

Hawaii Marine

‘LIONS’ RECOVER DOWNED CH-53D



Lance Cpl. Tyler L. Main | Hawaii Marine
Sailors from Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 1, Company 15, move away from the CH-53D Sea Stallion that went down in Kaneohe Bay as another CH-53D from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 lifts it back to Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay April 8. See *RECOVERY*, A 4-5

Marine turned astronaut visits base

Lance Cpl. Vanessa M. American Horse
Combat Correspondent

Story Musgrave, a Marine sergeant who served in the 1950's, made an appearance at Marine Corps Base Hawaii Theater Monday. Musgrave has had an astonishing life with several career paths including NASA astronaut, surgeon, Marine and all-around go-getter when it comes to accomplishing his goals.

"I started off as a farm boy and I'll never forget who I was or where I came from," Musgrave said. "I always tell people to follow their passions and do what they're naturally good at."

Musgrave left high school at age 17 before graduating to join the Marine Corps in 1953. He served as an aviation electrician, instrument technician, and as an aircraft crew chief while completing duty assignments in South Korea, Japan, and here at what was at the time Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay. Over the next 55 years, he accumulated more than 18,000 flight hours in more than 160 types of aircraft.

Today as a public speaker, he teaches his philosophy of

See ASTRONAUT, A-7

1/3 Lava Dogs leave for Afghanistan deployment

Cpl. Reece E. Lodder
Combat Correspondent

In the shadows past dim parking lot lights outside the Marine Corps Exchange Annex Wednesday, approximately 300 Marines and sailors with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, joked and laughed as they loaded rows of green and brown deployment bags into semi trucks.

They were the first group of approximately 1,000 Marines and sailors from 1/3 to leave Hawaii for a seven-month deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The remainder of the battalion will say goodbye to their loved ones over the next few days.

"Our mission is to partner with the Afghan National Security Forces and conduct counterinsurgency operations in Garmsir, focusing on protecting the population, defeating the insurgents, and developing the ANSF and Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, in order to set the condition for



Cpl. Reece E. Lodder | Hawaii Marine
Marines and sailors with Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, load their bags onto trucks at the Marine Corps Exchange Annex parking lot before departing Wednesday on a seven-month deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Approximately 1,000 Marine and sailors from 1/3 will join Regimental Combat Team 1 only 10 months after returning from a deployment to Helmand province's Nawa District.

stabilization, and transition to the host nation government and security," Lt. Col. Sean Riordan, 1/3's commanding officer, said.

The battalion will join Regimental Combat Team 1, based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., only 10 months after returning from a deployment to Helmand province's Nawa District in support of RCT-7. Contrasting their last deployment, 1/3's area of operation will shift further south into the province's Garmsir District, where they will replace 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment.

"In Nawa, there might have been an air of 'been there, done that,' but in Garmsir, we don't have that," Maj. Thomas Grace, 1/3's battalion operations officer, said. "None of our Marines or the battalion leadership has been there, so it's new ground for everyone across the board."

Upon returning to Hawaii from

See LAVA DOGS, A-7

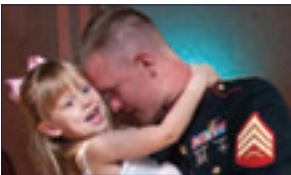
Eriksson takes post as new base sergeant major

Sgt Maj. Robert E. Eriksson, incoming sergeant major for Marine Corps Base Hawaii, receives a noncommissioned officers' sword from Col. Jeffrey R. Woods, base commander, at a post and relief and retirement ceremony at Dewey Square on April 8. Eriksson is replacing Sgt. Maj. James W. Sutton, who retired at the ceremony after 30 years of service.



Cpl. Reece E. Lodder | Hawaii Marine

Inside today's Hawaii Marine



Daddy dance!
Hundreds of young ladies danced the night away at the annual ASYMCA Father-Daughter dance, **C-4**



Grow your garden!
Learn how to inexpensively grow edible and decorative plants at home, **C-1**

Weekend Forecast

Saturday

High — 81
Low — 72

Sunday

High — 81
Low — 72

NEWS BRIEFS

Lanikai Triathlon road closures

The base’s Mokapu Gate will be closed to vehicle traffic on Sunday from 5:30 a.m. to noon for the Lanikai Triathlon. Please use the H-3 Gate during those hours to access the base.

Campion Drive at Middaugh Street and Irwin Street at Harris Avenue will also be closed and residents are asked to use Harris Avenue for base housing access.

The race route includes Daly Road and Harris Avenue and drivers on base are urged to exercise caution and expect minor traffic delays. Bicyclists will be riding with traffic on these roads.

Call the Military Police traffic section at 257-6987 for more details.

Power outages scheduled April 19 and May 3

There will be a power outage on base April 19 and May 3 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. The affected buildings numbers are: 092, 1033, 1034, 1043, 1044, 1074, 1086, 1089, 1199, 1528, 1655, 1656, 1675, 4014, 4015, 4028, 4030, 4052, 5099, 7000, 7001, 7002, 7003, 7004, 7005, 7006, 7007.

Call Lyle Fong at 257-6899 for more details.

IPAC services limited, DEERS closed during power outages

The Installation Personnel Administration Center and the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System identification office will experience a power outage April 19 and May 3.

IPAC will have limited services and DEERS will be closed on those days.

Joint Services Advanced Rider Track Day

There will be a Advanced Motorcycle Operator School “AMOS” Joint Services Advanced Rider Motorcycle Track Day Tuesday and Wednesday at the USCG Air Station, Barbers Point. Sessions on both days are from 7:30-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Base service members may obtain a registration form at <http://www.mcbh.usmc.mil/safety/motorcycle.htm> or at Building 279. Only 10 active duty personnel from MCB Hawaii per session are allowed and registration for all interested participants is required.

Call Mario di Prete at 257-1830 for information.

MMSB/MMPR to visit Camp Smith and MCB Hawaii April 25

The Headquarters Marine Corps Manpower Management Support Branch and Promotions Promotion Branch teams will visit Camp H.M. Smith and Marine Corps Base Hawaii April 25 to provide professional military education.

The briefs will be from 8:30-11 a.m. at the Camp Smith’s Pollock Theater and 2:30-4:30 p.m. at the MCB Hawaii theater. The target audience for the briefs are enlisted Marines from sergeant and above, all Marine officers and civilian equivalents.

The points of contact for MarForPac are Tanisha Cook at 477-8465 or Staff Sgt. Anthony L. Fultz at 477-8403. For MCB Hawaii, contact Amy Madsen, 257-8866 or the base adjutant’s office.

DSTRESS Line

The DSTRESS Line is the Corps’ main effort to help Marines and family members deal with stress and mental health issues. DSTRESS Line gives Marines — active duty, reserve, veteran and retiree, as well as their families and loved ones — a place to call and speak with “one of their own.”

Callers will speak with veteran Marines, former corpsmen, and other licensed behavioral health counselors who have been specifically trained in Marine Corps culture and ethos. Call toll free at 1-877-476-7734.



Hawaii Marine

www.mcbh.usmc.mil

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Combat Correspondent	Lance Cpl. Tyler L. Main

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‘Ugly Angels’ welcome new commander



Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

Lt. Col. Christopher Oliver, incoming commanding officer, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362, receives a lei from base resident Braeden Mills, 7. Oliver relieved Lt. Col. Thomas Pecina as commanding officer of HMH-362 at the change of command ceremony April 8 at Hangar 101. Oliver previously worked in the operations section of Marine Aircraft Group 24 here.

MCB Hawaii saves thousands re-energizing used batteries

Christine Cabalo

Photojournalist

The Hazardous Material Minimization Center is surging ahead by reclaiming used batteries with its lead acid battery recovery program.

In 2010, the program was able to save 312 batteries that would have otherwise been disposed. The center recharges and reissues them, specifically targeting Hawker batteries.

“The Hawker battery is the most widely used battery through out the Marine Corps,” said Troy Camara, HAZMIN specialist. “It’s in everything that’s tactical.”

The Hawker batteries power most Marine Corps ground tactical machines, including humvees and amphibious assault vehicles. Several types of combat logistics equipment also need it to power circuitry.

Units swap batteries at the HAZMIN center, leaving behind their old ones for the center to recharge. The recovery program has saved money and time for Gunnery Sgt. Jaerith Pel, company maintenance chief, Combat Assault Company, 3rd Marine Regiment.



Christine Cabalo | Hawaii Marine

Jeffrey James, HAZMIN specialist, Hazardous Material Minimization Center, tests recharging lead acid batteries. The center has recovered Hawker batteries, which are used in many Marine Corps tactical vehicles including Assault Amphibious Vehicles. The recovered batteries can be exchanged for uncharged ones that the center can attempt to restore.

“It’s very beneficial for us because if we had to go through supply [to get a battery] we would need to wait,” he said. “We can turn in the bad ones, get [charged] ones and then continue with maintenance repairs.”

Pel’s company recently took in four reclaimed batteries March 31 for use inside their AAVs. The company goes through four to 12 batteries a year. Pel said having the resource right on base ensures repairs aren’t further delayed.

Since the program began in November 2009, the center has used pulse technology to renew many ag-

ing battery’s internal plates to normal .

“The plates inside the batteries get built up with sulfide,” said Gerald Schmitz, site manager, HAZMIN Center. “When it builds up, the current isn’t allowed to flow between the pulse and create electricity. What the machine does is actually clean the plates inside the battery, allowing the current to flow again and the battery to hold a charge.”

The center has two pulse technology machines, which plug into a normal wall outlet. Cables connect the battery to the machines to clean the plates. Recovery time is variable for a battery depending on its condition, Schmitz said.

Two machines hold a maximum of 12 batteries each, but may be less depending on the conditions of the others hooked in. Once recharged, HAZMIN specialists attach the battery to trickle chargers that keep it powered until use.

Before the machines arrived at Kaneohe Bay, Schmitz said each 88-pound Hawker battery would cost the HAZMIN roughly 15 cents per pound to dispose for recycling. A new battery could also cost units hundreds of dollars to replace.

Investing \$3,541 for the two machines, the

system saved Marine Corps Base Hawaii \$48,329 in having to purchase new batteries and \$2,142 for the disposal costs last year.

The lead acid battery recovery program is one of several ways the HAZMIN center works to preserve the environment. The center also recycles hazardous antifreeze from tactical vehicles and maintains the base Re-Use Room, taking in gently used household chemical products.

“We’re continuously researching ways to reduce disposal costs and ways to reuse and reduce,” Schmitz said. “We’ll move to another waste stream and target it, researching ways to reduce that stream.”

Earning their Malama Ka Aina badge



Scouts from local Cub Scout Pack 225, walk around the Hawaii Loa Skate Park here looking for trash Wednesday to help with Malama Ka Aina Week. In Hawaiian, Malama Ka Aina means “caring for the land” and Malama Ka Aina Week is celebrated twice a year by all units stationed here who are responsible for cleaning specific areas of the base.

Lance Cpl. Tyler L. Main | Hawaii Marine

AROUND THE CORPS

Commandant names Barrett as next sergeant major of the Marine Corps



Sgt. Michael S. Cifuentes
Headquarters Marine Corps

Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos announced Sgt. Maj. Micheal Barrett as his selection for the next sergeant major of the Marine Corps. Barrett recently returned from Afghanistan where he served as the sergeant major of Regional Command Southwest and I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward). He currently serves as the sergeant major of 1st Marine Division at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. Barrett will replace Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent, who has served as the Corps’ senior enlisted Marine since April 25, 2007. A ceremony is scheduled for June 9 at Marine Barracks Washington.

WASHINGTON — Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos announced the next sergeant major of the Marine Corps Monday.

Sgt. Maj. Micheal Barrett, 1st Marine Division’s sergeant major, is set to take charge as the senior enlisted Marine in the Marine Corps. He’s scheduled to succeed Sgt. Maj. Carlton Kent, the current sergeant major of the Marine Corps, during an appointment and relief ceremony, and Kent’s retirement ceremony held at Marine Barracks Washington June 9.

Barrett recently returned from a deployment to Helmand province, Afghanistan, where he served as Regional Command Southwest’s sergeant major.

Amos said Barrett is “the best of the best,” and will continue to serve the Corps as Amos’ senior enlisted advisor.

“Sgt. Maj. Barrett, through his long and distinguished service to our nation, has demonstrated that he is particularly well-suited to serve as my senior enlisted advisor through the challenges ahead,” said Amos.

Barrett enlisted as an infantryman in March 1981. In addition to Afghanistan, his combat deployments include serving in the Persian Gulf War as a sniper with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, and two tours in Iraq as battalion sergeant major of 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment.

Kent has served as the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps since April 25, 2007. He graduated recruit training March 1976 at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C.

In his 35 years of service, Kent has led Marines in various billets to include senior drill instructor and battalion drill master at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, chief drill instructor and first sergeant at Naval Aviation Officers Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla., and sergeant major of I Marine Expeditionary Force at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

“My time on active duty is coming to an end, and I’m honored to pass the sword of office to Sgt. Maj. Barrett,” said Kent. “He is a true warrior and will continue the great legacy of our Corps.”

Intercontinental Osprey flight makes history

Cpl. Rashaun X. James

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan — The Marine Corps completed an aviation first, April 8, by flying MV-22B Ospreys on the aircraft’s longest movement to date.

Six Ospreys with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 returned to the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit after a trek from Camp Bastion, Afghanistan, to Souda Bay, Greece, with the assistance of a pair of KC-130J Hercules from 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) who provided transport and aerial refueling support.

“As far as aerial refueling missions are concerned, this was a Marine Corps and Naval aviation first,” said Capt. Ben Grant, the executive officer for the Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 252 detachment currently deployed in support of operations in Afghanistan. “Never before has an MV-22 movement been conducted this far or on this scale. On this mission, the MV-22s travelled in excess of over 2,800 miles from Camp Bastion to Souda Bay, using aerial refueling provided by KC-130Js. We transited three continents over land and water, three combatant commands’ areas of responsibility, and did it with no major issues.”

The mission was conducted to return VMM-266 Marines, cargo and aircraft to the USS Kearsarge and the 26th MEU, which had been tasked to the Mediterranean region in support of operations in Libya.

“This mission validated a capability that should ultimately be seen as routine,” said Grant. “We affirmed the ability of the MV-22 to be long-range deployed with KC-130J support.”

Grant said the mission was conducted over two separate movements consisting of two Hercules and three Ospreys. During both movements, the

KC-130Js not only refueled the MV-22Bs, but also transported more than 50,000 pounds of VMM-266’s essential cargo, maintenance and support equipment. Nearly 100 Marines also made the journey, so they could join the rest of the 26th MEU and prepare for their return to the U.S.

Grant said the mission went well, a result of not only good planning, but the Marines’ ability to adapt to the situation.

“Though we had prepared for a myriad of contingencies, none arose that required us to alter our timelines or routing,” said Grant. “While each movement encountered expected and unexpected friction that had to be immediately addressed, each was handled superbly by the KC-130J and MV-22 Marines. Everyone involved worked as a team of professionals.”

Grant said while the mission was the first of its type at this scale, he believes more missions of this nature will occur in the future. He said he sees movement like this becoming as routine for the Osprey as they are for other Marine Corps aircraft including F/A-18 Hornets, AV-8B Harriers and CH-53E Super Stallions.

Since responding to a request to support Regional



Cpl. Rashaun X. James | 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing

Capt. Benjamin Grant, a KC-130J Hercules pilot with Marine Refueler Transport Squadron 252, sits in the cockpit of a KC-130J during a flight to Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Greece, April 3.

Command Southwest’s area of operations, the “Fighting Grifins” of VMM-266, based out of Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., have provided aviation and assault support for 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment and other coalition ground forces in Afghanistan, explained Lt. Col. Romin Dasmalchi, the VMM-266 commanding officer.

Grant credited the mission’s success to KC-130J and MV-22 maintenance and support Marines, cooperation from the

United Kingdom’s Royal Air Force, which aided with ramp space and air traffic control and support from other Marine units, like meteorological service. He also said many Marines throughout the region, other military services, and U.S. government agencies worked behind the scenes to ensure smooth coordination.

“As Marines, we are not just warriors from the sea. We are warriors, from anywhere to anywhere on the globe,” Grant said.

HMX-1 ‘Big Irons’ helicopters to join operating forces

Andrew Revelos

Marine Corps Base Quantico

MARINE CORPS AIR FACILITY QUANTICO, Va.

— After 44 years of service at the Corps’ most historic helicopter squadron, the last CH-53 helicopters from Marine Helicopter Squadron 1 will soon be reassigned to the operating forces. The CH-53s will be redistributed as part of the Marine Corps fiscal year 2011 aviation campaign plan, which will increase the Corps’ number of CH53E helicopter squadrons.

Honored at an April 15 ceremony at HMX-1, the CH-53 was an integral part in presidential support mission since 1967. The CH-53 was responsible for “green side” HMX-1 missions: supporting the executive flight detachment, transporting the White House staff, United States Secret Service, and White House press corps, and facilitating training aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Former pilots, aircrew and commanders paid tribute to the heavy-lift monster that first joined HMX-1 as the CH-53A in 1967. The last variant to serve the squadron was the CH-53E Super Stallion.

“The earth doesn’t spin—the Super Stallion drags it around,” said Blake Dunn, a former CH-53 crew chief who now works for the helicopter’s manufacturer, the Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation.



A CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 returns the center section of the recovered Sea Stallion helicopter to Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay April 8. Sailors and Marines cut the helicopter's fuselage in two large pieces to simplify the airlift recovery.

Removing the Remnants

Downed helicopter retrieved from Kaneohe Bay

Lance Cpl. Tyler L. Main
Combat Correspondent

KANEOHE BAY — Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay's Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 "Red Lions" and Waterfront Operations teamed up with Navy Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 1, Company 15, April 8, to remove the fuselage of the CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter that went down in Kaneohe Bay.

MDSU-1 began working shortly after the fatal March 29 incident to remove the helicopter, including removal of the cockpit, tail and engines of the downed helicopter. The larger fuselage, however, had to be divided into two pieces to transport by helicopter. MDSU-1 and Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Marines took the Jaws of Life to the aircraft and cut it in half, making it light enough to be lifted out of the bay.

After they were done, the helicopter



Lance Cpl. Tyler L. Main, Hawaii Marine Navy Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jeffrey Landry, officer in charge, Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 1, helps coordinate the removal of the downed helicopter.

remains, almost unrecognizable, were ready to be moved. A CH-53D from HMH-363 flew on scene with a rope-like attachment that coupled with a pre-fitted harness on each fuselage section. Using the harness, the CH-53D flew each piece two miles back to Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay.

With the fuselage removed from the sandbar, the approximately 25 Navy divers of MDSU-1 and about 25 Marines cleared the small debris left behind during the recovery operation.

Once the two pieces were ashore, they were loaded by a Combat Logistics Battalion 3 crane onto trucks and transported to the MCAS investigation area.

Compliance officers with the base Environmental Department said there was no damage to the reef or sea life in Kaneohe Bay as a result of the helicopter mishap or removal.

The investigation of the mishap is expected to take a month or more.



Staff Sgt. Mike B. Seward of Marine Aircraft Logistics Squadron 24, along with another Marine and a Navy diver with Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 1, pull on a cargo strap attached to a hoisted section of the downed CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter as it is loaded onto an awaiting truck after being recovered from Kaneohe Bay April 8.



Staff Sgt. Mike B. Seward, safety director, Ground Support Equipment Platoon, Marine Aircraft Logistics Squadron 24, motions to his Marines to assist him in aligning the hanging fuselage section of the helicopter before lowering it onto an awaiting truck April 8 at Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay.



Sgt. Carlos A. Caban, assistant safety director, Ground Support Equipment Platoon, Marine Aircraft Logistics Squadron 24, uses a cargo strap to align the first section of a recovered CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter onto an awaiting truck.

Earth Day Expo to be held Saturday

Free event packed with demonstrations, activities and prizes

Lance Cpl. Vanessa M. American Horse
Combat Correspondent

The third annual Earth Day Expo will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mokapu Mall. Although Earth Day is officially on Monday, the base and Marine Corps Community Services are jumpstarting the gala with a free event open to all active duty military, family members and Department of Defense civilians.

The theme for Earth Day this year is “Preserving our Resources, Protecting our Future,” and the 2011 Expo salutes this by kicking off with opening words from Col. Jeffrey R. Woods, commanding officer of MCB Hawaii, a Polynesian performance by Malu Productions, and the annual Unit Recycling Competition.

Individuals working to do their part through activities like recycling, shopping with reusable bags, using compact fluorescent light bulbs and energy-efficient appliances, or driving fuel-efficient vehicles can learn what else they can do to preserve the environment for future generations at the Resource and Education Expo booth.

In addition, the Marine Corps Exchange will be featuring Earth-friendly products and cooking demonstrations. There will also be children’s activities at the Expo, including a bounce house and temporary tattoo applications.

During the Expo, a farmer’s market will be selling local island produce next to the UPS Store, an eco-friendly car show will demonstrate the latest green transportation, and Segway personal transporter demonstrations and rides are available.

The Polynesian Cultural Center Revue and Dance Movement Academy will perform island-inspired performances and music in the afternoon. Prizes such as hotel stays, dinner cruises, restaurant gift cards, luaus, magic shows, and car rentals will be awarded throughout the day.

Customers shopping at the Main Exchange or Annex here, or at the Camp Smith Exchange, will receive a free reusable tote bag and 20 percent off everything they can fit in the shopping tote during the promotional shopping period at each location.

For more information, visit <http://www.mccshawaii.com/earthday.shtml>.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Mark Logico | Navy Region Hawaii

A Sikorsky SH-60B Sea Hawk helicopter from Helicopter Anti-submarine Squadron Light 37 lands on Ford Island next to the Pacific Aviation Museum in November before it was retired from service. The pilots of HSL-37 were flying this type of aircraft when they helped rescued two stranded beachgoers on the Island of Kauai April 7.

HSL-37 helps make ‘SOS’ rescue on Kauai

News Release
Pacific Missile Range Facility

KAUAI, Hawaii — A group of Navy pilots and air crewmen who were training at Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawaii, responded to a call for help and rescued two women on Kauai’s Kalalau Beach in Na Pali Coast Park, April 7.

At approximately 10:15 a.m. a local tour helicopter reported seeing an “S.O.S.” written in the sand at Kalalau Beach. Naval aviators and other sailors from several commands were conducting advanced training operations at the Pacific Missile Range Facility off the west coast of Kauai when they were notified of the “S.O.S.” and were sent to investigate.

When naval aviators confirmed the “S.O.S.,” a SH-60B Sea Hawk

helicopter was sent with two pilots and two air crewmen, including a search and rescue swimmer, who helped rescue the victims.

One of the victims was reported as being very ill and having a serious injury. After rescue from the beach, the victim and her companion were transported to PMRF for emergency treatment and transport to Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital.

Sailors from Helicopter Maritime Strike Weapons School Pacific from Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego and Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 51 from Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan, responded with the assistance of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 37 of Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

The pilots and air crewmen were undergoing advanced training at PMRF at the time of the call.



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STAND AGAINST CHILD ABUSE IN APRIL



Christine Cabalo | Hawaii Marine

Kristie Masuoka, administration specialist, New Parent Support Program, stakes in one of several pinwheels Thursday observing Child Abuse Prevention Month. Each pinwheel they planted had with a blue ribbon to honor the monthlong awareness campaign, similar to pinwheels previously planted at the Hawaii State Capitol.

LAVA DOGS, from A-1

Afghanistan in June 2010 and taking a short block of leave, 1/3 returned to the field and conducted training in Hawaii and California to prepare for the deployment. While originally scheduled to deploy in May, 1/3’s departure dates were moved up a month during their last training exercise in California.

“Initially it was a shock, but we covered the gaps by identifying the areas where we knew we were going to be short, and back-filled them with compressed training,” Grace, from Cherry Hill, N.J., said.

Despite 1/3’s shortened training schedule, the battalion’s leaders said their successful predeployment training program has prepared them for their mission, and will help strengthen foundations from the battalion level to the International Security Force’s Regional Command Southwest.

“The quality training we’ve received on the battalion and individual levels is far beyond anything I ever saw coming up in the Marine Corps,” Sgt. Maj. Dwight

D. Jones, 1/3’s battalion sergeant major, said. “From combat hunter training, to counter-[improvised explosive device], to the [IED detection dogs] that we use, all of these training devices are more tools for our Marines and sailors to employ when we’re performing security operations in Afghanistan.”

Jones, from Brownsville, Tenn., said 1/3 is a “learning battalion” and will use their knowledge to build off of 2/1’s success in the district, especially regarding 2/1’s employment of counter-IED procedures, counter-insurgency operations and governance.

“The men of 1/3 are writing history that will be read about in years to come,” Jones said. “They have the opportunity to have a great influence in transitioning two districts in Afghanistan, which is very significant. We recognize there is a terrorist threat and we’ll deal with it accordingly, but the bigger picture is trying to get the people of the district, and of Afghanistan, on their feet so they can operate independently.”

ASTRONAUT, from A-1

“Performance, Reliability and Safety.” He explains that as the world becomes more complex, it’s important to focus on clarity and simplicity to do the best job possible in day-to-day situations.

He credits his core values, confidence and realistic view on life to his several successful paths in life. Honoring the phrase “Once a Marine, always a Marine,” Musgrave enjoys the instant camaraderie he shares with fellow Marines throughout his life.

“I love the esprit de corps mentality. It’s that mission spirit that makes things happen and that’s why Marines get things done,” Musgrave said.

His visit here was one day before the 30th anniversary of NASA’s space shuttle program. Musgrave started working with NASA as a scientist-astronaut in 1967 and helped develop everything from extravehicular space suits to the Hubble Space Telescope.

He accumulated more than 1,200

hours on six spaceflights before retiring in 1997. Musgrave is the only astronaut to have flown on all five space shuttles. Prior to John Glenn’s return to space in 1998, Musgrave held the record for the oldest person in orbit at age 62.

During his time at NASA, he also worked as a part-time surgeon and part-time professor of physiology and biophysics.

Today he operates a palm farm in Orlando where he is also a landscape architect, a concept artist with Walt Disney’s Imagineering, and an innovator with Applied Minds, Inc.

Despite his busy schedule, he likes to travel with his son, Scott, who lives on Oahu near Diamond Head.

“I love the beautiful blue water of the Pacific. There’s no place like Hawaii. It’s the only place you can see the green flash at sunset,” Musgrave said, explaining the atmospheric effect momentarily visible watching ocean sunsets. “And trust me, I’ve tried to see it from outer space.”