

# M Hawaii MARINE

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*We have switched our Sports and Lifestyles sections in preparation for our upcoming redesign, scheduled for the new year. Look in future issues for further changes to the Hawaii Marine.*

## Establishing communication ...



Lance Cpl. Cristina Noelia Gil

Sergeant Brad Burton, tactical data network administrator, III Marine Expeditionary Force G-6, explains how the Mobile Modular Command and Control Enhance prototype works. The MEP fills the Marine Corps' need for establishing quick, on-the-move command and control.

## Team demonstrates 'command post of future'

### MarForPac shows off M2C2 command operation center

**Lance Cpl. Cristina Noelia Gil**  
*U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific*

The U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Experimentation Center demonstrated the capabilities of a newly-developed Mobile Modular Command and Control (M2C2) Enhanced Prototype (MEP) on Marine Corps Base Hawaii Nov. 20.

The system is a Humvee-mounted command operations center which is the result of the Marine Corps' need to establish quick command and control while on the move, said Shujie Chang, director, MarForPac Experimentation Center.

In 2001, MarForPac commanders voiced a need for the development of early-entry command and control, and as a result, several Marine Corps groups and the Office of Naval Research have been working together to create an ideal system.

General Dynamics, Pelatrin, Akimeka, Oceanit, Referentia and Trex are some of the

technology contractors that have been working closely with military researchers in providing modern communications devices and system integration.

The current prototype is in experimental stages, being used in various training scenarios by Marines of the 3rd Marine Regiment.

"It's great to have ground-level involvement in the design of the system," said 1st Lt. Jim Parson, 3rd Marine Regiment communications officer. "Marines get real experience with it and put in their two cents as far as what they need, what works and what doesn't work."

The system was recently used in Rim of the Pacific 2008 and proved to be a major asset in the exercise.

"Marines were able to come directly ashore and establish communications in no time," said Parson.

Marines who have worked the system feel it is much easier and more advanced than current

systems in place.

"These systems definitely give us an advantage," said Cpl. Garry Reagan, a radio operator with 3rd Marine Regiment. "Typical command operation centers require set up of tents, laptops, wires and other equipment, but this system can be put right in the vehicle and takes about 15 to 20 minutes to be up and running."

According to Parson, the breaking down of units for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan to smaller levels is causing an enormous strain on command and control capabilities.

"The benefit of the MEP is that it enables a commander to see all his forces on the move much more efficiently than existing equipment," Parson said.

By 2012, the team hopes to have systems fielded to all divisions.

"With the capabilities available with the MEP, this is the command post of the future," said Parson.

## Navy introduces new aircraft to fleet

**Press Release**

*U.S. Fleet Forces Command*

The Navy has released a Final Environmental Impact Statement for introduction of the P-8A Multi-Mission Maritime Aircraft to the U.S. Navy fleet. The FEIS reviewed and assessed six basing options developed out of the need to replace the retiring P-3C aircraft with the P-8A MMA at existing maritime patrol home bases.

The Navy evaluated a range of alternatives based upon the number of squadrons to be based at each site, placement of the Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS), and the number of main operating bases.

The FEIS evaluated potential environmental consequences to resources such as air quality, archeological and cultural resources, coastal considerations, noise, socioeconomics, threatened and endangered species, traffic, water quality and wetlands/floodplains.

The preferred alternative identified in the FEIS, Alternative Five, is to base five fleet squadrons plus the FRS at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla.; four fleet squadrons at NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.; maintain the capability for periodic squadron detachment operations from NAS North Island, Calif.; and base three fleet squadrons at Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. This alternative best meets mission requirements while optimizing operational efficiencies related to training and contractor logistics support functions.

The proposed action is needed to transition from existing P-3C aircraft to the P-8A MMA while maintaining the Navy's overall maritime patrol capability supporting national defense objectives and policies without interruption or impediment to operations or combat readiness.

The proposed action includes a total of 84 fleet and Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) aircraft. The FEIS is available to the public online at <http://www.mmaeis.com>. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment) will issue a record of decision regarding MMA basing no earlier than Dec. 21.

## Welcome home, HSL-37, VP-9, CMO2!

*A long awaited meeting ...*



Christine Cabalo

Petty Officer Second Class Ryan Sanders, naval aircrewman mechanical, Patrol Squadron Nine, holds his 16-day-old daughter wearing an outfit modeled after a flight jacket. Sanders, who was one of several personnel returning from Iraq Nov. 20, spoke with his wife via phone during her labor. Members of Consolidated Maintenance Organization Two and Patrol Squadron Nine were welcomed home by friends and families at Hangar 105. The CMO2 "Sea Raiders" were deployed to Iraq aboard VP-9's "Golden Eagles" by providing maintenance teams and other support.

## Missing Marines recovered

*139 missing WWII  
Marines found on Tarawa*

**Press Release**  
*History Flight Organization*

**Marathon, Fla.** - During the early morning hours of Nov. 20, 1943, Marines of the 2nd Marine Division mounted an amphibious attack against the Japanese stronghold of Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands.

The battle, which lasted 72 hours, would become infamous for the high number of casualties the Americans suffered.

The sorrow was further compounded because many of the American bodies buried on the island were never recovered after the war.

In November 2007, the History Flight organization of Marathon, Fla., and the WFI Research Group of Fall

See **RECOVERED**, A-5

## IPAC receives new record tracking system

*Radio tags track, inventory paper records automatically*

**Lance Cpl. Alesha R. Guard**  
*Combat Correspondent*

Marine Corps Base Hawaii's Personnel Administration Center recently received a new electronic tracking system to better equip personnel with locating and managing the base's Service Record Books and Officer Qualification Records.

The Radio Frequency Identification Tracking System uses unique radio identification tags to track and inventory paper records systems.

"Each Service Record Book is going to have a tag that has an actual paper-thin antenna inside it," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Nicholas Bartlone, Director, Installation Personnel Administration Center. "The tag is associated with the social security number of [each Marine's] SRB or OQR. The radio frequencies help

track the tags."

Bartlone said each deck of IPAC will have an RFID reader pad. When someone takes a book to a different deck, they slide it across the pad which reads the tag in the SRB or OQR.

"It should help with locating, tracking and managing all the SRBs," said Lance Cpl. Robert Rhodes, personnel clerk, IPAC. "[With the RFID] we can better find [records]. Marines can spend less time here when they're doing their audits, and they can know where all their books are at."

Going from a manual to electronic locating system is a big change for those working with the SRB/OQRs.

"Normally with all these books it would take a person ... pulling and looking at every single book and making sure they are there," Rhodes said. "With the new system we have a small electronic

gun that you can basically cut through [a stack of records] and it will pick up the information from all the chips. The [scanner] could read a row of 90 books in about a minute or so and tell you they are all there. Looking through them manually would take about five to six minutes because you would have to verify all the information, whereas the scanner does it for you."

Rhodes said the system will especially help forward deploying units gather their books quickly so they can get all the information they need faster.

The handheld scanner will be able to locate 'misplaced' records by locating which deck a record is on and where a record was last checked out from, Bartlone said.

"Considering we manage about 8,000 records, this is a huge sav-

See **IPAC**, A-5



## NEWS BRIEFS

## Editor's Note

The Hawaii Marine makes every effort to report the news fairly and accurately. The following is a clarification for a story on Marine Corps Family Team Building on page C4 in the Nov. 7 edition:

The Marine Corps Family Team Building staff is composed of educators and trainers. They offer workshops for adults, children and families. They do not offer counseling.

## Tax Center Looking for Volunteers

The Tax Center at Marine Corps Base Hawaii is seeking volunteers with interest in gaining tax experience and assisting service members, dependents, retirees and eligible civilians with preparing income tax returns for the 2008 tax season.

No prior tax knowledge or experience is necessary. There are no requirements for volunteers other than a basic knowledge of computers, the desire to learn, and willingness to help others. The Tax Center in cooperation with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will provide all the necessary training at no cost. In exchange for this invaluable training, volunteers are only asked to work a minimum of 10-15 hours per week. VITA training is scheduled to commence during the first week of December.

Those with interest in becoming a VITA tax preparer should contact Staff Sgt. Legendrick Boston at 257-6741.

## Base Chapel Hours

Catholic: Daily Mass is Mondays through Thursday, from 11:30 a.m. to noon. Saturday Mass is 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday Confession starts at 4 p.m. Preschool to 12th-grade student Sunday lessons are from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Protestant: Traditional services start Sundays at 8 a.m. Sunday contemporary service with Children's Church begins at 11 a.m. Religious education classes for children and adults are held Sundays at 9:30 a.m., beginning in the fall.

## HPD Sobriety Checkpoints

The Honolulu Police Department will be involved in the annual 52/12 (Fifty-Two Weeks/Twelve Months) Sobriety Checkpoint Program, which began on Nov. 2.

Police Officers will establish sobriety checkpoints at undisclosed times and locations throughout Oahu. HPD encourages everyone to establish a designated driver before going out for an evening of fun, and urges service members to use their "Arrive Alive" cards instead of driving intoxicated.

## Counterintelligence Looking for Marines

The Marine Corps needs intelligent, motivated, talented and ambitious first-term corporals and sergeants to lateral move to the Counter-intelligence/HUMINT Specialist occupational specialty.

For more information on the field, contact the CI/HUMINT Branch at 477-8447.

## Important Phone Numbers:

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| On-Base Emergencies          | 911      |
| Military Police              | 257-7114 |
| Child Protective Service     | 832-5300 |
| Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO    | 257-8852 |
| Pothole & Streetlight Repair | 257-2380 |
| Base Information             | 449-7110 |
| MCBH Duty Chaplain           | 257-7700 |
| DEERS                        | 257-2077 |

Hawaii  
MARINE

www.mcbh.usmc.mil

|                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Commanding Officer     | Col. Robert Rice                  |
| Base Sergeant Major    | Sgt. Maj. James Sutton            |
| Public Affairs Officer | Maj. Alan Crouch                  |
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| Combat Correspondent   | Lance Cpl. Brian Marion           |
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## Manning Street road closures

There will be a road closure of Manning Street from Dec. 1 to 12 in order for Forest City to complete reconstruction and paving operations in the Waikulu housing area. Manning Street will be closed from Lawrence Street to the Hawaii Loa neighborhood. The upper driveway taking you to the golf course parking lot will remain open at all times. The closure will be 24/7 commencing at 7 a.m. on Dec. 1 and completing at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 12, including weekends. Please review the map for details.



## A display of heritage ...



Kristen Wong

Troy Shu'k Sha'mii De Roche, a member of the Blackfeet tribe, plays a music piece using a handcrafted wooden flute. Liz De Roche, Troy Shu'k Sha'mii's wife, told traditional American Indian stories while her husband played an accompanying song. The De Roches performed for guests at Anderson Dining Hall Facility Nov. 19 in honor of National American Indian Heritage Month. The luncheon, hosted by 3rd Radio Battalion, included an invocation by Chaplain Henry Holcombe, native of Batesville, Miss. and part Cherokee, and the president's proclamation. The dining hall served traditional American Indian foods such as red chili stew, Ojibway fried fish, Calabacitas, and fry bread.

## Base prepares for a bright future

Sgt. Chadwick deBree

Combat Correspondent

As time goes on, more and more fossil fuels are being burned to provide energy for simple tasks such as turning on a light bulb. As they become more scarce, different organizations are turning to alternative energy sources to help preserve fossil fuels such as oil and coal, and Marine Corps Base Hawaii wants to be at the head of the research in Hawaii.

Officials at MCBH have several projects they are looking into to help make the base self-sustaining in the near future, including the installation of photovoltaic (solar) panels on rooftops and a photovoltaic panel field.

Colonel Robert Rice, base commander, MCBH, said that when it comes to the base's renewable energy projects, he looks at it with two questions in mind: "What is the best way to spend the taxpayers' money?" and "What is the best for the environment?"

"When I think about our base, I think 'What do I want the base to look like in the future,'" Rice said. "By 2015, I want the base to be self-sustaining."

One current renewable energy project aboard the base is the installation of photovoltaic panels on top of two buildings. The base is testing the panels to see if they could generate enough energy for the buildings to operate independently. The panels have been able to generate enough energy, not only for the buildings, but also enough energy to be put back in the power grid for the base to

use, said William Nutting, energy management department, Base Facilities.

"Most of the energy that is produced [from solar panels] is during midday when the sun is really out," he said. "It is during that time when the panels absorb excess energy from the sun, and that excess goes into the base's power grid. Once it's there it can be used elsewhere on base."

Every year, the base has had a goal of dropping energy use and dependency from Hawaiian energy companies by three percent. Some years the base doesn't meet the goal fully, but the renewable energy programs will help, said Rice.

The base is also the host for the testing of a Wave Energy Conversion buoy, which uses the waves of the ocean to produce energy. The buoy has been able to generate approximately 40 kilowatts of energy, enough to power two houses, daily.

The Ocean Power Technologies owned buoy is still in the testing stage and currently does not supply energy to homes.

The base was chosen by the Office of Naval Research due to the waves off MCBH's North Beach.

Rice said he hopes MCBH will lead the way for other Marine Corps bases in the fight to help conserve energy by taking on similar initiatives.

"I want to be the leader in energy conservation," he said. "I am not afraid to go out on the edge and develop new projects and I am not afraid of failure. I am very aggressive when it comes our base's environmental programs."

## Operation Kid Comfort



Kristen Wong

(Left to Right): Four-year-old Kassandra Menard and her brother six-year-old Coleman, and four-year-old Harley Adcox try out their brand new quilts. Their mothers, Amanda Adcox, a native of Ringgold, Ga., and Kristin Menard, a native of Fredericksburg, Va., arrived with their children at 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment's building to receive the quilts. Ellen Huntley, a volunteer, sewed the quilts as part of the Armed Services YMCA's Operation Kid Comfort program. Volunteers sew quilts for children of deployed service members in an effort to give them comfort while their parent is away. Military parents supply pictures of the service member to the organization. The pictures are scanned and printed on special fabric, and given to the volunteers who then make a complete quilt. To request a quilt or a pillow, visit <http://www.asymca.org>.

## Weekend weather outlook

Today



**Day** — Widespread haze. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. West wind around 9 mph.

**Night** — Scattered showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 70. Northwest wind around 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**High** — 82  
**Low** — 70

Saturday



**Day** — Occasional showers. High near 78. Breezy, with a northeast wind between 14 and 24 mph, with gusts as high as 33 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

**Night** — A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69. East wind between 10 and 17 mph, with gusts as high as 22 mph.

**High** — 78  
**Low** — 69

Sunday



**Day** — A 30 percent chance of showers. Widespread haze. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 81. South wind around 8 mph.

**Night** — A 30 percent chance of showers. Widespread haze. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69. South wind around 9 mph.

**High** — 81  
**Low** — 69



# 'Tis the season for sharing



Lance Cpl. Alesha R. Guard

Marines and Sailors from Headquarters Battalion take part in a 5.2-mile hike through Marine Corps Base Hawaii as part of Operation Harvest, Nov. 20. Operation Harvest is a MCBH Chapel canned food drive organized by Chaplain Richard House, base chaplain. Service members from HQBN each carried 25 pounds of nonperishable food to the chapel and donated an approximate 1,500 pounds of food, which the chapel in turn donated to local charities including the Salvation Army in Kaneohe, St. George's Food Pantry in Waimanalo and the Armed Services YMCA on MCBH.

## Marines give to local community during holidays

Compiled by Sgt. Sara A. Taylor  
Assistant Editor

Approximately 200 Marines and Sailors from Marine Corps Base Hawaii's Headquarters Battalion strapped on their boots, loaded their packs and marched to help stop hunger on the island of Oahu during the holiday season Nov. 21.

The Marines conducted a 5.2-mile hike, which took roughly two hours to complete, around the base with each service member carrying approximately 25 pounds of nonperishable food. The food was then donated to several charity organizations, both on and off base, through Operation Harvest.

According to Capt. Victor Cruz, Headquarters Company commander, the Marines of HQBN alone donated approximately 2,500 pounds of food.

The hike was not only a way for the Marines and Sailors to give back to the community; it was also a way for the battalion to build camaraderie.

"The hike was so motivating this morning," said Pfc. Audrey A. Adams, deployments clerk, Installation Personnel Administration Center. "Our [commanding officer] was right when he talked about the camaraderie. I was tired from duty, plus I am not a morning person, but by not even the half-way-point, we were having a blast! I hope to do something like that again, and really soon."

At the conclusion of the hike, both the battalion commander and sergeant major gave the Marines praise for participating in the hike and for their donations.

"Every one of you today demonstrated the meaning of service," said Sgt. Maj. Erik Shirreffs, HQBN sergeant major. "You serve your country and you served your community today. We do that because we love what we do. It is a good thing you did today - to donate your time, your effort and a little bit of your hard earned money turning it into chow - taking care of some needy families."

The battalion commander's comments echoed those of the sergeant major.

"What you did today was a good

thing and you should feel good about what you did," said Lt. Col. Michael Richardson, HQBN commanding officer. "Take a moment over this long weekend and think about what Thanksgiving is all about. It's not just a chance for a four-day weekend, it's a chance to think about all of the blessings that we have and the freedoms we enjoy."

This donation was just one of the many made by families and units aboard the base.

This is the first year the MCBH Chapel has hosted Operation Harvest. The idea for the canned food drive was sparked when Chaplain Richard House, base chaplain, visited his home church in Yakima, Wash., and saw signs for Operation Harvest. The idea of gathering together as a community to help those less fortunate in their town was a success so he decided to bring that concept back to MCBH.

"Here in the Chapel on MCBH the children of the parish donate food every week and their parents are invited to do so on the first Sunday of the month," the chaplain said. "We recently donated \$5,000 to a local food bank, and in my conversation with their director I discovered that they serve over 900 families a month. It dawned on me that given the severe need in the local community that we needed to do more. And so I pondered that we could create an Operation Harvest here on MCBH, and by involving so many more people, that we could serve more than we do on a monthly basis."

Operation Harvest turned out to be a success here as well. An approximate total of 15,000 pounds of food was equally distributed between the Salvation Army in Kaneohe, St. George's Food Pantry in Waimanalo and the Armed Services YMCA on MCB Hawaii. The three organizations combined serve well over 2,000 families on a regular basis.

While the Marines were able to enjoy their weekend knowing they had contributed to help make Thanksgiving special for those in need, the organizations on the receiving end were thankful for the donated goods.

"We're very grateful for everything [the Marines] do," said Pastor Michael Scully of St. George Catholic Church in Waimanalo. "People on the base truly have got the spirit of giving. [Giving] allows us and others to do God's work: feeding the hungry."

Scully, a Los Angeles native, said the donation of food from the base will help the church, because they work on a tight budget and distribute food to around 500-600 needy families in the community three days a week. He also explained the base chapel recently donated \$5,000 to the church in July, which helped fill their shelves with food.

Major Randy Mulch, an officer of the Kaneohe Salvation Army and a native of Yuma, Ariz., said each month their office gives food to about 100 families, and about 200 heated meals to homeless people on the windward side on Oahu.

"I appreciate people working together to help out their neighbors," Mulch said. "That's what it's all about."

Some Marines and Sailors of the base will also benefit from the donated food collected through Operation Harvest.

Jillian Martinez, an office manager of the Armed Services YMCA on base and a Kailua resident, said the chapel did a good job in collecting the non-perishable food and they should have enough for families during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

"A lot of these military families don't get paid a lot so we give them food to get them through," said Tammy Bergeron, a playmorning program coordinator at the ASYMCA and a native of Corpus Christi, Texas.

Although Operation Harvest is over, members from the ASYMCA will be at the base commissary Wednesday starting at 10 a.m. to collect more food, which will be distributed to Marines and Sailor throughout the holidays.

"Most of us don't go to bed hungry," House said. "But many in our local community do, and that's who we are serving."



Lance Cpl. Alesha R. Guard

Headquarters Battalion Marines laugh and encourage each other during a 5.2-mile hike through base as they make their way to the chapel Nov. 20.



Sgt. Brian A. Tuthill

Headquarters Battalion Marines empty their packs of 25 pounds of food at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii Chapel halfway through their 5.2 mile hike Nov. 21 to support Operation Harvest.



Kristen Wong

Chaplain Richard House, base chaplain, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, and volunteers pack up more than 1,500 pounds of food Monday.



Lance Cpl. Alesha R. Guard

Approximately 200 Marines and Sailors from Headquarters Battalion hiked 5.2 miles to support Operation Harvest, a food drive supplying food to needy families in the local community this holiday season.



# Hawaiian Telcom joins Toys for Tots team

**Sgt. Scott Whittington**  
U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific

**HONOLULU** — The Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program has been collecting toys for less fortunate children since 1947 and national and local businesses are a big part of that collection effort.

Hawaiian Telcom, a communications company of 1,400 employees here, opened its doors this morning at the Pearlridge Shopping Center with a new addition to its sales floor: a Toys for Tots collection box. Marines have placed Toys for Tots collection boxes at all eight of their locations here as well as their corporate offices.

"We're really excited about being a part of Toys for Tots," said Craig Inouye, senior vice president of sales, Hawaiian Telcom. "It's a way to reconnect with our community."

Members of the community can drop off a new, unwrapped toy at any Hawaiian Telcom location around the state. The Marines guarantee the toys will get into needy children's hands with the hopes of brightening their holiday.

"With the challenging economy, it may be hard for some families to buy toys," said Ann Nishida, senior corporate communications manager, Hawaiian Telcom. "Toys for Tots is easily recognized and has a good reputation to partner with."

Locally, Toys for Tots has collected nearly 600,000 toys since 1996. All toys collected in Hawaii stay in Hawaii. This year's goal is to collect 40,000 toys.

"It's imperative we have these drop-off locations," said Gunnery Sgt. Chris Whitley, Toys for Tots coordinator. "We only have so much money to buy toys and without these businesses and schools collecting toys, the program wouldn't be as successful."

Whitley added, the majority of the total collection comes from the drop-off locations.

To find other locations around Hawaii, please visit <http://www.toysfortots.org>.



Sgt. Scott Whittington

(From left to right) First Sgt. James Brown, Candice Nicholson, Hawaiian Telcom store manager, Ronald Oba, Army veteran and author of 'The Men of Company F' and Hawaiian Telcom customer, and Lance Cpl. Isaac K. Yuen, kicked off Hawaiian Telcom's participation in the annual Toys for Tots collection drive as Oba places a toy inside the drop box at the company's store in the Pearlridge Shopping Center here Nov 19.

# Hawaii Marines ride to safety

**Gunnery Sgt. Demetrio J. Espinosa**  
Public Affairs Chief

Living on an island with year-round warm weather, cool breezes and winding roads encourage many motorcycle riders to take to the roadways often here on Oahu. However, as the Marine Corps has experienced the most motorcycle related deaths in its history this past year, the Corps is looking for ways to lower those numbers.

Commanders aboard MCBH are looking for ways to reduce those numbers locally and help to improve local riders' skills. One Marine from 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment is implementing a program here he says helped his unit back in North Carolina.

Staff Sgt. James L. Adams, career retention specialist for 3/3 and a native of Maysville, Mo., organized the program based on a novel idea — encourage Marines to ride.

Adams hosted a group ride Nov. 24, inviting all base riders to participate. Many unit commanders from around the base authorized their Marines to participate in the all-day ride, which took riders from MCBH up to the North Shore, into Honolulu and back. Adams hopes having group rides will encourage safe riding habits and influence Marines to enjoy the pastime in a safe way.

"We want to teach inexperienced riders, especially those on base, to help prevent Marine Corps mishaps on motorcycles," the 30-year-old Adams said. "We started with 3/3 to build camaraderie. Then we opened it up to the base."

The camaraderie and safe riding environ-

ment has encouraged riders outside of his unit to join the group.

Victoria Vorce, a 21-year-old spouse and Appleton, Wash., native, was encouraged to participate in the ride by a friend. She enjoys riding to work everyday and wanted to ride with a group that was more concerned with safety than the one she rode with in the past.

"Everyone else I rode with is broken or their bikes are broken," she said. "Hopefully this group is safer."

According to Adams, group riding has already helped to reduce the number of motorcycle-related incidents in his unit.

"With 3/3, we haven't had any motorcycle related incidents in a month," Adams said. "We started two months ago. Everyone loves doing it because it is on Marine Corps time. You get them out of work, out riding — they love it"

Although the experience is fun, the most important aspect of the group ride is that it reinforces safety in a positive way and helps to build riders' experience levels on motorcycles by combining experienced and inexperienced riders, says Gunnery Sgt. Michael Schellenbach, the base Combat Camera chief and beginning rider.

"I believe it is very important for new and experienced riders to come together and learn from each other," Schellenbach said. "It can be related to the Marine Corps mentoring program in that the new riders are offered the opportunity to learn from the experienced riders, ask questions and not feel the pressures of rank but rather the enjoyment of the sport of motorcycle riding. Though accidents happen to

experienced riders, each time you get on a motorcycle you are learning and gaining experiences that will help to reduce your risk of having an accident."

Schellenbach, who is the president of the Headquarters Bn., MCBH motorcycle club, also noted events like this and other motorcycle safety programs help to mitigate some of the risk through education and experience.

"As with any sport, motorcycle riding is a skill that you continually build upon through experience and opportunities like this," Schellenbach said. "The safety events held for the motorcyclists allow new and experienced riders an opportunity to learn from each other and conduct 'on the job training', allowing the training to be fun, but with safety in mind."

Schellenbach also points out that shared experiences are what help to build Marine Corps teams from recruit training to the operational forces.

"Marines have a common bond from the day they received the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor and getting Marines involved in activities together outside of the working environment, strengthens that bond even more through the shared love of the sport," Schellenbach said.

By the end of the ride, the group had ridden from Kaneohe Bay along the Kamehameha Highway to the North Shore taking in the scenic beaches and rural mountain areas then rode Highway 1 into Honolulu for lunch. All of the riders said they had a good time and look forward to riding again.

"The ride was outstanding," said Schellenbach. "Staff Sgt. Adams and his Marines did a great job organizing the event

and ensuring that everyone came home safe. As a new rider myself with only three years experience, it was a great opportunity to learn how to ride in a group safely. If nothing else, there aren't many jobs in the world that allow you the freedom to go riding for the day, and get paid for it."



Gunnery Sgt. Demetrio J. Espinosa

Motorcyclists leave the Marine Corps Base Hawaii main gate to set off for an all-day ride to North Shore into Honolulu and back Nov 24. Unit commanders around base authorized their Marines to participate in the ride in hopes to promote motorcycle safety.



**RECOVERED, from A-1**

River, Ma., agreed to a joint, privately funded venture to locate and return the bodies of our war dead to their families.

With the financial support of the VFW, The American Legion, The Baddour Foundation, private individuals and History Flight board members the joint effort was able to bring a team of professional researchers, historians and ground penetrating radar specialists together to find 139 of the 541 missing Marines from The Battle of Tarawa.

After 14 years of research conducted by the WFI Research Group at various research centers around the country and the second of two survey trips to the island completed Nov. 8 by the History Flight Organization and the expenditure of thousands of dollars we are happy to announce that we have located 139 of the 541 MIAs from Tarawa in 8 separate mass burials on the island.

All are believed to be the Marines and sailors from the actual battle and not later casualties. 5 of the 8 burial sites have had U.S. Marine remains accidentally dug up during the extensive construction activity on the island.

One of the burial sites contains the remains of Lt. Alexander Bonnyman who won the Congressional Medal of Honor in the battle of Tarawa and is still buried on the island today.

The graves were located using a Mala X3M Ground Penetrating radar with 250 and 500 MHZ antennas and a surveyor quality Trimble GPS system donated for the trip by Ashtead Equipment of Atlanta, Ga.

"We are in the process of compiling the final reports on our efforts and when completed we will be contacting the Department of Defense POW-MIA Office and the Commandant of the Marine Corps" stated Mark Noah of the History Flight organization. "We'll make one additional trip to the island to search for the remaining grave sites and make arrangements for the return and identification of the bodies. Allowing the families of the missing to finally have closure is our foremost goal."

"Tarawa is the first of 14 projects we hope to accomplish in the coming years" said Ted Darcy of the WFI Research Group. "There were numerous problems encountered with the Tarawa project but we were able to overcome them all. We'll be covering each of them in more detail in the final report which will be released next year."

The find of 139 missing in action service personnel is the largest in the history of the American Armed Forces.

The previous high was the recovery of 19 Marines from Makin Atoll several years ago.

Sadly, 72,766 American Armed Forces personnel are still listed as MIA from World War II, 541 are in the Tarawa area.

# Embracing diversity

**Lt. j.g. Davidson Taveras***Patrol Squadron 9*

The Navy has long benefited from the diverse background of its Sailors. Closer to home, Patrol Squadron 9's own diversity has long benefited from the various cultures that define the Hawaiian Islands.

The P-3 Patrol and Reconnaissance squadron has a cultural structure unlike many other Navy units. One contributing factor comes from the relatively close proximity to the Asian continent. All of VP-9 successes, however, are a direct reflection of its Sailors' commitment and respect towards one another.

One VP-9 crewmember who exemplifies the benefits a squadron can gain from its own diversity is Petty Officer Second Class Hannah Moon, an aviation warfare operator.

She was born in Seoul, South Korea, to native Korean parents and migrated to the United States at the early age of five.

Although she had been immersed in American culture at a young age, her upbringing was strictly Korean at home. The lan-

guage certainly highlights a large cultural difference, but so does the manner in which she was taught to render respect towards her elders.

Moon continues to speak Korean primarily when she is home or amongst her family members. Meals are traditionally eaten as a family and typically consist of rice with various side dishes.

Moon explains, however, that as a sign of respect during meals, no member was permitted to commence his/her meal until after the eldest.

Those small lessons of respect and commitment to family that she was taught early on have fostered the kind of work ethic that continues to improve the Golden Eagles' reputation.

"I joined the Navy because I wanted to be different compared to my friends," Moon said. "I wanted to put myself through college instead of my parents paying for it. I wanted to travel and meet different types of people in the world. Since I have joined the Navy I have learned the value of a hard day's work and how to deal with the diversity of a multi-cultural Navy".

## Sailor's South Korean upbringing represents unit's diversity



Lt. j.g. Davidson Taveras

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Hannah Moon, an acoustic operator for Patrol Squadron 9 from Seoul, South Korea, represents the ethnic diversity of VP-9's Sailors.**

Since deploying, Moon has flown more than 50 combat missions and accumulated over 350 flight hours in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. She is a testament to the benefits garnered through diversity.

The background she brings to VP-9 has enhanced not only the command's disciplined mission focus but also the cultural respect

and awareness of its service members.

In the current times of multinational joint operations, these issues play an even larger role in our military's success.

Embrace diversity — it has helped strengthen our military community and the commitment to it will surely help strengthen our international community as well.

**IPAC, from A-1**

ings in manpower and man-hours and will increase our productivity and accuracy," said Bartlone.

Installation Personnel Administration Center Marines agreed the new system will especially help with their monthly inventory.

"At the end of each month we do an [inventory] where we get a [total count] of every single book," Rhodes said. "We'd print out a roster and have to match every book to that roster. We have to find which deck it is on and then manually look at the book and roster."

Bartlone explained the inventory process is a big production. Since IPAC personnel are constantly working with the SRB's or OQR's, the books are always moving from deck to deck which makes it difficult to track them. With the new RFI tracking system, Bartlone said IPAC personnel will be able to stop work momentarily to find the records quickly.

"It's going to significantly decrease the time it will take to do an inventory," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 James E. Hudson, Operations Officer In Charge, IPAC. "What could take us a week to identify where all the books are at, we can now do in two or three hours, and we won't necessarily have to do it on our Saturdays."

Hudson said he believes the new system is going to make things much easier and more efficient for all of IPAC's personnel.

Bartlone said MCBH IPAC currently has a

yearlong contract with 3M and their RFID Tracking System. Their success with the new system could eventually mean changes to more IPACs around the Corps.

"What were hoping will happen is that the entire Marine Corps will adopt [the new tracking system]," Bartlone said. "What will be beneficial

with that is, when you [change duty stations], we won't have to worry about taking the chip out. Your next command can swipe your book and you are now in their database. For the customer, I think they will be able to feel a little bit more at ease that we'll be able to keep better track of their record for them."



Lance Cpl. Alesha R. Guard

**A Marine demonstrates the Radio Frequency Identification Tracking System by using the handheld scanner to locate a specific Service Record Book at the Installation Personnel Administration Center Nov. 20.**



# AROUND THE CORPS

## Non-lethal weapons fielded for familiarization

**Cpl. Travis J. Crewdson**  
*Marine Corps Base Quantico*

**MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va.** — As the Corps' role in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations continues to grow, so are options for warfighters.

Non-lethal weapons provide an important capability to help warfighters meet those demands.

"Our warfighters face a critical gap between shouting and shooting," said Col. Kirk W. Hymes, Director of the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate here at Quantico. "In many operational situations, shouting is inadequate but escalating to a lethal response is not an appropriate or desired first response."

More than 75 participants who support warfighters, including government and civilian employees, attended a training day, focused on non-lethal weapons.

Hosted by the JNLWD, the training day on Quantico's Range 14A, gave them a first-hand experience with several non-lethal weapons.

Safety was paramount, where shooters donned both eye and ear protection and received a safety briefing before the first round went down range.

Asking for volunteers was easy — seemingly anxious people hurried to stand in line to fire the non-lethal weapons.

"That was amazing; what a thrill," said Patricia Logan, a representative from American Systems, which provides contract support to the JNLW Program. "I've never shot a weapon before. I've seen these (types of weapons) on paper, but it was so much more interesting to get some hands-on experience."

Various types of non-lethal munitions were displayed and used in the weapon systems, which included the M203 40mm grenade launcher; the FN-303 "paintball gun on steroids," which can be used alone or designed to be attached to an M16; and the Mossberg 500 pump action shotgun with attached launch cup firing a stingball grenade.

All these systems are also currently in use in operations overseas.

In addition, non-lethal rubber ball grenades were thrown traditionally and fired through a launcher attachment to the shotgun.

"We wanted to give some hands-on training and increase awareness of the non-lethal field," said Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Glenn Galman, the USCG liaison of the Capabilities and Requirements Division to the JNLWD. "We hope to give people a better appreciation for the capabilities and limitations of the systems." The personnel involved were connected to non-lethal weapons through development, acquisition or just by being a potential user.

Another intention for the training event was for the shooters to develop and provide feedback to their field, according to Army Maj. William McMillan, of the Capabilities and Requirements Division, JNLWD.

"I thought it felt fake; you couldn't feel a recoil like you can with most lethal weapons," said Lance Cpl.



Cpl. Travis J. Crewdson

**Patricia Logan, a representative from American Systems, who had never shot a weapon before, fires an FN-303, referred to as a "paintball gun on steroids," during a familiarization fire here Friday hosted by the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate.**

Yvette Arroyo, one of the Quantico Marines present from Manpower Management Promotion Branch. "I liked it because it was pretty accurate consider-

ing we didn't take any time to snap in or really acquire good sights or a real stable shooting position."

Despite the advanced nature of the weaponry, to

get the full experience of a weapons range, each shooter participated in a good old fashioned police call of not only casings, but also the expended projectiles.

For more information regarding the JNLW Program, including frequently asked questions pages, visit <https://www.jnlwp.com>.