriela Rami-rez-Martinez, food service specialist, 1st Radio Bn., was presented with the Chef of the Quarter trophy and an autographed copy of "The Story of Ray Davis" by Gen. Ray Davis,

who was the guest speaker at the luncheon.

Four Marines and one Sailor were up for the award.

"I'm honored that they included me," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Terry Eggleston, food service specialist, Patrol Squadron 47. "Usually, it's only Marines who have been up for Chef of the Quarter."

The morning be-

gan with the food display, set up by the candidates themselves, but their preparation for this event began the day before.

"I started early yesterday morning and I went into the wee hours of the next morning," said Chef of the Quarter candidate Lance Cpl. John Washington, food service specialist, 3rd Marine

Regiment.

Judges of the Chef of the Quarter based their choice on six different categories: taste, theme, creativity, professionalism, time management and sanitation skills.

During the luncheon, Brig. Gen. Parker introduced Medal of Honor recipient Gen. Ray Davis, veteran of World War II, the

See CHEF, A-11



Lance Cpl. Luis R. Agostini

K-Bay's Lance Cpl. Gabriela Ramirez-Martinez receives the Chef of the Quarter trophy and an autographed copy of "The Story of Ray Davis" from Gen. Ray Davis.

## MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

### K-BAY BRANCH MEDICAL CLINIC CHANGES SOME HOURS

The Medical Records and Central Appointments sections of the Branch Medical Clinic at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are open from 7:15 a.m. to 12 noon, on Thursdays. After 12 p.m., the sections are closed for training and administration time.

Only emergencies will be seen after 12 p.m., Thursdays.

Clinic hours remain the same for all other days of the week: 7:15 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more details, call Central Appointments at 257-2131, ext. 115/6; Appointment Cancellations at 257-2131, ext. 119; Medical Records at 257-2123, ext. 117; or Aviation Appointments at 257-5041, ext. 530.

### PROTESTANT WOMEN OF THE CHAPEL

The MCB Hawaii chapter of the Protestant Women of the Chapel invites all women to its first meeting Wednesday at 7 p.m. Thereafter, monthly meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month, usually highlighted with a guest speaker and light refreshments.

The PWOC hosts Bible studies, book clubs and other events throughout the year.

For more information and the on-base meeting location, contact Char Hauser at 263-3141.

### TOYS FOR TOTS VOLUNTEER BRIEFS

Volunteers will be meeting at the Bachelor Officer Quarters Conference Room, Bldg. 503, Wednesday.

Toys for Tots volunteers are encouraged to attend at least one of the briefs to learn about the history and traditions of the Toys for Tots program. New volunteers will also be allowed to sign up during the briefs. Toys for Tots will accept volunteers all the way up until Christmas.

The Toys for Tots campaign provided more than 50,000 toys for children on Oahu and neighboring Hawaiian islands in 2000. However, this year's goal is to provide more than 55,000 toys for needy children.

Certificates of appreciation are provided for support, and Marines may qualify for the Volunteer Service Medal. Contact Staff Sgt. Villarreal at 257-1077, ext. 233, to volunteer and provide hope to a child in your area during the Christmas holidays.

## Hawaii MARINE

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# Marines, Sailors return from Tonga's Exercise Tafakula

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.  
Combat Correspondent

PEARL HARBOR, Oahu — Marines and Sailors of 3rd Marine Regiment returned from Exercise Tafakula held in the Kingdom of Tonga Friday morning.

More than 30 Marines and Sailors conducted a peace enforcement field training exercise and humanitarian civic assistance from Aug. 15 - 20 on the small island of Vava'u.

The Marines and Sailors assisted by rebuilding school structures and providing additional health and dental care assistance at the only hospital on the island.

August 18, three squads from the Tongan Defense Service conducted annual live-fire training under the supervision of Marines from 3/3.

The live-fire exercise went well, and the TDS even impressed Capt. Sal Viscuso, commanding officer of India

Co., 3/3, and supervisor of the live-fire exercise.

"The TDS did a good job on the live-fire range," said Viscuso. "I was especially impressed with the way each squad did better than the one before."

The main effort of the Marines and Sailors on Vava'u, however, was the humanitarian civic assistance.

Twelve primary schools were in dire need of rebuilding and maintenance with Tu'anekevile

Primary School needing a new restroom built to replace the 35-year-old facility, and the Feletoa Primary School needing major repairs to its roof, windows and doors.

In five days, the Marines and Sailors, along with the assistance of the TDS and civilians contractors, were able to complete the repairs needed to make the schools safer and more enjoyable to attend.

Once the jobs were completed, each school's principals, teachers and chil-

dren took time to thank the service members in separate presentation ceremonies in the Marines and Sailors honor.

For the Tongan people, the ceremonies were joyous occasions that included food, music and dancing.

At the Feletoa Primary School, Mrs. Ma Kavenga, the principal, showed how much the work meant to her, the teachers and especially the children in an emotional speech she gave.

"United States Marine Corps, you are in our thoughts, our minds, our hearts, and in our spirits," said a teary-eyed Kavenga. "Don't forget us, because we will never forget you."

At the end of each ceremony, Maj. Winston I. Earle, the commanding officer, said a few words and handed over the keys to the new and improved facilities to the principals of the schools.

"The hospitality the Marines have received has made our mission easier to complete and more enjoyable. Thank you," said Earle.

At the Prince Wellington Ngu hospital two Navy doctors, two corpsmen, and a three-member dental team were able to provide a little relief for the under-manned medical staff.

The doctors and corpsmen from India Co., 3/3, spent their five days at the only hospital on Vava'u seeing urgent care patients and conducting rounds with one of the four doctors on staff at the facility.

See TONGA, A-4



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

The children of Tu'anekevile Primary School wave good-bye to the Marines and Sailors as they leave after the hand over ceremony of the school's new restroom facility.

## Groundbreaking for Korean War Museum



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

The National Korean War Museum groundbreaking ceremony was held Friday on the Big Island of Hawaii. The museum is being built in honor of the 53,000 servicemembers who fought and gave their lives during the Korean War. Attending the ceremony were retired assistant commandant of the Marine Corps and Medal of Honor recipient Gen. Raymond Davis and Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi Miamora. "I believe it will help bring closure to the families and service members who had friends and family who paid the ultimate sacrifice," said Gen. Davis. The 14-acre plot of land that the museum will be built on was donated by John Baldwin, a local developer whose father served in the Korean War.

## Multiple events planned in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month at MCBH

Lance Cpl.  
Luis R. Agostini  
Combat Correspondent

To celebrate and recognize the rich culture and heritage of Hispanic-Americans during Hispanic Heritage Month, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, and Marine Forces Pacific have a number of events scheduled throughout September.

"The purpose of Hispanic Heritage Month is to show diversity and awareness," said Master Sgt. Juan

Rivera, operations chief, Headquarters Bn. "We are more diverse now than ever and will continue to be that way."

Many Hispanic Americans have served their country with conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty.

Of the 3,400 Medal of Honor recipients, 37 were Hispanic-Americans.

Of the 37, 13 were U.S. Marines and most of those were recognized for their

heroism in Korea and Vietnam.

Several events are scheduled throughout the month:

- A luncheon will be held Sept. 19 at the Sunset Lanai at MarForPac, Camp Smith, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

U. S. Marine Corps first lady, Mrs. Diana Jones, is scheduled as the guest speaker, as well as Col. Joseph Medina, regimental commanding officer, 3rd Marine Regiment.

- A dinner dance will take place on Oct. 13 at the K-Bay

Enlisted Club from 6 p.m. to midnight.

- Tamale sale fundraisers are scheduled throughout the month.

Pre-sale tickets will be available, with pickup and delivery beginning Saturday.

For more information contact Master Sgt. Juan Rivera, operations chief, Headquarters Bn., 257-8819, Master Sgt. Aurelio Reyes, CSSG-3, 257-3418 or 1st Sgt. Harry Rivera, MarForPac representative, 477-8341.



Sgt. Jesus A. Lora

Sgt. Steven Rogers, a section leader with Lima Co., 3/3, directs the fire and movement of his squad after insertion into the landing zone while establishing a base of fire for the assault team.

## 3/3's Lima Co. attacks Range 5, raids with violence and speed

**Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller**  
*Combat Correspondent*

As a CH-53D Sea Stallion from HMH-363 landed, dirt, dust and debris began to fill the air.

"Move! Move! Move," a squad leader shouted.

Marines raced from the helicopter and took position on the high-ground to establish a base of fire.

A second helicopter landed and let off the assault element that put the operation into full swing.

The Marines from Lima Company 3/3 broke off into three, two-squad platoons that each made a live-amunition, mock raid on a command post at the South end of Range 5 at the MCB Hawaii Range Training Facility Thursday.

"This was the pinnacle of the training that we've been doing for the past three months. We've had these Marines for quite some time and I think that everyone out there knew what they were doing today," said 2nd Lt. Nathan Woellhof, commander of 2nd Platoon, Lima Co.

More than 100 Marines from Lima Co. took an active role in completing the first platoon size or larger live-fire exercise of its kind

to take place on Range 5.

The platoons moved through the hot sun, volcanic rock and sand of the Ulupa'u Crater under heavy fire in four-man teams with the aid of 60 mm mortars and .50 caliber machineguns to provide suppressive fire.

"This operation made use of all the phases of supporting fire," said Woellhof.

Once the platoon reached the objective, the assault team crept around a berm, invaded the mock command post and set off a quarter stick of TNT to destroy it.

The platoon, covered by suppressing fire from a security squad, then headed back to the helicopter and took off to the sounds of covering mortar fire in just a matter of minutes after they had landed.

"The ability to train in your own back yard made it much more convenient," said Sgt. Steven Rogers, a machinegun section leader for Lima Co.

This was a realistic comparison to real-world combat because of the live ammunition and aggressiveness of the attack

The most stressed element was mission accomplishment, said Woellhof. Safety is always a big issue, and no one got hurt.

The Marines looked fo-



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

**A Lima Co. Marine hurries back to the helicopter landing zone with his SAW in hand.**

cused and seemed to perform flawlessly under the pressure.

"Today's training was awesome," said Pfc. Christopher Paliwodzinski, an ammunition bearer for Lima Co. "We got to put a lot of rounds down range and everyone was working together really well."

The Marines accom-

plished all objectives safely and used every weapon organic to an infantry company.

"The company did a great job overall," said Capt. William Clark, commanding officer of Lima Co. "I think our Marines gained a lot of self-confidence out there today. Everything ran really smooth."



Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Marines from Lima Co. 3/3 fire the MK-153 shoulder fired multi-purpose assault weapon during their mock raid at Range 5 on Thursday.

## WORD ON THE STREET

*What did you do during your Labor Day holiday weekend?*

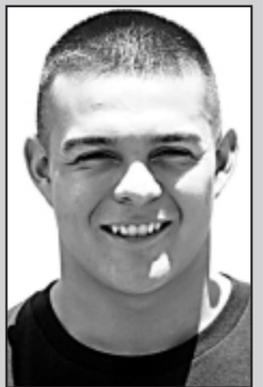


"I went to Waikiki on Friday, relaxed on Saturday, and had duty on Sunday"

**Lance Cpl. John Bailey**  
 Base telephone technician  
 HQ Bn.

"I went to Waikiki and hung out with my friends."

**Lance Cpl. Robert Cruz**  
 MP  
 HQ Bn.

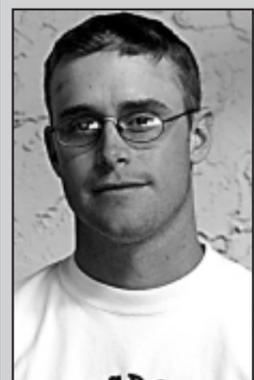


"I went to the beach and read a book."

**Jacob Nelson**  
 Schofield Barracks resident

"I spent Labor Day weekend partying with my family.."

**Evelyn Utai**  
 Sales associate  
 Marine Corps Exchange Annex



"I went to the beach."

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeffrey Wiggins**  
 Sonar technician  
 U.S.S. Paul Hamilton

# Corpsmen, doctors tend to Tongan needy on Vava'u

**Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.**  
*Combat Correspondent*

The ability to heal a Marine's wounds through surgery, or save his life in combat by applying vital first aid treatment are only part of Navy corpsmen and doctor's responsibilities.

Two Navy doctors and two corpsmen from 3rd Marine Regiment practiced a different type of medicine inherent to those with the knowledge to heal from Aug. 15 - Aug. 21, on the small island of Vava'u in the Tongan Island chain.

The medical officers and corpsmen tended to people seeking medical attention at Prince Wellington Ngu Hospital, the only such facility on Vava'u.

Unlike the United States, almost all medical treatment is free to the citizens of Tonga, according to Dr. Saia Piukala, head surgeon at the hospital.

The only time someone has to pay for medical treatment is during cases in which a patient may need to be hospitalized for a period of time.

Even then, the most money a patient

will spend is \$2.50 a night for a private bed, according to Piukala.

Piukala is one of only four doctors who work at the hospital, a facility that often receives over 500 patients a week.

"We were very appreciative of the help we received from the American Navy personnel," said Piukala. "Their presence has helped to give a couple of doctors here a short break."

The opportunity to learn valuable

By sharing different perspectives on a patient's case, all the doctors were able to learn about treatments that could possibly save a patient's life with only the limited technology and medical supplies on hand.

For the Navy doctors and corpsmen, the opportunity to learn what they may encounter medically in an environment like Vava'u with the limited medical per-

sonnel and supplies was valuable knowledge for future humanitarian efforts.

"We were able to learn a lot from the doctors here," said Petty Officer 1st Class John Bowers, an independent duty corpsman for 3rd Marine Regiment. "The environment these people live in is something we are not really accustomed to, so this experience gives us an insight for future operations in countries like this."

During their short stay at the hospital, the medics received cases of children with Lymphoma, Meningitis and Lupus, as well as many cases of people suffering from symptoms such as pneumonia and rashes.

In addition to the personnel relief and knowledge-sharing, the Navy doctors were able to bring more than 35 containers of medical supplies.

The supplies ranged from ace bandages and dressings, to vital pharmaceuticals needed to treat some of the more advanced medical emergencies.

"For me personally, I wasn't taught as an IDC how to treat pediatric cases, everything I was taught was how to take care of Marines and to help the populace," said Bowers. "I have been able to handle quite a few cases with children, and it has definitely been a learning experience for me."

Although their stay in Vava'u was short and fulfilling for the four Naval medical practitioners, according to Piukala, the doctors, nurses and patients of Prince Wellington Ngu Hospital were very relieved and thankful for their assistance.

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Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

**Navy Lt. Wilfred A Lumbang, a doctor for 3rd Marine Regiment, inspects the feet of six-month-old Sini Vea while her mother, Mele, holds her. Sini was suffering from a bacterial skin infection on her legs and feet.**

## IN MEMORIUM, From A-1

seen," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Robert Yoder, officer in charge of Waterfront Operations. "He would drop anything he was doing to help one of his shipmates."

"The things you have said today about my baby have touched my heart," said Hudson's mother, Jennifer Hudson Jones.

Hudson is survived by a wife and three children.

## TONGA, From A-2

For the hospital, the presence of the American doctors meant a little relief for the overworked staff, as well as a chance to share information on possible treatments and diagnoses.

The Navy doctors and corpsmen took the opportunity to learn what they may encounter medically in an environment like Vava'u with limited medical personnel and supplies for future humanitarian efforts.

Dental technicians from 21st Dental Co. were also able to provide relief for the only dentist on the island.

With more than 100 patients seen over the five-

day period, the team performed various dental operations ranging from beginning root canals to tooth extractions.

Three of the biggest problems that faced the Tongans of Vava'u, and their teeth, according to Lt. David F. Chacon, a dentist for 21st Dental Co., were education on proper dental care, having no fluoride in their drinking water and lacking dental support on island.

"It's amazing to see how little these people have, but they do so much with it, just like Marines do," said Pfc. Donald F. Lutz, a machinegunner for India Co., 3/3.

Although happy to be back home in the

Hawaiian islands, the Marines and Sailors of Exercise Tafakula said they were glad to be able to help a less fortunate community. In the process, they came to realize how rich their lives really are.



# 'Skinny Dragons' respond to simulated water emergency

**Press Release**  
*Patrol Squadron 4*

The morning of Aug. 21 started out like any other for Patrol Squadron 4's Combat Aircrew 10 aboard Marine Corps Air Facility, Kaneohe Bay.

The crew was on the flight schedule to conduct a scheduled event and busy with their assigned tasks when members of the Skinny Dragons' Safety Department boarded the P-3C aircraft and announced: "This is a drill. This is a drill. You have 10 minutes to ditch."

The aircrew responded and immediately carried out its assigned duties as outlined by the P-3C aircraft Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures Standardization.

All P-3C aircrew members must receive extensive training in NATOPS emergency procedures such as ditch, bailout, in-flight fire and mechanical malfunctions.

Accordingly, the aircrew performed the drill under the supervision of the NATOPS instructors.

After discussing emergency destruc-

tion, securing any loose gear in the aircraft and jettisoning weapons, the crew strapped in and prepared for water impact.

NATOPS Instructor, Navy Lt. Mikel Smith, informed the crew the aircraft had simulated water impact and all motion had stopped. Crewmembers evacuated the aircraft via the emergency over-the-wing exits.

After a successful emergency evacuation, the crew was transported to the K-Bay pool where the VP-4 flight surgeon, corpsmen, Safety and NATOPS instructors and K-Bay rescue swimmers awaited them.

The aircrew deployed a 12-man life raft, entered the water, inflated their life vests — both automatically and manually — treaded water and drownproofed with flight equipment and boarded the raft. Crewmembers were also tested on all available emer-



LT Mikel Smith

**Skinny Dragon's Combat Aircrew 10 performs water survival skills.**

gency equipment in their survival vest and raft.

Simultaneously in the VP-4 Duty Office, the squadron duty officer and Assistant SDO were notified by the squadron's aviation and ground safety officers of the simulated mishap.

The SDO immediately initiated the squadron Aircraft Mishap Plan.

Meanwhile in Maintenance Control, the maintenance department received direction, and the Emergency Reclamation Team was mustered with required materials.

After the mishap drill, the squadron received an overview of the entire event and discussed lessons learned. The debrief included a video presentation of the entire drill.

"The mishap drill provided outstanding training for our aircrews, duty office personnel and maintenance department," said Skinny Dragon Safety/NATOPS Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Paul Bennett.

"This drill pointed out areas where we can and will improve our mishap plan and aircrew training."

Briefing the results of the drill during their squadron safety standdown reinforced the importance of being prepared in the unfortunate event of an aircraft mishap, Bennett added.

# Injuries climbing as motorized scooter use increases

**Mark Ross**

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has reported 2,250 emergency room-treated in-



Courtesy of Razor Scooter

**Motorized scooters such as Razor's Vapor Scooter are growing in popularity.**

juries associated with motorized scooters in the first seven months of this year. If injuries continue at this rate, the total estimate for 2001 is expected to show a marked increase over 2000.

The first full year in which CPSC collected data on these injuries was 1999. In 2000, there were an estimated 4,390 hospital emergency room-treated injuries associated with motorized scooters. This represents more than a 200 percent increase over the 1999 estimate of 1,330 injuries.

The Commission is aware of at least three deaths associated with motorized scooters. Two involved children, including a six-year-old boy in California who died after falling off a motorized scooter and an 11-year-old boy in Pennsylvania who died when the motorized scooter he was riding crashed into a truck. Also, a 46-year-old man died in

California after being struck by an automobile. All of the victims suffered head injuries; none were wearing a helmet.

The Commission recommends that riders wear the same safety gear as it recommends for non-powered scooters — a helmet, knee and elbow pads.

Sturdy shoes are also important.

“Common sense requires that riders of all ages understand the importance of protective gear and observing local safety rules,” said Ann Brown, CPSC chairman. “Have fun outside, but don’t end up in the emergency room.”

In 2000, an estimated 39 percent of the injuries occurred to children under 15 years of age. Most injuries occurred to their arms, legs, faces and heads. The most common were fractures.

Motorized scooters are increasing in popularity. They are

two-wheeled scooters, similar to the unpowered scooters, but equipped with either a small two-cycle gasoline engine or an electric motor and a battery.

Some manufacturers are retrofitting stocks of non-powered scooters with electric motors. In addition, kits are available to retrofit non-powered scooters.

The gasoline-powered scooters usually cost between \$400 and \$1,300. The electric scooters range from under \$200 to about \$1,000.

Protective gear, including helmet, knee and elbow pads, is available for less than \$35.

## Safety Guidelines

The Commission recommends the following safety guidelines be followed:

- Wear a bicycle helmet that meets CPSC’s standards, along with knee and elbow pads.

- Wear sturdy shoes.
- Owners of motorized scooters should check with local authorities for riding guidelines and restrictions.

- Do not ride at night.
- Children under 12 should not ride motorized scooters.

## CPSC Hotline Reporting

The Commission’s mission is to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency’s jurisdiction.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call the CPSC hotline at (800) 638-2772 or visit the CPSC home page at <http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html>.

For CPSC’s fax-on-demand service, call the 800 number or visit its website at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/103.html>.

## == EVERY CLIME AND PLACE ==

### 11th MEU Marine helps rescue eight Chinese fishermen from fire, flooding

Taiwanese fishing vessel had begun placing distress calls late in the evening; Marine translated Chinese

**Sgt. Eric McLeroy**  
11th MEU (SOC) Public Affairs

**ABOARD USS BOXER** — The last thing Cpl. Jonathan Su, Command Element, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) expected to do on a Saturday night aboard the ship was to be asking Chinese fishermen to abandon their boat in the Pacific Ocean and swim toward a life raft, but that's what he did.

Sailors from the USS Boxer rescued eight men from a Taiwanese fishing vessel that was on fire and flooding several hundred miles east of Guam Aug. 25, a Navy spokeswoman said.

"That was the last thing I expected would ever happen," Su said. "We've been on deployment for five and a half months, on our way home, and it was a Saturday night. I was thinking about sleeping till 8 a.m. on Sunday."

The Boxer began receiving distress signals from the 59-foot fishing vessel late in the evening. Su, an intelligence analyst, was called to the ship's Joint Intelligence Center to help the Boxer communicate with the desperate fishermen.

Su shared the responsibility with several other Sailors who spoke Chinese and were being used as translators.

"(The Boxer) asked me if I spoke Chinese, and I said yes," Su explained. "They told me about the fishing boat and the Chinese fishermen. Starting at midnight, I was called to relieve a Sailor who had been translating. I talked to them and asked for updates on their position and the ship. They had a fire on their boat and the ship was flooding."

Su's role as an analyst doesn't require him to speak Chinese although it's his first language.

Born in Taiwan and raised in Southern California, he grew up speaking both English and Chinese.

After the rescue, he admitted his desire to speak "his language" more often.

"I was nervous at first, because I hadn't spoken Chinese in so long. I thought to myself, Man! I should have been studying my Chinese during the deployment. Chinese is my language, and not speaking it would be like the rest of us speaking broken English."

He admitted his Chinese was rusty and struggled with technical terms like flare gun and engine room.

Despite the challenges, he was able to learn the fishermen could not swim. Such information was key during the rescue.

Su translated possible rescue scenarios to the fishermen until a solution was agreed upon. The Boxer then deployed rescue swimmers who helped the fishermen into rafts.

The fishermen were brought aboard the ship and given medical treatment, clothes, food and a berthing space aboard the ship where they will remain until the ship's next port visit.

While aboard, Su and the other Chinese translators continue to act as the conduit between the Boxer and the fishermen.

Su has used the experience to refresh his language skills and is thankful for the experience.

"I'm amazed this happened," Su said. "They were pretty far off our course, and for the Boxer to do everything they did to rescue them, is just amazing."

#### 24th MEU (SOC)

### Battle of Belleau Wood remembered



Lance Cpl. Jeff Sisto

Sgt. Justin Mercer, Echo Battery, 2/10, Section Chief, from Zanesville, Ohio, and Lance Cpl. Kenneth Castille, Echo Battery, 2/10, Artillery, from Empire, La., fold the National Ensign at a ceremony held Aug. 18 in Chateau Thierry, France, in remembrance of the fallen Marines in the Battle of Belleau Wood as part of a tour taken by the Marines and Sailors of the 24th MEU (SOC) aboard the USS Kearsarge.

**GENERAL, From A-1**

ence to the thousands of Marines, Sailors, civilian employees and families who depend on Marine Corps Base Hawaii for service and support."

Although Brig. Gen. Parker will retire, he said has no plans to completely detach himself from the Marine Corps. "I plan to stay involved, and to do everything I can to support the Corps throughout my retirement."



Lance Cpl. Luis R. Agostini

**Having won rave food reviews, Lance Cpl. Gabriela Ramirez-Martinez serves some of her award-winning Mexican dishes.**

**CHEF, From A-1**

Korean War and the Vietnam War.

General Davis shared a few words and memories with the guests at the luncheon.

"If Marines had been fed like this in the old days I wouldn't have retired," said Gen. Davis.

General Davis recalled some of the harder times in Guadalcanal during World War II.

"We didn't have food for a while in Guadalcanal," explained Gen. Davis. "But one thing that stuck with me is the performance of the Marines when it got tough. During the whole ordeal, I never heard one complaint."

Music was provided by members of the Marine Forces Pacific Band during the luncheon.

Some of the different themes included on the Chef of the Quarter luncheon plates were Mexican, Asian, Italian, seafood and European.

Ramirez-Martinez said she was satisfied with her performance and achievement.

"I feel excited. It's good to be recognized for your hard work," said Ramirez-Martinez.

**UFL, From A-1**

tor transport specialist from Marine Forces Pacific at Camp H.M. Smith, responded by saying, "At first I didn't think much of them, but the more I learn about and see them, the more I like them."

Treiber expressed excitement with the new flak jacket, which, besides specializing in stopping shrapnel, boasts the ability to stop a 9mm bullet shot.

According to Treiber the new flak jacket gives Marines options such as detachable neck and groin protection. Velcro straps allow various items such as magazine pouches

and gas mask carriers to be attached directly to the jacket, rather than using a load-bearing vest.

"The most exciting aspect of the new flak jacket is the armor plating," Treiber boasted. "This armor can stop a 762 M-80 ball at muzzle velocity with zero deflection."

What does that mean in layman's terms?

"The armor can stop a pretty powerful round," explained Treiber. "Of course you're going to feel the impact, but at least you'll be alive afterward."

An improvement on the increasingly popular water bladder backpack allows for use in

conditions.

Other innovations in technology have been applied to other gear such as bivouac sacks with frames and insect netting; a new entrenching tool that sports a retractable saw; an iso-mat that better withstands cold weather operations; a physical fitness uniform with more moisture-wicking properties; and more effective cold-weather undergarments.

The team conveyed that everyone within the Individual Combat Clothing and Equipment Section takes great pride in knowing that this new equipment will greatly improve the individual Marine's life in the field.

N B C

# MILITARY POLICE BLOTTER

## Traffic Court

There were a total of 82 traffic citations issued from Aug. 24 - 30.

## The Blotter

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown damaged his vehicle.

-A civilian was apprehended for fraudulent use of a base vehicle pass.

-A Sailor was arrested by the Honolulu Police Department for driving under the influence; bail was set at \$500.00.

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

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown had

entered his barracks room and stole his cellular phone.

-A Marine was involved in a traffic accident while backing up and failing to maintain proper distance from a parked vehicle.

-Two Marines were ap-

prehended for assault when a verbal altercation became physical.

-A Sailor reported that person(s) unknown had caused approximately \$1,000 damage to his vehicles.

-A Marine was appre-

hended for damage to government property, when he punched the window of his barracks room.

-A Marine reported that person(s) unknown had stolen his bicycle.

-A Sailor was appre-

hended for driving on base while on suspension. -A Marine's dependent was apprehended for driving on base while on suspension.

-A Marine was arrested by HPD for a DUI; bail was set at \$500.00.

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# SALUTES

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**Headquarters Battalion****Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal**

Staff Sgt. John F. Courtenay  
 Staff Sgt. Sean W. Sale  
 Gunnery Sgt. Tamara L. Fode

**Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal**

Capt. Michael M. Obalde  
 Master Sgt. Arthur A. Lopez  
 Staff Sgt. Patrick L. Keister  
 Staff Sgt. William T. Rosborough  
 Sgt. William Diaz  
 Sgt. Wade A. Geist  
 Sgt. Jeremy T. Riclesberger  
 Sgt. Jonathan D. Rohweder  
 Sgt. David A. Salazar (second award)  
 Petty Officer 2nd Class Alec N. Caligagan  
 Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael S. Thompson

**Certificate of Commendation**

Sgt. Ryan C. Brenneis  
 Sgt. Daniel E. Lambert  
 Sgt. Jonathan D. Rohweder

Cpl. Contrell N. Bovee  
 Cpl. Heather L. Dyer  
 Cpl. Shaylynn M. Schofield  
 Cpl. Kenneth N. Soto  
 Lance Cpl. Daniel L. Helwig  
 Lance Cpl. John H. Shearer  
 Lance Cpl. Jay P. Stephenson  
 Pfc. Beau D. Brenneis  
 Petty Officer 3rd Class John L. Baker

**Military Outstanding Volunteer Award**

1st Sgt Michael S. Timmerman  
 Gunnery Sgt. Howard E. Shappee  
 Staff Sgt. April L. Evans

**August Promotions**

Gunnery Sgt. Macedonio Casas Jr.  
 Gunnery Sgt. Suzanne Dawkins  
 Gunnery Sgt. William S. Keith  
 Sgt. Bruce E. Jensen Jr.  
 Sgt. Timothy A. Kemp  
 Sgt. Jason T. Spooner  
 Sgt. Lance D. Young  
 Cpl. Dain W. Cole  
 Cpl. Luis R. Lopez

Cpl. Maurice Mitchell  
 Lance Cpl. Lonnie J. Clark II  
 Lance Cpl. William J. Compton  
 Lance Cpl. Christopher A. Garza  
 Lance Cpl. David M. Sullivan  
 Lance Cpl. Nicholas R. Walker

**September Promotions**

Capt. Ernest F. Calvillo  
 Master Sgt. Michael J. Sekeres  
 Master Sgt. Patrick M. Hillmann  
 Gunnery Sgt. Tommy W. Henderson  
 Cpl. Brian J. Baksic  
 Cpl. Stephen L. Garrison  
 Cpl. Jason L. Norton  
 Cpl. James S. Russ  
 Cpl. Melvin G. Villatoroamaya  
 Lance Cpl. Justin S. Arnold  
 Lance Cpl. Justin R. Bouton  
 Lance Cpl. Kevin D. Donahue Jr.  
 Lance Cpl. Christopher J. Jacobs  
 Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller  
 Lance Cpl. Allen L. Smith Jr.  
 Lance Cpl. Thomas C. Smith  
 Lance Cpl. Brian O. Whitt

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# 1/12 rocks Schofield's hills with howitzers

Story and Photos by  
**Lance Cpl. Jason E. Miller**  
*Combat Correspondent*

Nearly 90 Marines from Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines convoyed to the green hills of Schofield Barracks Aug. 28 for three days of basic artillery firing and movements with 155-mm Howitzer cannons.

The training at Schofield mainly consisted of moving the cannons from one position to another, setting up for basic fire missions and sending live rounds down range in the shortest amount of time possible.

The movements were necessary practice for the eight-man teams, who are preparing for a deployment to Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island in October.

"We haven't done a live fire in about three months," said 1st. Lt. Ronnie Good, executive officer for Charlie Battery, 1/12. "We're just out here busting the rust and getting everyone used to being back in the field. It's also been a really good chance for the Marines to get a lot of training in their sections."

Another key area of focus was communication, said Good.

"Everybody has to work together to

get this job done," he said. "There are a lot of people involved with making these cannons hit their targets, and it's really up to the communication guys to make it all happen."

"This really is a great job," said Lance Cpl. David Leweloyne. "It's really great to get out here and just fire the cannons. It's also good just to be out here and have the whole unit working together."

Not only did the Marines fire live rounds downrange, they also practiced setting up basic defensive positions in order to be capable of defending themselves against an enemy while still hurling steel downrange on support of the infantry.

"Our number one goal is to support the grunts, but we're definitely going to be ready to fight if we have to," said Good.

"All of the training we're doing out here is really basic."

"This is a restricted training area and we're not using the full amount of charges, but the Marines still needed to get out here and practice before we head out to PTA," he said.

"The Marines have done a really good job and I'm sure they'll be ready," Good added.

**"It's really up to the communication guys to make it all happen."**

1st. Lt. Ronnie Good  
*Executive Officer*  
Charlie Battery, 1/12



Marines from Charlie Battery 1/12 prepare to load another projectile into the Howitzer.



Marines from Charlie Battery 1/12 prepare to put "steel on target" during firing exercises at Schofield Barracks on Wednesday.



Lance Cpl. Jeremiah Davies pulls hard on the lanyard to send another round downrange.