

THE CONTINENTAL MARINE

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF MARINE FORCES RESERVE

JULY/AUG/SEPT 2009

4th LAR TOW
missile shoot

“Lionesses” on the
prowl at Mojave Viper

Leathernecks lend helping
hand in the “Land of the
Midnight Sun”

Coming Home

*>Join the Marines of LF CARAT for
their final exercise before coming home*

It doesn't seem like it should be fall already. As we dive into this issue, we see the wrap up of the summer training schedules and begin to look ahead to what comes next.

Two groups of Marines travel through the icy tundra of Alaska. One is there to receive training and the other is there to build up the community.

The Marines from LF CARAT wrap up their time overseas in Brunei, having established good relationships between the Marine Corps and the military of several countries.

Finally we follow Marines into the Mojave Desert as they prepare for deployment to Iraq, from firing TOW missiles to female Marines getting a new opportunity on the battlefield.

We hope you enjoy this edition of your magazine.

*Semper Fi,
Lance Cpl. Michael Laycock
Print Editor, Continental Marine Magazine*



Cover Photo: Marines from 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, move across a bamboo bridge in the Malaysian tropical jungle, on their way to receive instruction on jungle survival from soldiers of the 8th Royal Ranger Regiment during their first day of training. The jungle survival class is part of Exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2009.

(Photo By Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac)

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Sergeant Major, Marine Forces Reserve

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Combat Correspondent

Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac

Editor/Combat Correspondent

Lance Cpl. Michael Laycock

Combat Correspondent

Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman

Combat Correspondent

Lance Cpl. Lucas Vega

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U.S. Marines with 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment and Indonesian Marines with 2nd Indonesian Marine Infantry Battalion conduct a joint patrol during a point-man course. The course was conducted as part of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Indonesia 2009.

Photo By Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac



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These stories and more available at
www.mfr.usmc.mil

In Brief

Celebrating the accomplishments of our Marines



Marine earns athleticism award

Sgt. Lisa Rosborough has been selected as the U.S. Marine Corps Female Athlete of the Year for 2008. Rosborough, a public affairs chief at Marine Aircraft Group 41 (Fort Worth, Texas), captured All-American honors for her accomplishments during the 2008 season. Rosborough won the USA Track and Field Southwestern Association Masters (100m and 200m) and the Texas State Masters (100m and 200m) championships, and was a member of the North Central America and Caribbean World Team (4x100m relay) Championship team in 2008. By the end of the season, Rosborough was ranked 37th in the world among top master-level sprinters (35-39 age group) and attained national rankings in the 100m (5th) and 200m (4th). Rosborough volunteers as a track and field coach in the Fort Worth area and is an active member of the Women's Sports Foundation □

Marines honored at award ceremony

Leathernecks from Marine Forces Reserve received an "Asante salute" in an auditorium filled to nearly full capacity during the second annual Asante Awards Ceremony July 1, at the Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts, in New Orleans. □



Gentry named MarForRes Reservist of the Year

This year's MarForRes Reservist of the Year often shows up at work early and stays late. He sometimes volunteers to come in on weekends to make sure that the peacetime-wartime support team (PWST) work gets done at Mobilization Command's operations department in Kansas City, Mo.



The PWST Marines facilitate daily operations and administrative functions at reserve sites across the country while the bulk of the sites' Marines and Sailors are deployed or mobilized elsewhere.

Staff Sgt. Charles Gentry explained that his dedication stems from a 2005 raid in Iraq that sent him back stateside with an injured hand, shrapnel in his shoulder and a new perspective on life. □

Marines assist local charity in building homes

Marine Forces Reserve and volunteers from Catholic Charities put the finishing touches on newly built homes throughout the city September 8-11 in areas recovering from Hurricane Katrina, a hurricane that struck New Orleans more than four years ago.

The Marines and local volunteers from 'Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans', spent numerous hours in conditions including rain, humidity and the bayou sun to complete their task. □





New GI Bill renews commitment to troops, Obama says

GERRY GILMORE

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama today saluted the implementation of the Post-9/11 GI Bill during a ceremony at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

Signed into law on June 20, 2008, the new GI Bill is a Department of Veteran Affairs-sponsored program that provides the most comprehensive educational benefit package for veterans since the original GI Bill -- the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 -- was authorized toward the end of World War II.

Today's new GI Bill, Obama said, was implemented "to renew our commitment to ensure that the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States of America get the opportunities that they have earned."

Obama observed that his grandfather, who served under Army Gen. George S. Patton during World War II, was a beneficiary of the original 1944 to 1956 GI Bill, which helped to produce a strong post-war economy, as well as the largest middle class in U.S. history. By 1947, Obama noted, half of all Americans enrolled in colleges were military veterans.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is just as important as the original, Obama said, as it also recognizes servicemembers for their wartime service and represents "an investment in our own country."

"Education is the currency that can purchase success in the 21st century," the president said, "and this is the opportunity that our troops have earned."

With the Post-9/11 GI Bill, qualified active-duty and selected reserve service members who have served after Sept. 10, 2001, are eligible for 36 months of state-school educational benefits -- the equivalent of four nine-month academic years. Benefits include tuition and fees that are paid directly to the school, a monthly living allowance paid to the participant, and a books and supplies stipend paid to the individual.

And as of Aug. 1, qualified career servicemembers have the option to transfer benefits to their spouses or children. Most servicemembers who have at least six years of military service and are in the armed forces on or after Aug. 1 and agree to serve an additional four years qualify to transfer their benefits.

"We are including the family members who have sacrificed so much by allowing the transfer of unused benefits to family members," Obama said. "And we are including those who pay the ultimate price by making this benefit available to the children of those who lost their life in service to their country."

Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric K. Shinseki, who also spoke at the ceremony, exhorted Post-9/11 GI Bill participants to "make it count; make it count for all of us. Make it count for our country."

Shinseki observed that more than 1,100 private educational institutions have elected to participate in the supplemental Yellow Ribbon Program that permits eligible servicemembers and veterans to attend private colleges and universities whose costs exceed the highest in-state rates at public undergraduate institutions.

Under the Yellow Ribbon Program, VA "will match whatever is contributed by those private colleges and universities, up to 50 percent of those total costs," Shinseki said. "We are grateful that so many schools have joined this effort and we thank them for their support of our veterans."

Former Marine Staff Sgt. James Miller, an Iraqi war veteran who introduced Obama at the ceremony, is taking Shinseki's advice. Miller has enrolled as a full-time student at George Mason University under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. He is pursuing a bachelor's degree in business communications.

"Thanks to the Post-9/11 GI Bill, the young veterans of the wars in the Middle East are united here," Miller said. "We have come to gain new skills and to learn new subjects. We are here to pursue educational goals that will prepare us for success in our professional careers." □

Garrett takes charge of 4th Marine Logistics Group

CPL. ZACHARY BOLDEN
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

Major Gen. (sel.) Tracy L. Garrett assumed command of the 4th Marine Logistics Group from Maj. Gen. Darrell L. Moore during a change of command ceremony aboard Naval Support Activity New Orleans on Sept. 13.

“I am so excited about the wealth of knowledge and experience General Garrett brings to the MLG,” said Moore. “It makes me proud to hand over the reigns of an operationally ready combat service support group to someone so qualified.”

The change of command marks a historic moment for the 4th MLG, as Garrett is the first woman to ever be appointed as the commanding general for the unit.

“It has been a lifetime goal of mine to command the 4th MLG,” said Garrett. “I look forward to the challenges that are associated with this billet and the opportunity to face them with the best of my ability.”

Garrett received her commission in the Marine Corps in June 1978. Her previous assignment was commander of both U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Africa. A command which she handed over to Brig. Gen. Paul W. Brier during a ceremony in Panzer Kaserne, Germany on Sept. 10.

The commander of Marine Forces Reserve, Lt. Gen. Jack W. Bergman, praised the work of the outgoing 4th MLG commander during a speech to the crowd.

“Today is a great day. Even though Darrell is

giving up command, he can look back on two years of accomplishments,” said Bergman.

Bergman’s tone became noticeably heartfelt as he shifted his gaze directly at Moore.

“Darrell, I can’t thank you enough for all of your proactive leadership...like the commandant said, ‘Job well done!’”



Photo By Lance Cpl. Natasha Combs

Major Gen. (sel.) Tracy L. Garrett assumed command of the 4th Marine Logistics Group from Maj. Gen. Darrell L. Moore during a change of command ceremony aboard Naval Support Activity New Orleans on Sept. 13. Garrett, who most recently served as Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Africa, became the first woman to be appointed as 4th MLG’s Commanding General.

Moore assumed command of 4th MLG in August 2007. For his next assignment, Moore has been selected to serve as the Deputy Commanding General for Mobilization, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, headquartered in Quantico, Va.

The Marines and sailors of the 4th MLG provide a full range of critical combat service support needed to keep Marine Forces Reserve units combat ready. The command is comprised of more than 10,000 Marines and Sailors in more than 60 locations across the United States, with more than 150 military occupational specialties

represented.

Currently, 4th MLG is fully engaged in support of overseas contingency operations. More than 1,600 4th MLG Marines and Sailors are currently mobilized in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. □

Marine Forces Reserve Band Celebrates the “Spirit of Rebirth” in New Orleans

LANCE CPL. LUCAS VEGA
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

More than a thousand New Orleans residents and tourists gathered at St. Louis Cathedral in Jackson Square Aug. 30 to watch the MarForRes band perform various musical pieces, including a premier composition by well-known composer, Robert W. Smith

The performance, entitled “New Orleans: The Spirit of Rebirth,” paid tribute to the people of New Orleans, while celebrating the rebirth and recovery from Hurricane Katrina, a natural disaster which devastated the city in 2005.

“Having the opportunity to premier an original musical composition is not common,” said Master Sgt. Kevin Hunter, the MFR bandmaster. “Each Marine in the unit understands the historical significance of being the first ensemble to play a new piece of music.”

The concert included an original piece by Robert W. Smith, an American composer who was in attendance and who spoke shortly before the performance’s finale.

“I can’t tell you what an honor it is to be in this cathedral, with these musicians, in the city of New Orleans,” said Smith. “It means so much.”

His newer compositions, such as “Promising Skies,” highlighted the other patriotic favorites performed by the MarForRes band, composed of 55 professional Marine musicians.

The event also marked the last performance for Chief Warrant Officer Michael Smith, band officer, who has been leading the band in their tours around the nation since 2004.

“None of you (the audience) would know my name if it wasn’t for the MFR Band,” said Smith.

Before the conclusion, Smith shared a few remarks about his time with the band, specifically, this performance.

“We wanted to do something with our hearts,” said Smith, when speaking about commemorating Hurricane Katrina. “That something was music.” □



Photo By Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman



Photo By Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman

Marines bridge two communities in Alaska

SGT. LUKE JOHNSON
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

The Marines of 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, 4th Marine Division finished constructing a pioneer road in early August to connect two remote fishing villages in the Alaskan Peninsula.

The Chignik Route Reconnaissance Project connected the villages of Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon, which are located on the south shore of the Alaskan Peninsula, approximately 450 miles southwest of Anchorage.

Prior to this summer's project, citizens from the villages could only reach each other from the air or sea, unless they trekked the dense forest on foot or blazed trails in all-terrain vehicles.

The construction project, which had been in progress since June 1, called for the leathernecks to build a 12.1-mile road over the harsh terrain and through very difficult weather.

The two communities lie on the coastline of the Chignik River and Lagoon, and each stretches for a little more than a mile along the coast. Both are shadowed by densely-forested mountainous terrain.

Most supplies have historically been delivered to Chignik Lagoon, the more accessible of the two towns, via skiff or shallow-

draft barge. Chignik Lake gets supplies delivered to it in a similar manner, though a skiff would have to wait until the tide was right to make the trek up the Chignik River.

"The logistics for the operation were the biggest problem," said Capt. Andrew Frick, the 4th CEB's project manager and combat engineer from Columbus, Ohio.

"We are 450 miles from Anchorage with only a short gravel runway," explained Frick. "A single propeller plane is all you can get here. We had to get creative to get our gear here."

The project is sponsored by the Denali Commission, a federal entity whose task is to accelerate the health and safety of citizens in rural Alaska. They worked in close partnership with the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Innovative Readiness Training Program.

The Marines of 4th CEB took a team approach to building the road. One group of Marines and Sailors started at Chignik Lake, while the other began at Chignik Lagoon. The two groups then cleared the route and performed a survey on the area until they reached Mallard Duck Bay, where the road came together.

Both groups shared difficulties. The Chignik Lake side had to clear out more miles of terrain, while the Lagoon side had to level more rugged, undulating path.

Sgt. Jeffrey H. Meighen, a heavy equipment mechanic,



Photo By Sgt. Luke Johnson

Sgt. Jeffrey Meighen performs woodworking for a resident of Chignik Lagoon as part of his unit's community outreach efforts here. The Marines and Sailors of 4th Combat Engineer Battalion focused on this mission after completing the Chignik Route Reconnaissance Project, a 12.1-mile road between two rural Alaskan villages.

surveyor and combat engineer operations chief with the battalion, saw the entire project unfold. He cited terrain and wildlife as the main obstacles he and his Marines had to overcome.

Meighen recalled a time early in the project when the Chignik Lagoon team encountered six Pacific Brown Bears before they even got started on the day's work.

"We were assigned a bear guard to watch us while we did our work," recalled Meighen, who is a land surveyor, from Harwood, Md. in his civilian life. "We had one really awful day with bears. Literally, by the time we got to work, we only had three (shotgun shells) left to protect us."

Meighen explained that they did not actually shoot at the animals, but fired up into the air to scare them off.

Because 4th CEB is a reserve unit headquartered in Washington, D.C., groups of the reserve combat engineers rotated in and out of the Chignik area for two week stints as part of their annual training. Some of the Marines, such as Meighen, stayed considerably longer.

"Bringing in a new group of Marines to accomplish the mission every two weeks was a challenge," said Meighen, who served on "permanent party" for the entire operation. "But it ended up working out in the long run. The new Marines had to be trained on some of the unique skills they had to use up here, but they accomplished the mission."



Photo By Sgt. Luke Johnson

Lance Cpl. Brent Uhler rides a skiff up the Chignik River on the way to Chignik Lake. Uhler, the survey chief for the operation, said the pioneer road "will help the people in the Chignik area increase inter-village relations, transport goods and allow the local schools to compete against each other in sports."

Meighen, who deployed to Iraq in 2005, drew parallels between what he experienced as a civil affairs Marine in rural Al Anbar Province and the remote location in Alaska this summer, without any amenities and resupply many hours away.

Just as Meighen had been involved with civil affair projects in Iraq, his team in Alaska looked for opportunities to use their individual expertise to lend a hand to the community.

Toward the end of the project, Meighen, who is also a full-time mechanic in his civilian career, assisted local residents in repairing their cars, trucks and boats.

"The last group we had up here really reaped the benefits of all the hard work by everybody. We finished the project early and they got to enjoy the area. . . . We didn't really believe that we'd get this mission accomplished in 90 days, but we did," concluded Meighen.

Another civil project the Marines and Sailors completed was a refurbishment of a fence around a public park in Chignik Lagoon.

"The fence was maybe built a quarter of the way around the park," said Frick. "Marines got their metal detectors out and found the majority of the pieces to the fence to erect it again. It keeps cars and ATVs out of the park, and the children safe. . . . Marines don't always have the satisfaction of seeing the results of their work, but here they see the effect on the community."

Robert Tomlinson, the partial owner of a lodge at Chignik Lake which was used to house many of the Marines and Sailors, enjoyed the opportunity to have service members in his town. Tomlinson described how the presence of Marines was not only a financial boon to the local economy, but it gave the citizens an appreciation for who the Marines are and the work they are doing as service members.

"It has been interesting watching the young guys coming through here and seeing that it has been a very new experience," said Tomlinson. "It's been great. It has been an honor and a pleasure working with these guys."

Frick agreed the work done in the Chignik area was beneficial to both the service members and the local populace.

"All the images that they see on the news are of us out there fighting," said Frick. "But for them to get to know us, see us working every day, conducting ourselves in a professional manner, it helps them and it helps us understand why we are doing what we are doing here." □

From the Lenses of Combat Camera





MarForRes Combat Camera is designed to be a rapidly-deployable visual Force asset. Its mission of planning and executing the operational imagery documentation of force deployment and activities before, during and after military engagements, operations and emergency actions is instrumental the success of our missions and historical archives. MarForRes Combat Camera is available to support Force units participating in local, national and international exercises and operations. Requests for exercise support should be submitted through the MarForRes G-3.

Baltimore reserve center a different shade of “green”

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL LAYCOCK
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

Baltimore - Marines with 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, 4th Marine Division, Baltimore, are going for a different kind of “green.” Their reserve center is currently under renovations to achieve not only a more efficient working environment, but an environmentally friendly one as well.

The reserve center, which was built in the 1950’s, had not been renovated in approximately 20 years. When time came to give the center a facelift, Capt. Charles Baker, project manager, facilities, Marine Forces Reserve, and Maj. Matthew Breen, Supply Officer, 4th CEB, decided that the project should also take a turn towards being more

energy efficient. They set their sights on a receiving a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certified status.

LEED is a rating system designed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). It rates all buildings according to five standards: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, indoor environment quality and innovation and design process. There are a total of 57 possible points in the LEED system, and it offers four levels of qualification: certified, silver, gold and platinum.

The Marines and contractors realized as the design went on that the project would receive almost enough points to reach the next tier of the rating system. They compared the cost versus benefit and decided it was worth pushing forward and making subsequent changes to obtain silver LEED status.

“LEED silver is what we are mandated to achieve in all of our new construction,” said Col. William Davis, assistant chief of staff, facilities, MFR. “Since we are doing such a major renovation of this location, we wanted to try and achieve the same level.”

The project was halfway complete when the Commandant of the Marine Corps and Secretary of the Navy came together for the Marine Corps energy summit last August. During the summit, both the Commandant and the Secretary spoke of the Marine Corps leading the way in energy efficiency, a goal MFR facilities has been pursuing for over a year now, according to Davis.

“This is the direction the commandant wants to go in,” said Navy CAPT. Tony Ermovick, facilities branch director, Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington D.C. “The Marine Corps is striving to be the leader in renewable energy.”

Ermovick visited the site with Davis and Baker to see the progress and talk with the construction crews and LEED representatives. Ermovick was very interested in the project, constantly asking questions about what had been done here.

“I think many people are surprised at how forward leaning MFR has been,” said Davis. “We have been working hard on this area for over two years now. What you see coming to fruition is the result of these preparations and there are going to be plenty of projects coming soon.”

For more information on LEED visit www.usgbc.org. □



Photo By Lance Cpl. Michael Laycock

Ron Poole, a contractor with Tuckman-Barbee construction in Maryland, guides (from left) Navy CAPT. Tony Ermovick, facilities branch director, Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington D.C., Marine Col. William Davis, assistant chief of staff, facilities, Marine Forces Reserve, and Marine Capt. Charles Baker, project manager, facilities, Marine Forces Reserve, to the construction site for the renovations being done to the reserve center in Baltimore. The reserve center is being renovated to become more energy efficient.

U.S. Marines of from 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment say goodbye to Royal Brunei Land Forces, after a week of jungle training with Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Brunei 2009. CARAT is an annual series of bilateral training exercises between six partner countries of Southeast Asia region and U.S. forces designed to strengthen relationships and enhance the operational readiness of the participating forces.



Photo By Cpl. Dustin Schalue

Brunei exercise brings LF CARAT to a close

CPL. TYLER J. HLAVAC
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

After three months of training with foreign militaries in Southeast Asia's most challenging jungle environments, U.S. Marines from 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment applied their skills and experiences in a final live-fire and maneuver exercise as part of exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Brunei 2009.

In their traditional role as the landing force for CARAT, the Marines embarked aboard the dock landing ship USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49). They completed various combined arms, live-fire and maneuver training exercises, as well as jungle training packages and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) exercises, with the armed forces of the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Brunei.

For CARAT Brunei, the Marines trained alongside the Royal Brunei Land Force's 2nd Infantry Battalion from Aug. 4-9.

They gained valuable jungle warfare skills from their

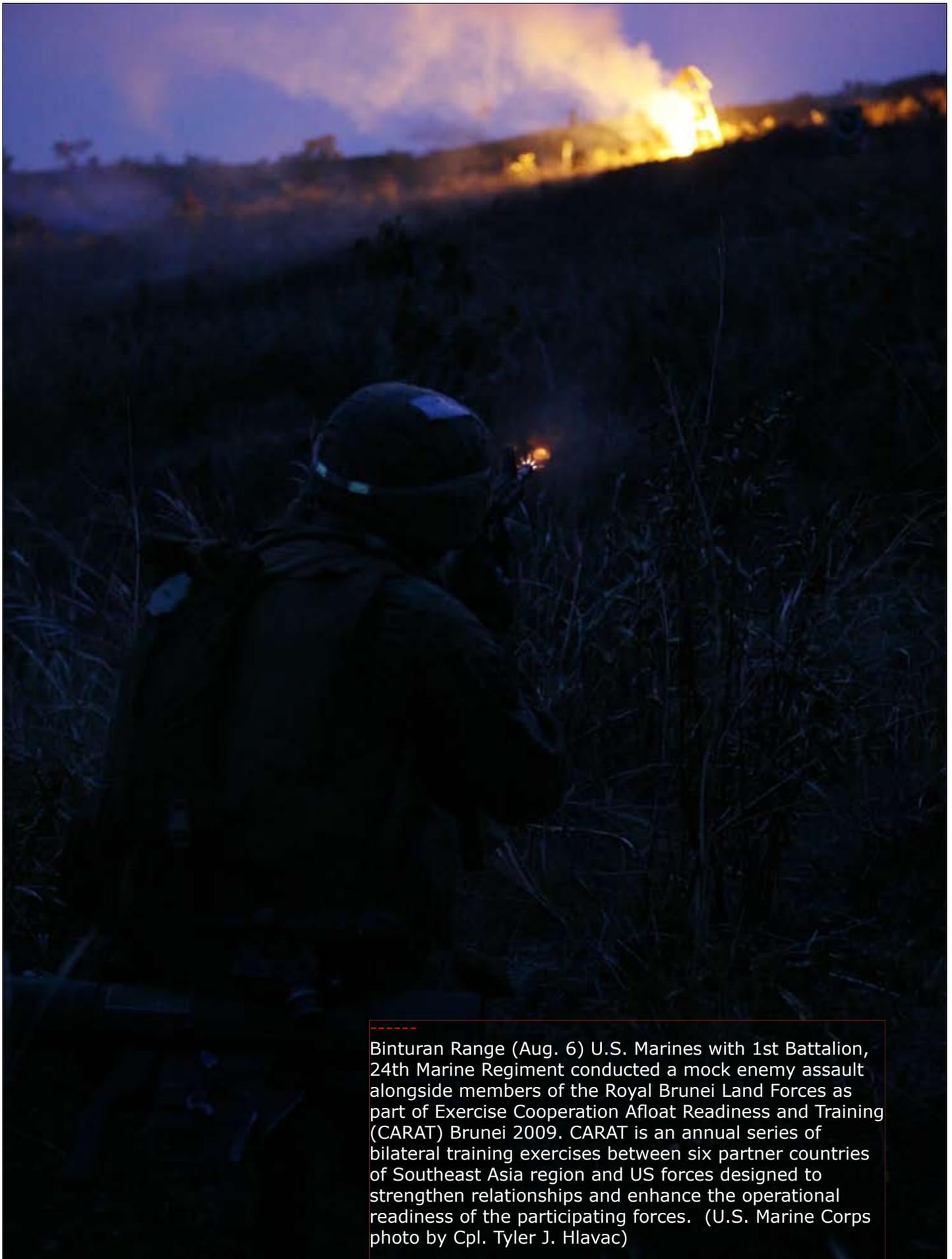
host nation counterparts, while at the same time sharing experiences learned in Iraq and Afghanistan with their hosts through platform instruction and hands-on training.

To accomplish their overall training objectives, the Marines split into two groups, with 1st Platoon heading to the Royal Brunei Armed Forces' Tutong Training Area Aug. 5-7 for jungle warfare training.

The main event of the training for 1st Platoon Marines was a 9-kilometer jungle patrol conducted alongside members of the RBLF. During the patrol, the Marines found themselves struggling to overcome what many considered to be the harshest jungle they had ever experienced during CARAT.

"The patrol was really rough," said Cpl. Victor Quintana, a fire team leader assigned to one of the squads in the platoon. "The jungle was extremely hot and humid, and was made of ankle-deep muddy swamps and numerous hills. It marked the hardest training event we had done during the entire exercise."

(see "Exercise" Page 15)



Binturan Range (Aug. 6) U.S. Marines with 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment conducted a mock enemy assault alongside members of the Royal Brunei Land Forces as part of Exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Brunei 2009. CARAT is an annual series of bilateral training exercises between six partner countries of Southeast Asia region and US forces designed to strengthen relationships and enhance the operational readiness of the participating forces. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac)

(Continued from Page 13)

After the patrol, the platoon spent the rest of their time in the jungle learning how to build patrol bases and how to find food and build snares and traps.

Meanwhile, the rest of the landing force moved to the RBAF's Binturan Range, where they completed several live-fire shoots and a HADR scenario alongside their Brunei counterparts from Aug. 6-9.

While at the range, the two groups fired a variety of weapons, including assault rifles and medium machine guns and indirect and direct heavy weapon systems. Additionally, the Marines also had the opportunity to fire the 83 mm shoulder-fired multipurpose assault weapon (SMAW) for the first time, with inert practice rounds followed by high explosive (HE) rounds.

Both Marines and the RBLF spent the first three days learning the basics of each other's weapons, exchanging martial arts techniques and conducting several practice bilateral weapons shoots and maneuver of forces.

The field evolution concluded with a joint live-fire mock assault on an enemy position Aug. 9. The initial phase of the assault concluded when the Marines launched several of their SMAW rockets on a mock enemy position.

After the volley of rockets, the Marines then proceeded to move on the enemy position, unleashing thousands of assault rounds and occasional grenades that provided for a realistic training experience for the Marines and RBLF soldiers.

"It was great to see all of our training come together and to see tracers and rounds flying everywhere," said Cpl. Scott Hawley, a fire-team leader with 1st Battalion, 24th

Marines. "The anticipation we built during the dry runs made the payoff so much better."

After the assault, the Marines and RBLF soldiers wrapped up the field exercise with a brief closing ceremony, exchanging commemorative plaques with their individual unit logos.

After the ceremony, Royal Brunei Land Forces Lt. Col. Hamed Khairul, the commanding officer of 2nd Battalion, commented on the training between the armed forces, sharing sentiments held by many of the foreign commanders and troops the Marines had trained with during CARAT.

"This was the first time the soldiers here had trained with the U.S. Marines, and it was an eye-opening experience for them," Hamed said. "At first, we ran into issues with the barriers of language and different operational experiences, but we overcome them during the practice training. Our two forces exchanged much knowledge during our bilateral training and built camaraderie together. The soldiers here look forward to training with the U.S.

Marines again in the future."

CARAT, which first began in 1995, is an annual series of bilateral maritime training exercises between the United States forces and Southeast Asian nations designed to enhance the operational readiness of the participating forces and improve relationships. □



Photo By Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac

U.S. Marine Sgt. Garrett Mason, an infantry squad leader with Landing Force Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) shows off a scorpion found and caught in the living area of one of his Marines. Mason was one of over 200 U.S. Marines and Malaysian Rangers from the 8th Royal Ranger Regiment who participated in the four-day jungle exercise Wira Eagle, conducted under CARAT 2009.



Indonesian Marines with 2nd Indonesian Marine Infantry Battalion and U.S. Marines with 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment practice joint room clearing techniques during Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Indonesia 2009. CARAT is a series of bilateral exercises held annually in Southeast Asia to strengthen relationships and enhance the operational readiness of the participating forces.

(Photo By Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac)



Marine Reservists band ammunition during their two-week annual training at Crane Army Ammunition Activity this summer under the watchful eye of Army civilians. The leathernecks are a part of an ammunition company with the 4th Supply Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group out of Greenville, S.C.



Official U.S. Army Photo

Ammo Techs cross train with Crane Army hosts

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CRANE ARMY AMMUNITION ACTIVITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Crane Army Ammunition Activity traditionally hosts Army Reservists who want to hone their ammunition handling skills, but this summer it also added Marine Corps Reservists from South Carolina to its growing list of units that wish to train here.

Sixteen Marine Corps Reservists, broken into two groups of eight, from Greenville, S.C., enjoyed a unique opportunity to improve their knowledge and skills with ammunition handling while learning more about the shipping and storing processes involved.

The benefits to the Marines, according to CAAA Marine Corps Ammunition Liaison Officer Gunnery Sgt. Wilson Hatter, are easy to understand. He said, “They received some new techniques and a better understanding of the

packaging, inspection, preparation for shipment and inventories that should be conducted with ammunition. This should produce properly packaged, shipped, accurate inventories, and properly sentenced ammunition field return/retrograde being returned to storage resulting in less discrepancies reports being submitted and less work reconfiguring, sorting, re-unitizing and reclassification of assets before they are returned to storage.”

The Marines had a military occupational specialty of 2311 (Ammunition Technicians), allowing them to work and receive hands-on training and knowledge in their MOS at the depot operation level during their annual training.

With such benefits, Hatter expressed hope that the training might become an annual event. He said, “Conducting this training at Crane or any of the other major ammunition depots or naval weapons stations could provide the Marine Corps Reserve community additional

knowledge, techniques and a better overall understanding of ammunition in general which could be applied while in an active duty status conducting ammunition operations while deployed or in CONUS.”

One of the biggest benefits of the training that the Marine’s stated was the chance to understand the entire process of ammunition handling both to and from operational units.

“This broadens the spectrum and it will hopefully help them here at Crane by us seeing both sides of the process. By us knowing where it comes from and why they ask us to do certain things with the ammunition on our end before we send it out,” Marine Sgt. Erica Solak said.

Solak, who was the team leader of the first group, added, “It is really a chance to understand what happens to the old stuff once it is beat up, busted down and needs to be recycled. I know a lot of times CAAA needs us to ship things back in a certain fashion. Understanding what they need from us and why is a huge deal – why we have to band things in a certain way and why it is so structured. Understanding why something might seem so minute to us is a big deal here because of safety.”

Echoing those comments, Marine Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Hurley, the team leader of the second group, said, “The exercise provided the opportunity to see the big picture of how ammunition goes from point A to point B and

beyond.”

The second group of Marines also had the opportunity to work with Army Reservists who were also training at Crane as part of the three-week, national level exercise Golden Cargo.

“These [Soldiers] know what they’re doing,” said Marine Lance Cpl. Mark Comer, an ammunition technician who works as a software trainer in Greenville. “This is my first time training with soldiers ... I feel fortunate to be here.”

The training was requested and proposed by Marine Capt. Ronald Stout, Inspector-Instructor, Ammunition Company, 4th Supply Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, who was a liaison at NSWC Crane and also worked with CAAA. His first-hand knowledge of the capabilities and scope of the ammunition operation conducted at Crane helped him to understand why this training evolution would be beneficial for both the Army and Marines.

CAAA was established in October 1977 and is a tenant of the Navy Region Midwest, Naval Support Activity Crane. The Army activity maintains ordnance professionals and infrastructure to receive, store, ship, produce, renovate and demilitarize conventional ammunition, missiles and related components. □



Photo by Army Staff Sgt. W. Watson Martin

Lance Cpl. Mark Comer, Marine Ammunition Company, Greenville, S.C., helps Soldiers of the 163rd Ordnance Company, Irvine, Calif., during Golden Cargo 2009.

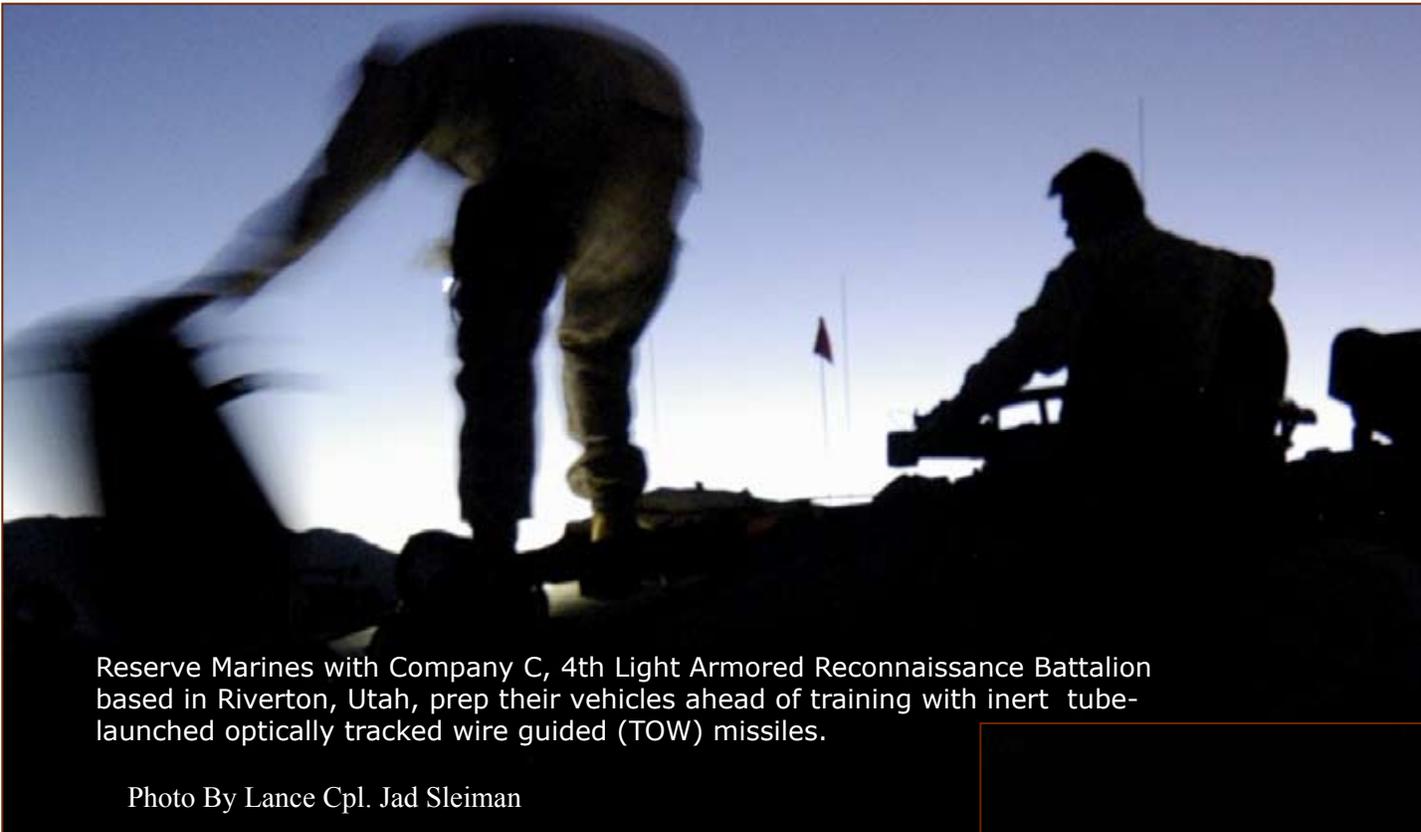
FIRE IN THE HOLE!

LAR Marines unleash with TOW missiles

**Both coasts join forces to put
rounds on target with TOW
missile training in California.**



Photo By Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman



Reserve Marines with Company C, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion based in Riverton, Utah, prep their vehicles ahead of training with inert tube-launched optically tracked wire guided (TOW) missiles.

Photo By Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman

LANCE CPL. JAD SLEIMAN
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - Marines from Company A, 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division headquartered at Camp Lejeune joined Camp Pendleton based 4th LAR, 4th Marine Division Reserve Marines in TOW missile training.

The Marines fired 32 tube-launched, optically tracked, wire-guided (TOW) missiles with inert payloads from their anti-tank light armored vehicles ahead of their Enhanced Mojave Viper Training evolution.

The Marines are slated for a fall deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

TOW missiles, effective on hard targets and vehicles up to three miles away, give Marines the ability to guide deadly payload to the enemy.

“If you fire on a moving vehicle as long as you keep sights on the vehicle, the TOW will follow,” explained range safety officer Staff Sgt. Scott A. Bullock of Company A, 2nd LAR.

Firing so many missiles helped the Marines, who are slated to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom later this fall, get combat ready, said the Cordele, Ga., native.

“This builds proficiency and confidence in the weapons system itself so they won’t have to second guess their skills or the machinery,” explained Bullock. “They get so much trigger time here that when they get out there it’s going to be second nature.” □





Photo By Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman



Photo By Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman

(Bottom) Sgt. William Black, a Provo, Utah native and reserve light armored vehicle commander with Company C, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, based in Riverton, Utah, tracks a tube-launched optically tracked wire guided (TOW) missile during training with inert missiles.

(Top) Sgt. Jeremiah Clarke, a light armored vehicle anti-tank gunner with Company C, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion based in Riverton, Utah, steadies a stack of six tube-launched optically tracked wire guided (TOW) missiles ahead of training with inert ordnance.

Lionesses pounce on unique training



Photo By Cpl. Johnathan Herring

Lance Cpl. Amy I. Cain, a Lioness attached to 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division inspects a woman at a check point before allowing her to return to her village during Clear Hold Build training exercise Aug. 20. The Lionesses are the first to train with an infantry battalion prior to a deployment to a combat zone. The Battalion completed Enhanced Mojave Viper, mandatory training for all Marine units deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan in support of Operations Iraqi or Enduring Freedom.

CPL. JOHNATHAN HERRING MARINE FORCE RESERVE

CAMP WILSON, MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - Since Opha Mae Johnson joined the Marine Corps, women have been making their mark on leatherneck history. The women of today's Marine Corps are no different.

The women Marines of 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, made history by becoming the first women in the Marine Corps to be assigned to

and train with an infantry battalion prior to a combat deployment. They attended Enhanced Mojave Viper, required training for all deploying units in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

The Lionesses are called such because they are training directly with the line companies. Their mission, in addition to their daily jobs, was to oversee the communication with and handling of any Iraqi female civilians, insurgents or detainees.

“Given cultural sensitivities and the place of women in the Arab society, it would be improper for male Marines

to have direct contact with female Iraqi citizens,” said Capt. Vincent A. Knapp, commanding officer, Headquarters and Service Company, 3/24. “In some cases, eye contact could be considered disrespectful.”

“So what we have are female Marines that have direct contact, whether it be speaking or direct physical contact for searching or to provide medical care,” continued Knapp, a 36 year-old from Meadville, Pa. “We have to respect the cultural differences of the Iraqis.”

In the jungles and open plains of Africa, the lions lounge around in the shade of trees while the lionesses hunt for the food. The Marines have always had their lions do the hunting while the lionesses held a supporting role. Although the women Marines of 3/24 still hold supporting roles, they are now being allowed closer to the front lines than ever before.

“Women Marines before us were always told to stay in the rear and support the ground elements,” said Sgt. Theresa Richards, a field wireman and the Lioness platoon sergeant. “All of that changed March 19, 2003, when women started crossing the line of departure into Iraq for the invasion.”

Richards was in Iraq for the official invasion in 2003. She returned for another seven months in 2004, and is now training for her third Iraq deployment.

“On my first deployments, I was attached to the 1st Marine Division Communications Company, doing my original job,” explained Richards. “On this deployment, I was told I was getting attached to an infantry battalion. I said ‘that doesn’t happen!’ In the history of the Marine Corps, females have never been attached to an infantry battalion, so what I am trying to say is I am getting to do what most females are told we aren’t allowed to do.”

Richards leads the pack of nine Lionesses, all aware of the historical significance, not to mention the importance, of their roles on this deployment.

“We’re glad to be here,” said Cpl. Kelli N. Heskett, a mobile multi-channel equipment operator and a lioness squad leader from Lancaster, Ohio. “It’s a huge opportunity to be the first females ever attached to an infantry battalion. We can be a huge asset, but our abilities extend only as far as the Marines want to use them. They’re new to females being attached to grunts.”

Despite the historical significance, the Lionesses know



Photo By Cpl. Johnathan Herring

Lance Cpl. Alison M. Quinn, one of nine Lionesses attached to 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division walks a woman playing the role of a villager to an inspection area where another Lioness will check her for contraband during Clear Hold Build training exercise Aug. 20. The Lionesses are the first to train with an infantry battalion prior to a deployment to a combat zone. The Battalion completed Enhanced Mojave Viper, mandatory training for all Marine units deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan in support of Operations Iraqi or Enduring Freedom.

they have a job to do, an all too important one.

“I think working with the line companies has been a new experience on both sides of the fence,” said Lance Cpl. Amy I. Cain, a field wireman and a lioness. “We feel very grateful to have the privilege to receive the training prior to entering the country. I just want to make sure our boys are safer. The more trained we are, the safer they’ll be.” □

Marines conduct training in arctic summer



Photo By Cpl. Frans Labranche

Marines with 6th Engineer Support Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, lay construction mats that allow work to be done on spongy, thawing permafrost Aug. 17. The mats are being laid for a base camp which the Innovative Readiness Training operation which will see the town of Newtok moved eight miles up the Ninglick River. Newtok's current coastline is eroding the town's land at more than 60 feet a year causing concern that, without the move, the village could be destroyed.

CPL. FRANS LABRANCHE MARINE FORCES RESERVE

NEWTOK, Alaska - Imagine being a resident of a small village in rural Alaska watching your home and village being washed away.

"With little hope, scarce funding and few resources, the residents of Newtok Alaska have had few places to turn for help," said Lt. Col. William Morgan, the 4th Marine Logistics Group deputy G-3 for operations. "Fortunately, for those local residents, the U.S. Military IRT (Innovative Readiness Training) program is providing relief."

The Marines of 6th Engineer Support Battalion, 4th MLG, are assisting state and federal agencies in this mammoth infrastructure engineering project to move the town of Newtok eight miles up the Ninglick River.

Essentially, this combined effort will save the town from

falling into the Pacific Ocean, as every year more than 60 feet of the town's coast erodes into the river and the ocean, leaving only 300 feet remaining between the coast and the nearest building.

The sheer size and scope of the project is daunting, but the Marines, along with their counterparts from other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, are part of a larger team of skilled engineers, geologists and construction specialists.

The project is being undertaken by the Innovative Readiness Training Program, which combines the needs of communities with the training needs of the U.S. military.

In addition to Marine Forces Reserve participation in this Newtok project, U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force units are lending a hand, as well.

"The Navy-Marine Corps team worked out well," said Senior Chief Petty Officer Tom Tringham, a 33-year

veteran of the Navy Reserve, who recently retired from his civilian job as a vocational instructor at the California State Prison in El Centro, Calif. He served as the liaison between the Marine Corps and Navy for this project and visited the site over the summer to check up on his Sailors.

“The Marines’ logistics and planning were very well organized,” said Tringham. “Their equipment was superbly maintained. The project is going to go really well with the joint environment and all the expertise from the different branches. The Army, for example, did a fantastic job with the LCU barges to transport the heavy equipment all the way from Tacoma, Washington, across the Bering Sea. The Air Force provided medical support and did surveying. We (Navy) provided boat coxswains, medical personnel, and mechanics. We also worked with the Marines to erect the base camp at Mertarvik. All combined, it worked out great.”

This is Tringham’s tenth IRT project. He explained that this type of work is great training for reservists from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, who rely on their annual summer training to stay sharp in their military occupational specialties.

“We frequently speak about joint operations, but this gives us a chance to practice them,” said Maj. Gen. Darrell Moore, who has commanded the 4th MLG since August 2007. An attorney in Northeast Oklahoma in his civilian life, Moore has served 18 of his 33 years in the corps as a reservist.

The natives of Newtok and government officials from the state of Alaska expressed their appreciation of the troops’ efforts.

“We’re incredibly grateful for the IRT program and the aid that the Marines are giving,” said Gov. Sean R. Parnell, the governor of Alaska. “This program is allowing us to do what could not be done without it; relocate Newtok.”

Romy Cadiente is the Newtok village mechanic, planner and “Mr. Fix-it.” He understands the importance of this project from a grass-roots perspective.

“The new village will be very much better. The ground there has rock beneath it and we will still be near the water,” said Cadiente. “We can only say thank you, thank you, thank you to the Marines.”

Living near the water is very important for the villagers, whose subsistence living is intricately tied to the local natural resources. Their livelihood depends on catching salmon in the freshwater streams and hunting moose in the forest to stock up on meats to get their families through Alaska’s long winters.

The town is currently located on the western coast of Alaska’s Bethel County. Over the next five years, it will be moved eight miles away to Nelson Island in an area called “Mertarvik.” The three houses standing in Mertarvik

are currently the only evidence of human habitation in the town.

“Mertarvik was selected by Newtok and approved as their new site through a land swap deal with the U.S. Department of Interior and signed into law by the U.S. Congress in the mid-1990’s” explained Morgan. “It was selected because it is higher ground and would be a suitable site for the village to relocate; close enough to be practical, but far enough away to provide ‘good ground.’”

Using large plastic Lego-like pieces, the reservists lay this innovative material down, turning spongy, thawing permafrost into suitable ground for driving construction equipment.

By the end of the summer, the IRT completed the infrastructure for what will be the base of operations in Mertarvik in the coming years. This includes weather-safe storage of vital equipment which will be used when the work resumes next summer.

Projects in the coming years include construction of roads, a storm-safe evacuation center, rock quarries and eventually an airfield outside of Mertarvik. □

We can only say
thank you, thank
you, thank you to
the Marines....

Romy Cadiente,
Newtok village mechanic, planner
and “Mr. Fix-it.”

3/24 completes Clear, Hold, Build training

CPL. JOHNATHAN HERRING
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - Leathernecks with 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division completed their second and third phases of Clear, Hold, Build training here on Aug. 27.

The Marines were here for Enhanced Mojave Viper, mandatory training for all Marine units deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. The Marines of 3/24 are headed to Iraq this fall and the training is designed to prepare them for situations they may encounter while on deployment, based on the experiences of OIF and OEF veterans.

“CHB was real challenging,” said Capt. Patrick K. Temple, the Company K commander. “It really resurrects the mind-set of the 3-block war, where it goes from very kinetic fighting and transitions to community building.

“We’re training for worst case scenarios at Mojave Viper,” said Temple, a 34-year-old Lafayette, Ind., native. “It’s not really related to the mission we’ve been assigned, but it makes certain that we’re ready for contingencies, should things worsen over there.”

After CHB-1, where the Marines learned how to clear,

hold and build a town on the platoon level, they were able to take a couple of days of rest back at Camp Wilson. CHB-2 and CHB-3 went practically back-to-back, with the Marines only getting one day of rest, if that. This is done to test the stress levels of the command.

“It’s a high op-tempo, high stress environment where they split A and B commands,” said Sgt. Maj. Steven C.

Peck, the 3/24 sergeant major. “What that does is test your ability to plan concurrently. So while you’re doing one mission, you should be planning the next one.

“In a perfect world, you’d only be running one mission,” said Peck, a Colorado Springs, native. “In the real world, you’re always having multiple missions. You must be able to do concurrent planning in order to be successful.”

With little time off and fighting fatigue and extreme heat, the Marines were able to complete all their missions successfully.

“We were tasked with setting a defensive perimeter,” said Staff

Sgt. Bart A. Cole, 2nd platoon sergeant for Co. K, 3/24. “Once that was established, we did a raid on a high-value target. We established entry control points for male and female foot traffic and a vehicle entry point as well.”

Cole said that the training was good because it taught the younger Marines how their little pieces of the puzzle make the whole.

“I have a lot of junior Marines,” said Cole, a 30 year-



Photo By Johnathan Herring

Marines with 1st Platoon, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division board a CH-46 helicopter headed towards range 210A at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Aug. 19. They are preparing to clear a village as part of Clear Hold Build exercise for Enhanced Mojave Viper, mandatory training for all Marine units deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan in support of Operations Iraqi or Enduring Freedom.

old police officer with the Purdue University Police in Michigantown, Ind.. “This training teaches them how important each individual’s job is.”

Whether it be assaulting an enemy position or standing radio watch, each Marine has a job to do that is just as important as the next. These Devil Dogs have to make daily decisions that effect peoples lives. That is why they train so hard.

The training covers everything from going door to door in search of the enemy to handing out candy to little kids.

“I think this training is useful,” said Pfc. Mathew L. Sebastian, a rifleman with Co. K, 3/24. “I learned how to clear a village or town as a company, how to hold it, setting up defenses, and how to rebuild the city.

“I joined the Marines because it’s always been a dream of mine,” said 19 year-old Sebastian. “I wanted to help people. I think that no matter what you’re doing over there, you’re helping out.”

Although they know they have a job to do and much more training left, the Marines are eager to finish up here, but they know that they can’t become complacent. Temple says they may be the last Marine infantry battalion to be sent to Iraq, reserve or active duty, and the enemy can use that to their advantage.

“We obviously want to take this seriously,” said Temple. “It’s not hard to see what propaganda value the enemy can gain from bloodying our nose on the way out the door of Iraq with the World Wide Web as their recruiting tool.”

With the Iraqi government and security forces becoming more independent of the U.S. Military everyday and whether 3/24 is the last Marine infantry battalion to go to Iraq or not, the Leathernecks with 3/24 are training to expect the worst.

With their EMV training coming to an end, the Marines are confident they will do their job effectively and efficiently and the senior leadership is praising their junior Marines.

“America says that it’s proud of their son’s and daughters,” said Cole. “If they actually saw what these young Marines were doing, they would redefine the word proud. They stand out amongst their peers.” □



Photo By Cpl. Johnathan Herring

From left to right, Cpl. Joseph Lemonds, an infantryman with 3rd Platoon, Company I, 3/24, Cpl. Paul M. Gerhardt, a machine gunner with Weapons Plt., Co. I, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Arnold R. Ambati, a corpsman also with 3rd Plt., stand watch during the Hold process of Clear Hold Build exercise Aug. 19, on Range 210A at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. The Marines were undergoing enhanced mojavie viper in preperation for an upcoming deployment to Iraq.

War zone gumshoes

LANCE CPL. JAD SLEIMAN
MARINE FORCES RESERVE

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - The Marines of 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 4th Marine Division, were trained to be professional war fighters, but thanks to their tactical site exploitation training they may some day serve as battle field detectives.

Several dozen 4th LAR Marines met with civilian law enforcement professionals and the Enhanced Mojave Viper Tactical Training Exercise Control Group Sept. 12 to train in TSE, a type of battlefield investigation, as part of their pre-deployment training program. The unit is slated for a fall deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Marines of 4th LAR have the distinction of being part of the first reserve Marine battalion to deploy to Afghanistan.

“The insurgency is operating like a criminal organization, just like police are used to dealing with,”

explained Pat Garrahan, a veteran of the Oakland, Calif. Police Department who will deploy with 4th LAR as a law enforcement professional, helping the Marines use police investigative skills to help shape the operating environment.

The Marines sat through classes and conducted practical application training with biometric technology and tactical questioning techniques before testing their skills on Arabic-speaking role players, many of whom hid weapons throughout the simulated battlefield environment.

Aaron Ridge, a biometrics trainer with TTECG, taught the Marines to collect fingerprints and other biometrics information from locals at the scene of bombings or firefights within the scenario. Fingerprints found on bombs and bullet casings, he said, could be used to identify insurgents hiding amongst a civilian populace and take them out of the fight.

“They want to hide, fine, we’ll try a little harder to find them,” he told the Marines, highlighting the importance of their new training.

The Marines were also trained in tactical questioning:

Lance Cpl. Nick Dolphin a rifleman with 4th LAR and a Philadelphia native, questions the head of a household role player during tactical site exploitation training.



Photo By Lance Cpl. Jad Sleiman

the method of interviewing potential suspects or witnesses of insurgent activity that involves asking open-ended questions and repeating queries in the hopes of catching an insurgent in a lie.

“It’s not like we have to get into a gun fight to get someone to surrender,” said Philadelphia native and rifleman, Lance Cpl. Nick Dolphin.

Dolphin took the lead in interviewing the native Pashtu-speaking role player whose home his team was searching. Throughout their search, the Marines found various explosives and weapons while Dolphin convinced the man of the house to come with the Marines without firing a shot.

Garrahan and Nick Hatzgionidis, another LEP who is also a senior police officer with the East Jefferson Police Department in New Orleans, followed the Marines through their search, offering hints and chiding Marines who failed to spot heavily concealed weapon hiding spaces.

“For the military this is something new,” explained Hatzgionidis, who will also deploy with 4th LAR. “For us, we’ve been doing it on the streets of America on a day-to-

day basis.”

As America’s enemies abroad became less and less distinguishable from the civilian populace around them, military leaders noticed the need to bring in the accumulated knowledge of America’s police forces to aid service members on the battlefield, the LEPs explained.

“We were asking them to do a lot of cop stuff where they didn’t really have a foundation,” said Garrahan, who added that LEPs such as himself became common place amongst America’s military forces starting around 2007.

Finding weapons, bombs and the insurgents who use them against U.S. forces is only part of the battle, added Hatzgionidis. Accordingly, the Marines’ police-inspired training is designed to help build bonds with the civilians whose trust they must secure.

“It’s all part of the mission; meet and greet people and start processing information,” he explained. Hatzgionidis added that for the Marines of 4th LAR, community policing will go hand-in-hand with winning hearts and minds of the people they interact with in Afghanistan. □



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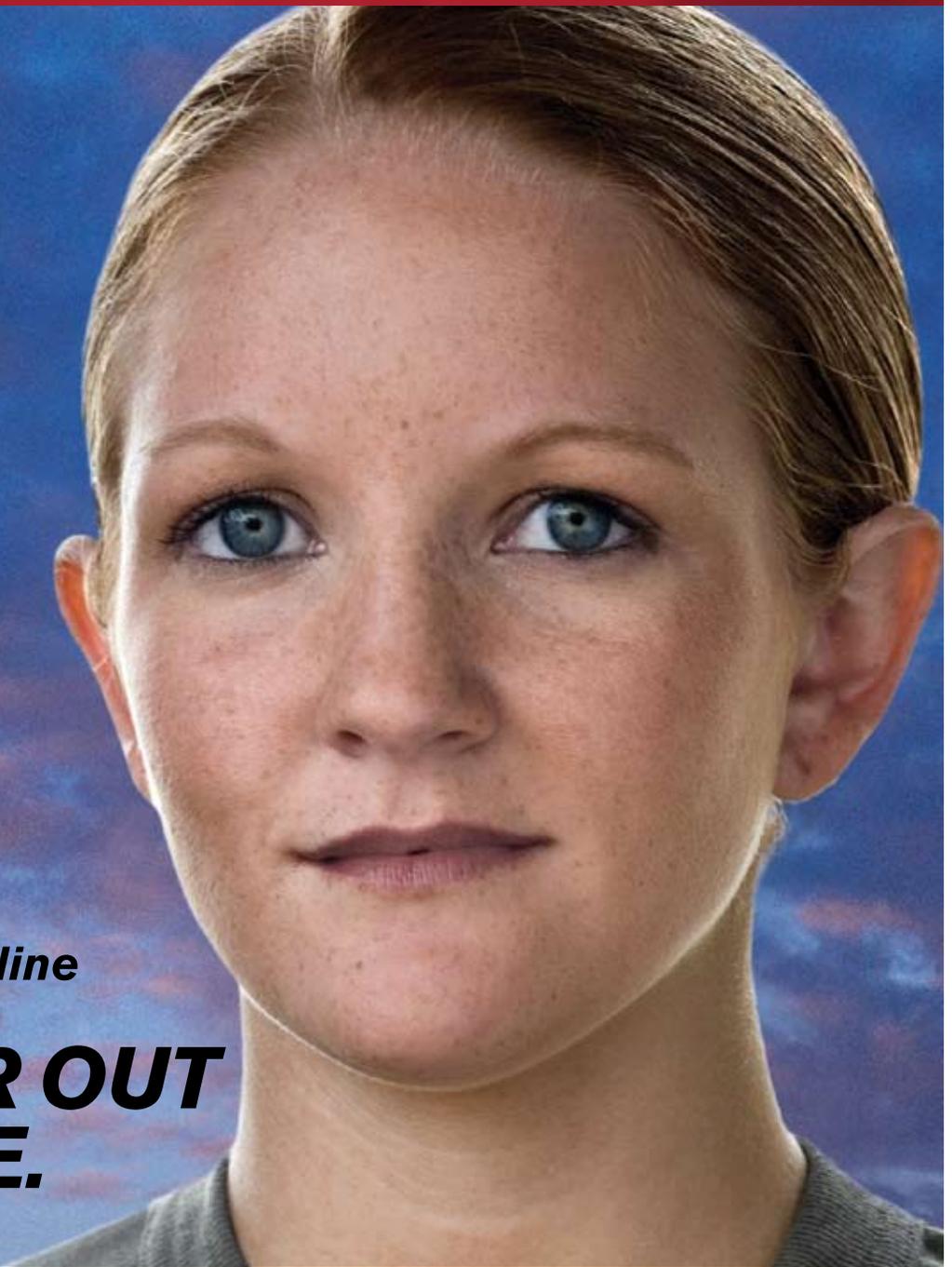
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