

FLIGHT JACKET

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Marines leave air wing jobs to become security force

Story by Lance Cpl. Michael Nease

MCAS Yuma Combat Correspondent

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. — A group of Marine Air Control Squadron 1 Marines here will leave their air wing-related jobs for a while and deploy to the Middle East soon as a security force.

To prepare for this new mission, the Marines received extensive classroom and practical application training on station and at the Cannon Air Defense Complex over the past three weeks.

The security force is comprised of all the squadron's deployable Marines ranked sergeant and below that are not essential to the completion of its mission on station, said Staff Sgt. Christopher Main, air defense controller and former infantryman.

"They're getting training right now that is vital to keeping them alive in whatever country or environment we're going into," Main said.

The training reminded the Marines of their roots.

"Everybody here is pretty much of different (military occupational specialties), but now we're all part of a security force," said Cpl. Michael Heneghan, an air control operator.

"Every Marine is a rifleman, and that's what they wanted to instill in us that you might be supply, radar or whatever, but you're still a rifleman first."

From Aug. 9-12, the Marines received lec-

tures and powerpoint presentations in the station theater on convoy operations, improvised explosive devices, principles and techniques of patrolling, crew-served weapons, vehicle and personnel search procedures and other topics.

On Aug. 13 the Marines headed out to the Cannon Air Defense Complex, where they applied what they learned during the classroom instruction by establishing a perimeter, building defensive positions, mapping their fields of fire, patrolling the perimeter, performing inspections at the gate and reacting to aggressors who tested the Marines' knowledge and skills, said Heneghan.

Basically, the Marines provided security for the Cannon Air Defense Complex exactly as if it were a base in hostile territory.

The Marines also went to Yuma Proving Ground's North Pad Firing Range on Aug. 18 to get some hands-on experience with the crew-served weapons, including the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon and M240G and M2 .50 Caliber Machine Guns. Many of the Marines experienced these weapons for the first time.

According to Main, the Marines took to their new duties earnestly.

"It was a shock to take Marines that normally work in an air-conditioned environ-



Master Sgt. David Cortazzo (left), Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 squadron gunnery sergeant, assists in the training of Marine Air Control Squadron 1 Marines by coaching the live-fire of the M2 .50 Caliber Machine Gun at Yuma Proving Ground's North Pad Firing Range Aug. 18. Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael Nease

ment, throw them in the field for a week and teach them how to be security Marines," he said. "That's a little bit of a shock, but they've really adapted very well and I couldn't ask to be working with a better bunch of people."

The training doesn't end here, said Heneghan.

"This has been a good base for us; a good starting point," Heneghan said. "When we get over there, we're still going to be training. Every day we'll be doing some training when we're not on post, so it's a continuing process. But here, they've given us a really good idea of what it's going to be like over there."

DoD official outlines personnel-recovery work to be done

Story by Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va.— The thousands of Americans who put themselves in harm's way in dangerous and inhospitable environments as members of the armed forces and various government agencies "must be confident that should something happen to them in the course of their service, they will not be abandoned," DoD's senior official for prisoner of war/missing personnel affairs said here Tuesday.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Jerry D. Jennings praised the efforts of the more than 325 men and women in the audience at the DoD Worldwide Personnel Recovery Conference, saying they make up the backbone of the personnel recovery mission. They do the work to implement the policies and procedures that are set forth by the headquarters staff, he explained.

Jennings then quoted Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz as saying, "The brave men and women who serve

today, whether in Afghanistan, northern Iraq, or other theaters for the war on terrorism, can do so with the full confidence that if they are captured, become missing, or fall in battle, this nation will spare no effort to bring them home. This is our solemn pledge; however long it takes, whatever it takes, whatever the cost."

Jennings said Wolfowitz's remarks guide his office's work in ensuring that it maintains "a powerful and credible capability to recover our isolated personnel." And he cautioned "that we don't shrink from using that capability and everything else within our power to recover and account for our personnel — however long it takes, whatever it takes, whatever the cost."

The three-day conclave highlights the need to transform the Defense Department's personnel-recovery efforts to address the challenges of the 21st century battle space, Jennings noted. "Today, our military forces are facing new and often unexpected dangers," he said. Instead of the traditional threats of isolation occurring as a result of aircraft shootdowns or ground engagements, the primary risk of isolation in Iraq now comes from kidnappings and hostage taking, he noted.

"The enemy in today's battlespace has found new targets," said the former Marine who served as an intelligence officer with the CIA in Southeast Asia. "Whereas we have traditionally been concerned with recovering our uniformed personnel, we are now faced with an environment where the primary targets are the 'soft' targets — the untrained and unprepared civilians (such as) DoD contractors, U.S. government civilians, journalists, humanitarian workers and others unprepared for isolation."

And U.S. combatants have to adapt to tougher and different environments, he added. "The battlefields our forces are encountering today are not the plains and forests of Germany, or even the sprawling deserts of the Middle East," he said. "We're finding ourselves embroiled in the urban battlefield of the villages, towns and cities of Iraq — a battlefield, that for now, has certainly tilted the advantages in favor of the insurgent. Equally advantageous to our enemies are the extreme environments found in the mountains of Afghanistan".

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Jennings continued, "We are also faced with our isolated personnel being placed on the public stage in an effort to break America's will to persevere in ridding Afghanistan, Iraq and other locations of the terrorist threat," said the former deputy directory of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. "We have even seen the unfortunate results of this tactic with some of our friends abandoning the coalition due to the threats to their citizens held hostage," Jennings said. "Tougher threats, new targets, and dynamic operational environments necessitate an all-encompassing examination of how the department must transform the personnel recovery mission to meet the challenges that lay ahead."

He noted that in the past, the annual conference was used partly to highlight successes in personnel recovery and to provide a vision and direction for the future.

"We have accomplished much, but I want to use my time this morning to focus on the future – to challenge you to accomplish even more," Jennings told the audience.

Turning his attention to transformation, Jennings quoted Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld as saying, "We need every nickel, we need every innovation, every good idea to strengthen and transform our military. A new idea overlooked might well be the next threat overlooked. If we do not fix what is broken and encourage what is good and what works, if we do not transform, our enemies will surely find new ways to attack us."

Jennings said Rumsfeld described transformation as change. "It's change in the way we fight, in the way we train, in the way we exercise, but especially, it's change in the way we think and how we approach our jobs," he said, quoting the defense secretary.

Jennings said transforming personnel recovery functions includes:

Making personnel recovery a coherently interoperable function between the services, interagency partners, allies and coalition partners;

Ensuring that transformed personnel-recovery specialists are equipped with state-of-the-art technology that operates seamlessly from survivor, to recovery force, to command and control — regardless of the service, interagency partner or ally;

Making sure that recovery forces train individually, jointly, in a combined environment, and with interagency partners to ensure compatibility and commonality in tactics, techniques and procedures;

Requiring that all personnel are trained and prepared in proportion to their risk of capture to face the rigors of capture and, as a result, return home safely and with honor; and ensuring that a transformed personnel-recovery function is one in which personnel-recovery considerations are planned for and resourced prior to isolating events and not in reaction to events on the battlefield.

"We must rise to the challenges we face in personnel recovery so that we can be assured of having the capabilities we need for successful recovery in the future; we must keep our solemn pledge to our warfighters," Jennings told the gathering. "We need to begin our transformation with an agreement at the highest level possible that change is needed, and then we need to lay out a vision for the future."

Noting that the entire Bush administration is committed to recovering isolated Americans, Jennings again quoted Rumsfeld: "We will leave no one behind in Iraq or any of those missing from World War II, Vietnam, Korea,

the Cold War or other past conflicts."

"One of the primary goals of transforming personnel recovery is to continue your efforts to move from a service-centric function to one that is not only joint, but interoperable with our interagency and coalition partners," Jennings said.

He said the National Security Presidential Directive, which is near completion, will help by directing the full integration of "U.S. diplomatic, civil, and military personnel recovery capabilities into a national architecture to ensure successful outcomes for personnel-recovery events."

The directive also requires all government agencies to participate in personnel-recovery planning consistent with their capabilities, and focuses planning efforts on joint, interagency, and coalition operations, rather than just on component operations, Jennings said.

He sought support from the attendees for the directive and asked them to submit their ideas on how to make it better so the initiative doesn't stagnate. He pointed out that most personnel recovery policy documents were written or last revised prior to 2001 – before 9/11, the Colombian hostage incident, and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Therefore, he said, "we need to take a new look at our policies to ensure they are relevant, useful and realistic – that they support the warfighter, and that they adequately reflect the realities of the battle space today and into the future."

Jennings challenged the attendees to get involved in the process and provide inputs to their service and combatant command headquarters. "We don't have a corner on the market for good ideas or perfect guidance," he told the audience.

There's good news, Jennings noted, about integrating U.S. personnel-recovery activities with those of America's allies. "At a recent NATO Search and Rescue Panel meeting, we moved closer to completing a final coordination copy of the Combat Search and Rescue doctrine document," Jennings said.

In addition, NATO members will introduce the first ever NATO personnel-recovery policy and doctrine document for consideration next week. "This will help us enhance interoperability in all types of personnel recovery, not just coalition combat search and rescue. All of us know that it's not enough simply to have good policies and sound doctrine. We must equip and train the warfighters to execute those policies and doctrine."

Calling training deficits in the Code of Conduct "unacceptable," Jennings said more than 1.4 million men and women at risk of capture and exploitation need training, with 30,000 requiring wartime training and 90,000 who need peacetime Code of Conduct training. "And by the way, those numbers don't even address the issue of contractor and government civilian training, as mandated by the recently published policy on preparing our DoD civilians and contractors to survive isolation," he noted.

DoD has gotten better over the past eight years in personnel-recovery planning and execution, Jennings noted. "Though it sounds basic, planning before acting is fundamental to the successful employment of our personnel recovery capabilities," he said. "We're improving how we approach recovery today, vice pre-Desert Storm only 13 years ago."

But he added that while personnel recovery is no longer just a pick-up game, and has even become carefully scripted, resourced and proactive, there's still more work to do. "As we progress deeper and deeper into the war on terrorism, our recovery needs are becoming more dependent on nonconventional means of recovering our missing," Jennings said.



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MIRAMARKS

"Why is it important to celebrate POW/MIA day?"

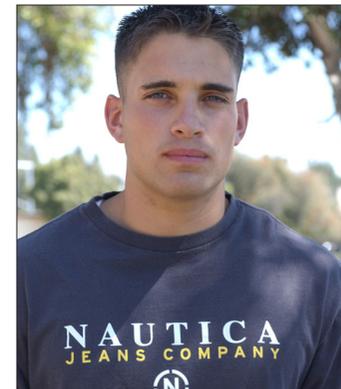


LANCE CPL. MICHAEL PETERS
Maintenance Management
MWCS-38

"They deserve to be honored. They were caught fighting for us."

SGT. JACKSON LUHRS
Radio Operator
MWCS-38

"It recognizes what they gave up for our country. The POW/MIA day is a sign of respect for the sacrifices that they made."



LANCE CPL. AUTUMN HAGEN
Calibration Technician
MALS-16

"It takes the time to remember everyone. They took risks so we could be where we are today"



FLIGHT JACKET

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Iraqi National Guardsmen provide security during a raid Aug. 26. The raid was conducted by the Iraqi National Guard and Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit. The 24th MEU is currently conducting security and stability operations in the Northern Babil province of Iraq. Photo by Lance Cpl. Caleb J. Smith

ING, 24th MEU capture large weapons cache during raid

Story by Sgt. Zachary A. Bathon

24th MEU Combat Correspondent

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ISKANDARIYAH, Iraq — Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, working closely with Iraqi National Guardsmen, conducted a raid in central Iraq Aug. 26, netting a large weapons cache that included dozens of weapons, munitions and explosive-making devices.

The raid, led by the MEU's Force Reconnaissance Platoon and members of Delta Company of the Iraqi National Guard, initially began at a different target. The Marines from the Force Reconnaissance Platoon went in and secured the buildings, which later led them to a second target where the cache was found.

At the second objective, the Force Reconnaissance Platoon secured the building and began to exploit the site with help from the ING, combat engineers, Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians and members of an interrogation team. Marines from 2nd Platoon, Company A, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, set up blocking positions, allowing no one to enter or exit the area around the site.

Combat engineers armed with metal detectors cleared the site and began finding weapons and ammunition, which had either been buried or camouflaged in the surrounding area.

"This was a lot of hard work for everyone out there," said Capt. Billy Ray Moore, a New Castle, Ind., native and company commander of Alpha Company.

The raid turned up a laundry list of items that included everything from small arms and machine guns to mortars, rockets and bomb-making materials, some of which were rigged to explode.

Also found were rocket propelled grenades and launchers, rifle grenades, hand grenades, 167 mm ammunition, 57 mm rockets, 120 mm mortars, 89 mm rockets, electric blasting caps, detonation cord, 30 mm cannon parts, a Dragonov rifle, AK-47 assault rifles and several other small arms and light machine guns with ammunition.

"That was a pretty good haul for the day," said Moore. "[The raid] went extremely well. We found an extremely large weapons cache. All the units out there acted very professional."

"The Force Platoon is phenomenal," he added. "They are smooth, fast and know how to do business."

Moore also gave credit to the ING company. "The ING was very flexible and extremely motivated," he said. "They were about getting the job done and getting these weapons out of the hands of the enemy."

Once everything had been found, the EOD technicians consolidated the items and prepared them for demolition. With everything in place, the techs blew all the ammunition and explosives, creating a massive blast.

The ING and the MEU will continue to conduct raids in the area to uncover weapons and bomb-making material. Their work is part of an ongoing effort to take weapons and ammunition off the streets.

Thundering Third conducts 'clean sweep' near Fallujah

Story by Sgt. Jose E. Guillen

1st MARDIV Combat Correspondent

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq — The battalion known as the Thundering Third came down hard on enemy safe havens around Fallujah in their largest operation alongside Iraqi forces to date.

Third Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, alongside Iraqi Specialized Special Forces, conducted Operation Clean Sweep Aug. 23-24 in areas east of Fallujah.

The operation was designed to hinder enemy movement to and from the city and eliminate any possible safe havens in the vicinity.

"We're basically sweeping rural open areas because we're suspecting terrorists are transporting and selling weapons, shooting mortars and attacking our firm bases," explained Sgt. Edgar O. Payan, a platoon guide with Company K, 3/1.

"Terrorists are moving through areas like crop fields as they come and go out of Fallujah, so we're hoping we nab some suspects and find their weapons," added Payan, a 25-year-old from Pomona, Calif.

The 48-hour operation kicked off in the early hours of Aug. 23. By the end of the first day, Marines had arrested two suspects for stowing munitions in their homes.

Clean Sweep not only called for Marines to search homes for weapons, but to walk the land around the target areas, looking for anything out of the ordinary. The Marines were especially on the lookout for materials used to create improvised explosive devices.

"We found five caches of significance, which contained IED-making materials, propaganda material, many types of small arms, and even several sets of SCUBA gear buried in the ground," said Lt. Col. Willard A. Buhl, the battalion's commanding officer. "We also detained a number of suspected terrorists."

Payan gives much credit for the battalion's success to the younger Marines who have proved effective and eager.

"I'm glad we're doing this mission because I want to get these bastards," said Lance Cpl. Ryan M. Voeller, a 20-year-

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Cpl. Richard Gonzalez, an assaultman with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, makes his way through a corn field east of Fallujah, in search of hidden enemy munitions. The battalion conducted its largest combined operation to date Aug. 23-24, dubbed Operation Clean Sweep. Photo by Sgt. Jose E. Guillen

DoD directive guides Marines' political activity

Story by Cpl. T.D. Smith

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Two rules, stated in a recently updated directive, govern the political activities of all Department of Defense military personnel, both active and reserve, and civilian employees. Department of Defense Directive 1344.10, which was revised Aug. 2, governs the military and states what servicemembers are and are not allowed to do politically. It also details what regulations specifically address the military and other guidelines that pertain to civilian DoD personnel. The Hatch Act serves as the directive for federal, state and local government employees and those who work for federally funded agencies.

The DoD Directive 1344.10 states servicemembers are prohibited from engaging in certain political activities. Those actions include use of official authority or influence during elections, and making campaign contributions to an employee of the federal government.

According to the Legal Information Institute, the definition of an employee of the federal government is an officer or individual appointed by the president, members of congress, a servicemember or occupied in the performance of a federal function under authority of law or an executive act. This does not include elected officials, such as the president or a senator. Thus, both govern-

ment employees and military members are allowed to contribute to political campaigns of incumbents and current candidates.

Both civilian DoD employees and servicemembers are prohibited from soliciting funds, even in off-duty hours, and attending rallies in uniform.

The directives are not meant to discourage political involvement or activism.

"The bottom line is that the DoD regulations are designed to encourage servicemembers' free political expression, uncolored by command influence, while avoiding the appearance that an individual's political views reflect those of a larger service," said Lt. Col. Jon Reynolds, deputy staff judge advocate, Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 3, "all of which are designed to prevent the servicemember from becoming conflicted between the exercise of their rights under- versus the supporting and defending of- the Constitution."

The DoD directive and the Hatch Act state that military members and civilian employees are not allowed to run for partisan offices. That means any office that could have a party affiliation, but does not include those that are not a representative of any party, such as a school board or parent teacher association position.

"For those (military and civilian) thinking about running, they should go to their SJA (for military) and ethics council offices (for civilians) to answer questions about



Marines in uniform cannot attend political rallies or speak at political events, but bumper stickers on vehicles are authorized. Photo by Cpl. T.D. Smith

seeking a political office," said John Stimson, office of counsel, Commander Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area.

The DoD directive is not the only safeguard in place preventing military members from speaking their minds about elected officials. The Uniform Code of Military Justice also has Article 88 "contempt toward officials," which pertains directly to commissioned officers. It states, "Any commissioned officer who uses contemptuous words against the president, the vice president, congress, the secretary of a military department, the secretary of transportation, or the governor or legislature of any state, territory, commonwealth, or possession in which he is on duty or present shall be punished as a court-

martial may direct."

Information concerning specifics of what government employees can and cannot do politically may be overwhelming to some.

"The process of active participation has become so convoluted and conditional that it makes astrophysics look like finger painting," said Pfc. Tyler Voss, education office assistant, Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron.

For those, who are unclear or confused about the regulations, there is help.

"If someone has any questions, they can call the office of counsel. It is a free call," said Stimson. The number for the office of counsel is 577-1885.

Weather observers, forecasters foresee future

Story by Lance Cpl. Skye Jones

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Pilots must take several steps on the ground prior to stepping into an aircraft. The plane must have enough fuel, the parts need to be in operable condition and proper planning must take place.

However, all of the planning in the world would not make a difference if the weather does not provide for safe flying conditions, and without the meteorological and oceanographic shop here, the weather would be unforeseen, affecting the pilot's mission.

"We rely highly on them and need to know the weather conditions before we fly," said 1st Lt. Mark Jones, replacement pilot, Marine Fighter Attack Training Squadron 101. "You can't obtain information on the winds or any other circumstances without the weather observers and forecasters."

In order to make a difference in the Marine Corps' mission, a weather observer and future forecaster must go to a three month school at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss. There, servicemembers learn how to make weather observations, decode and encode weather messages, use the mandatory equipment and other essential skills necessary to do their job proficiently.

"This job requires a very high degree of responsibility," said Cpl. David L. Porter, weather observer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron. "If an airplane crashes, an investigation will be done to see how the accident occurred. If it crashed by running into lightning that we did not inform the pilot of, it would be our fault."

The meteorological and oceanographic shop works 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. There are usually three watches throughout the day, each consisting of one weather forecaster and a minimum of three weather observers.

The weather forecaster sends out a 24-hour forecast each day that predicts

any potential problems, like turbulence, rain, or thunderstorms that could impact the pilot's journey during flight.

Before a pilot takes off, the meteorological and oceanographic shop must be contacted. A flight plan will be sent via fax, which is like an itinerary that tells the forecaster when and where the pilot will be flying and other information about the flight.

"If my forecast said clear skies for example, and the pilot flew through thunderstorms, causing severe damage to the aircraft, I would be held accountable for providing the pilot with inaccurate results," said Staff Sgt. David L. Rose, weather forecaster, H&HS.

"However, you shouldn't be in this (job) position if you can't keep the pilots safe."

Weather forecasters must go through a nine month course in addition to the three month course in Biloxi.

"In order to get more highly trained Marines into the weather field, the Marine Corps is slowly phasing out weather observers in favor of a streamlined process," said Porter, a Big Bear Lake, Calif., native. "This is going to happen by sending Marines through a nine month school that will cover all of the basic weather knowledge skills, versus the three month course."

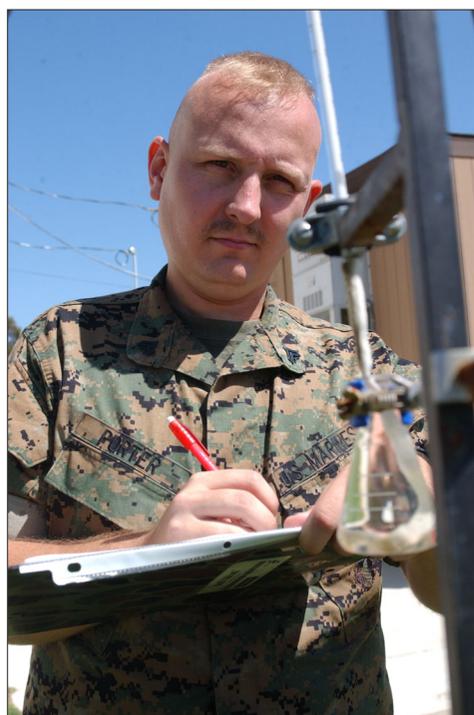
The weather observers' main mission is to provide accurate weather interpretations not only for the pilots and weather forecaster, but also for all of the personnel at the air station.

"We put different colored flags that let the personnel aboard the base know

the various types of weather conditions," explained Porter. "For instance, a Marine coming over from Japan might be used to hot and humid conditions, but over here it might be hot and dry. The flag lets them know the weather conditions so they can better acclimatize."

A green flag is raised when it is 80-84.99 degrees outside, meaning that someone who is not acclimatized can perform heavy exercise, but under supervision. A person not yet acclimatized should not perform strenuous exercises. A red flag is raised when temperatures rise between 88 and 89.99 degrees, meaning that personnel not living in the area for 12 weeks should

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Cpl. David L. Porter, weather observer, H&HS, checks the temperature on a wet bulb outside of Air Operations on the flight line. Weather observers help protect personnel at the air station, including pilots. Photo by Lance Cpl. Skye Jones

Corps creates potential new look for female Blues

Story by Cpl. T.D. Smith

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Lucy Brewer and Deborah Samson were dressed as men when they fought in battles during their military career. They were not permitted to enlist and fight as women. Eventually, women were permitted to join the uniformed services and that started an evolution in military women's uniform styles. For the women's Marine Blue Dress blouse, the style may be moving to closer resemble its male counterpart.

November's Commandant of the Marine Corps Women's Symposium, some Marines in attendance suggested a redesign to the female Blue Dress uniform. The idea was to alter the current uniform in such a way that it more closely resembles the male Blue Dress uniform. A survey was also posted on the Permanent Marine Corps Uniform Board's web site to gather opinions to help in the design process.

A few prototypes have been designed by the Marine Corps Systems Command Clothing Team and tested by a small number of female Marines. Some of the proposed Blue Dress blouse designs for female Marines and female officers feature a mandarin-style collar. It resembles the high-standing male collar, but has a "V" tapered cut in the front. The high collar would eliminate the need for a white shirt with a neck tab. The enlisted design sports the red piping trim, while the officer's does not. Some of the other proposed designs include a white belt and pockets.

"The white belt (prototype) wasn't very flattering to the feminine figure," said Col. Angie Salinas, assistant chief of staff of operations, Marine Corps Recruiting Command.

Salinas, who tested the prototypes added, "The newer prototypes (without the belts) have a longer, slimmer line and are not form fitting. They are more comfortable."

The high collar of the Blue Dress uniform dates back to the leather band Marines used to wear to protect their necks. This is where Marines got the nickname "Leatherneck."

"This (the female design) is something more historic," said Salinas. "The general public can immediately liken the new female design to its' male counterpart," she said.

Not everybody has been in favor of the change. Some felt it might be unfeminine.

"Though we are equal as Marines in our beloved Corps, we are not built identical. Certain feminine traits would be lost for the cause of uniformity if this uniform is approved," said Sgt. Sarah Ray, legal clerk, Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron. "I would urge those deciding the fate of all female Marines to consider that this uniform is worn for ceremonial occasions, such as the Marine Corps Ball. With this consideration, it is obvious that uniformity should sometimes be sacrificed for the beauty of diversity."

Initially, some of the Marines testing the new uniform were resistant to the change.

"Up front some (female Marines) were not supportive of the change, but once we got a chance to wear the new prototypes, we became the biggest advocates," said Salinas.

There are other supporters of the change who have



Col. Angie Salinas, assistant chief of staff of operations, Marine Corps Recruiting Command, wearing the Blue Dress prototype at her change of command. Photo by Cpl Christopher H. Fitzgerald

not worn the uniform, but have seen pictures of some prototypes.

"It's a step in the right direction. People are not always used to change. I don't know how others will like it, but just like the new cammies, when they came out, it was shot down by a lot of people," said Cpl. Dawnn Payne, military police patrolman, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron.

"Then, after they wore it and experienced how it feels, more and more Marines started to like it," she said.

"I like the uniform and would wear it, but I think it would look better if the collar was closed instead of the open slit it has," she added.

The change is not definite. "It is going through the uniform board and will then go to the commandant of the Marine Corps for a final decision," said Lou Cursio, clothing team leader, Marine Corps Systems Command.

Pistol and rifle ranges to be named after Marine hero

Story by Lance Cpl. Skye Jones

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

He was so feared that the North Vietnamese Army offered thousands of dollars for his death. He had 93 confirmed kills and holds the record for the longest distance sniper kill. At 2,500 yards, he successfully killed an enemy combatant with a .50-caliber Browning rifle.

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's rifle range on East Miramar will soon be named after Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Hathcock, one of the Marine Corps' finest snipers. A new pistol range, scheduled to be constructed, will also be named after Hathcock.

"I have a vision of a nice plaque with Hathcock's biography on it, showing everyone how important marksmanship training is," said Col. Sonny Liston, assistant chief of staff, operations, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area. "He started out like any Marine. He went through basic marksmanship training before he became a Vietnam sniper."

In March, a letter was sent to the commandant of the Marine Corps requesting permission to name the ranges.

The commandant gave permission to name the ranges as long as consent from the next of kin was given. Once the next of kin give their approval, the commanding general of the Marine Corps Education Command will be informed and the process will begin.

Once the process is complete, the

ranges will be named, and Marines will have something to think about while qualifying.

"I look up to Hathcock, and the range will help me remember him a lot more when it is renamed," said Sgt. Glennvanni Maiquez, power plants mechanic, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352. "I think this is very motivating. They definitely picked the right person to represent our range."

When Marines fire at the range, they could think about Hathcock and his achievements. Giving the rifle and pistol ranges a name after one of the Marine Corps' greatest heroes could help marksmanship scores.

"When Marines learn about heroes in boot camp it gives them motivation," explained Lt. Col. James Bishop, deputy assistant chief of staff, operations,



Shooters at the East Miramar pistol range fill their magazines with rounds during a practice fire. Marines will soon be shooting at Hathcock range, which is scheduled to be constructed in a few weeks. The rifle range will also be named after former Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Hathcock, one of the greatest snipers in the Marine Corps. Photo by Lance Cpl. Skye Jones

MCABWA. "Naming the ranges after one of these heroes will hopefully get Marines to put a greater effort into marksmanship training."

Bishop went on to say that along with a new name, the range could help develop a new sense of pride.

"I would be very proud to shoot at the range. Hathcock is a very motivating role model for me," said Lance Cpl. William Hargesheimer, military policeman, Marine Wing Support Squadron 373. "The new name will help Marines remember that if Hathcock can do it, so can they."



Lance Cpl. Lisa Brubaker, combat lithographer, Combat Visual Information Center, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, prepares a military teaching manual using a heavy-duty stapler. Photo by Sgt. J.L. Zimmer III

Marines practice art of reproduction

Story by Sgt. J.L. Zimmer III

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Reproducing at a rapid rate with customer satisfaction as their number one priority is what the Marines and one civilian from reproduction, Combat Visual Information Center, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, are motivated to do everyday.

According to Staff Sgt. Demond Mapp, CVIC staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, the section is here to assist all units with their need of mass-produced paperwork.

"Our main mission is to support any unit on this base," said Mapp, a 28-year-old New York City native. "We print (event) programs, change of command pamphlets, technical manuals,

maps and forms for the medical clinic and the provost marshal's office."

Mapp added that one benefit of the station's reproduction section is the services come at no cost for material or labor.

"Some of the units do not know what we do here so they go to (Marine Corps Community Services) and pay for it," he said. "We don't charge anything because we get our money from our budget."

One of the largest projects the section works on is the upcoming Marine Corps birthday celebration during which they produce more products than other events combined.

"During the ball season we usually print around 5,000 (total) programs for the entire base," said Mike Keller, reproduction supervisor. "We will do about

1,500 for the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and H&HS, and around 500 for (each) of the individual units."

Keller, a 41-year veteran of reproduction, said his staff can produce large or small orders, but preparing the product is the most time consuming.

"Once we get something in here quantity is not an issue, it's getting the job ready (for print)," he added. "We work side by side with the graphics section of CVIC to help with our mission."

Cpl. Monica R. Sanchez, graphic illustrator, CVIC, said the role her military occupational specialty plays in supporting reproduction comes from the illustrator's roots in reproduction.

"Reproduction is our actual MOS but we are cross trained into graphics," she said. "I was in repro before coming to graphics and I have learned a lot from both jobs."

Mapp added that no matter what time of day a job must be done, customers only need to inform reproduction what they need and when they need it.

"Even when we are not here, we can keep the machines running," he said. "If needed, we can be here on the weekend or late at night. It's not unusual for us to work an 18 hour day."

Lance Cpl. Lisa C. Brubaker, combat lithographer, CVIC, said her customers' satisfaction is the most important part of her job.

"I try to put out the best product I can for my customers," she said. "If I mess up something or if it's not perfect, my customer will walk away unhappy."

Brubaker added that not only is her job important because it saves units money but they also reproduce mission essential handbooks for deploying units.

"Without my MOS, certain Marines would not have the necessary training manuals to accomplish their mission," she said. "There is also a need for us supporting the troops on the front lines with the materials they need when they need them."

WEATHER

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halt all physical training. If a black flag is raised, all personnel should cease strenuous activity, unless the mission is indispensable.

A weather observer determines the temperature with a variety of tools outside of the air operations building. He or she will go out at least once every hour to get a temperature for the air station.

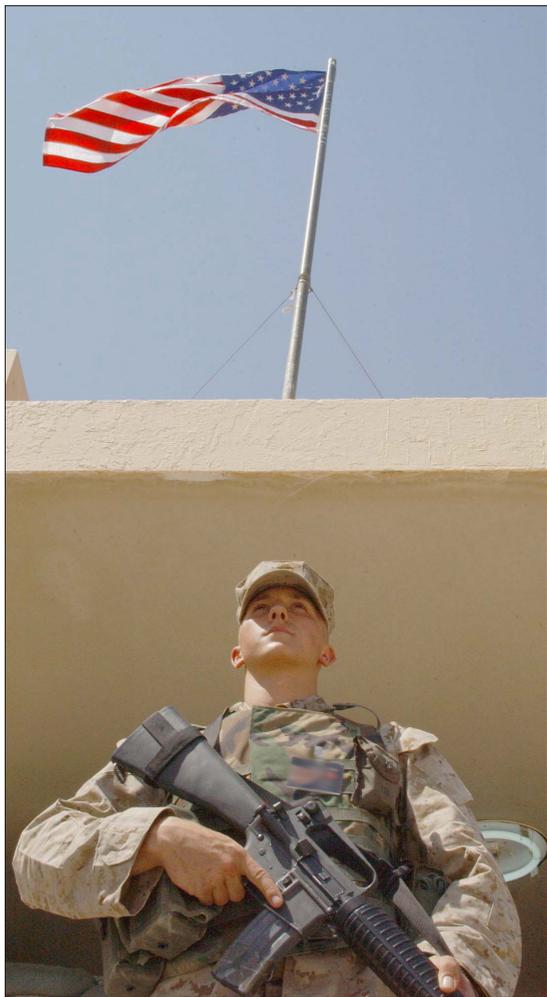
The observer will check the wet and dry bulb thermometers and the globe temperature. All three of these devices give off a different temperature. For example, the globe thermometer is black, so it absorbs all of the incoming radiation from outside.

However, the dry bulb thermometer only calculates the outside air temperature, because it is located in a thermal screen that is painted white, to reflect heat.

After the temperature is determined, each result is multiplied by a different number. The three ending values are then added up to come up with a physical temperature and a temperature that shows what it feels like outside.

Once the temperatures are calculated, they will be annotated in the computer where the air traffic control tower can look up the data for that day.

"Weather changes daily. It has its own mind and it will do what it wants to do," said Porter. "Our job is to forecast those changes so it doesn't come as a surprise to the pilots and will help prevent accidents."



A job like no other...

Photo by Cpl. Paul Leicht

MWHS-3 Combat Correspondent

AL ASAD, Iraq — Armed with an M16A2 service rifle and body armor, Lance Cpl. Kristopher A. Ivanov stands tall behind a small, green-maze wall of worn and dusty sandbags.

At this fortified 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing headquarters building, the outpost is the front line of the war on terror in the western Iraqi desert.

He could be preparing to begin another new semester amidst the temperate halls of a college like many his age back home. Instead, he chose to be a Marine.

The 20-year-old Gilbert, Ariz., native said he takes being a Marine very seriously. While serving in Iraq, he is ready for anything.

SWEEP

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old rifleman with Company K.

“We’ve been doing really good because so far we’ve found a bunch of weapons the enemy can’t use anymore,” added Voeller, from Sinclair, Minn.

Buhl noted the teamwork between his troops and the Iraqi forces conducting Operation Clean Sweep.

“Our Iraqi partners were up front developing the tactical situation for their Marine counterparts,” explained Buhl. “Their ability to gain intelligence on suspected enemy caches was invaluable and continued to build

trust between our two fighting organizations. I expect our capabilities to increase commensurately,” Buhl added.

Buhl, along with Sgt. Maj. Edward T. Sax, battalion sergeant major, took time after the operation to praise the Marines for a job well done.

“Our Marines and Sailors performed at the ‘Three-One Standard,’ accomplishing the mission above expectations,” said Buhl, 41, of Los Gratos, Calif.

“Sergeant Major Sax and I couldn’t be more proud of them, as should our families and friends back home - we’re doing great things for our nation, the Marine Corps and the Iraqi people,” said Buhl.

Miramar Movies

The Station Auditorium is located in building 2242, and will be featuring the following movies free of charge. Outside food and drinks are not permitted. For more information contact 577-4143 or log on to www.mccsmiramar.com.

Today:

4:30 p.m. I, Robot (PG-13)
6:30 p.m. The Bourne Supremacy (PG-13)
8:45 p.m. Catwoman (PG-13)

Saturday:

1 p.m. I, Robot (PG-13)
6:30 p.m. Catwoman (PG-13)
8:45 p.m. Anchorman(PG)

Sunday:

1 p.m. Anchorman(PG)
6:30 p.m. King Arthur (PG-13)

Wednesday:

6:30 p.m. The Manchurian Candidate (R)

Thursday:

2 p.m. Thunderbirds (PG)
6:30 p.m. Harold & Kumar go to White Castle (R)

Presentations and time subject to change.

POW/MIA Memorial

The Mission Valley Veterans of Foreign Wars Post and Auxiliary #3787 will host a POW/MIA memorial program Sept. 19 at 2 p.m. at 4370 Twain Ave.

This year Dr. Lester Tenney, former POW who survived the Bataan Death March, will be the guest speaker.

For more information contact Alice B. Tanner at (858) 569-6507.

Religious Services

The Chaplain's Office is located in building 5632 and coordinates regularly-scheduled worship services. For the location and meeting schedules of religious activities contact the Chaplain's Office at 577-1333.

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Protestant worship service
11 a.m. Roman Catholic Eucharist

Wednesday:

7 p.m. Baptist service

Monday-Friday:

11:30 a.m. Roman Catholic Daily Mass

Jewish:

7 p.m. First Friday of the month MCRD
7:30 p.m. Last Friday at Edson Range Chapel

3rd MAW OIF book

Marine Corps Association bookstores will soon carry an exclusive new title detailing the exploits of 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Third Marine Aircraft Wing: Operation Iraqi Freedom" follows the journey of 3rd MAW in support of I Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces in liberating Iraq and toppling Saddam Hussein during OIF. The book is a testament to the Marines' well-proven, colorful battle history.

The cost of the book is \$34 for members and \$36 for non-members.

Marines can visit the MCA Bookstore located at Camp Pendleton's Main Exchange, Building T1100 on Vandegrift Ave., or call 888-237-7683 to order a copy.

Fire Awareness

The Cleveland National Forest has implemented a new Fire Danger Awareness System for residents and visitors. Residents and visitors can now call (619) 563-2183 or log on to www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland to find out current fire danger levels before visiting the Cleveland National Forest. The Forest Service is asking all visitors to check prior to visitng, as the fire level will determine what activities will be allowed in the forest.

Links Meeting

There will be a LINKS Session Sept. 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the LINKS House in building 2273.

To register call 577-4810.

Impounded Vehicles

The following vehicles have been impounded and need to be claimed by the owners. Towing fees average \$113, storage fees \$28 daily. For more information contact the Provost Marshal's Office at 577-1461.

Vehicle:	License:	Date:	Stored at:
Red 1998 Dodge Stratus	AZ/220DVX	Aug. 12	Road One Towing
Yellow 1984 Subaru 4dr	KS/UBK534	Aug. 16	Road One Towing
Red 1997 Saturn SL	IA/594HQW	Aug. 16	Road One Towing
Grey 1987 Toyota Corolla	TX/D43KSG	Aug. 24	Road One Towing
White 1986 Oldsmobile 88	WA/013GVM	Aug. 26	Road One Towing
Red 1987 VW Cabriolet	CA/5CSE674	Aug. 26	Road One Towing