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Community at
Twentynine Palms, Calif.

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OBSERVATION POST



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This Issue

A8-3rd LAR

B1-3/7 Awards

B3-Payday loans

Hot Topics

TOWN HALL

Attention military parents of children enrolled in Morongo Basin public schools. A Townhall Meeting on the state of local education will take place at the Sunset Theater June 7 at 6:30 p.m. Here is your opportunity to speak up to the School District Superintendent about the local education system. Any and all questions about the schools will be addressed. Bring your questions, proposed solutions and come prepared to make a difference in your child's education.

SOAPBOX DERBY

The Soapbox Derby is back and brought to you by The Armed Services YMCA. Kicking off the Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce's Street Fair and Car Show, the event will take place on Old Dale Road today at 3 p.m. This year racers will be competing for General's, Mayor's and People's Choice along with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. All funds raised from the Soapbox Derby will be used for parent/child interactive and after-school programs offered to military personnel and their families aboard MCAGCC. For more information, call the ASYMCA at 830-7481.

FAMILY HOUSING OFFICE CLOSED

The Military Family Housing Office will be closed on June 200 for staff training. We will be installing a new software program to better serve our residents.

Lincoln Military Housing will not be affected by this closure and will maintain their normal business hours.

FREE STUFF FROM MCCS

Marine Corps Community Services has pallets of left-over diet Dr. Pepper and gourmet crackers that were generously given for the "We Salute You" Celebration by Coca Cola and the VFW. Everything will be given out on a first come, first served basis. Interested units should go to Building 1107 or call 830-6922 for more information.

COMING NEXT ISSUE

- Brass recycling
- 3/11 Sgt. Major Relief & Appointment
- 3/4 L.I.N.K.S. CAX

THIS DAY IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY

June 2, 1918

At dawn on this date, the crack German 28th Division attacked along the axis of the Paris-Metz road hitting the American 2nd Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened with deadly rifle fire and helped hand the German troops a setback which set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood which would soon follow.

29 Palms, Combat Center remember the fallen

"We will all say back to them, we do remember you, and today we thank you for all our tomorrows that your bravery has brought to us and to our future generations."

—Brig. Gen. Douglas M. Stone

CPL. HEIDI E. LOREDO
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

While Memorial Day may be considered the gateway to the summer season, it is set aside to honor the men and women who died in the service of their country.

All around the nation Monday, American Legion posts, Veterans of Foreign Wars posts and municipalities started their days not with backyard grilling and outdoor parties, but with services to honor the fallen.

The solemn bugler playing Taps, the rigid salutes of veterans and the crack of rifles firing in unison in 21-gun salutes at services were reminders of the sacrifices of hundreds of thousands.

A Memorial Day remembrance at the Twentynine Palms Memorial Cemetery Monday brought young and old veterans to commemorate and honor those who sacrificed their lives in order to give the nation security and liberty.

Combat Center Commanding General Brig. Gen. Douglas M. Stone was the keynote speaker and proclaimed that freedom is never free. Americans are reminded of this truth every time they see a flag inserted into the holy ground next to a tombstone where a dead soldier's silence sings the national anthem, he explained.

"On this day, we gather to remember and to thank those who are buried in these fields and in thousands of cemeteries like it throughout the world," said Stone. "As stated in the Gettysburg address, within the earth are cradled the memories of remarkable servicemen and women who lost their life while in the act of defending our own. We know that without the

sacrifice of those that we stand and remember today, we may well have lost our own freedom to fascism, communism or today to some radical jihad."

Not far from people's minds are the men and women from the Combat Center who served the nation through the war on terrorism and gave the ultimate sacrifice.

"I would want them to know that

their loss was not in vain," said Stone. "We know by their example and that of the 92 Marines who have joined their ranks from the Combat Center as heroes in their hallowed formation, that all of us who enjoy our lives and the freedom of being American are an appreciative citizenry and eternally joined with them."

In a Memorial Day service at Arlington National Cemetery in

Arlington, Va., President George W. Bush read a letter written by an Army first lieutenant who was killed last September in Ramadi.

"He wrote: 'Remember that my leaving was in the service of something that we loved, and be proud. The best way to pay respect is to value why a sacrifice was made.'"

To value their sacrifice of giving their last full measure of devotion, Stone thanked the fallen for their beliefs that freedom is worth the risk of protecting and the sacrifice which bearing arms against a committed enemy may command.

"It is in their service that strength is given to Americans to persevere and that no challenge to freedom will ever be met without resolve, without courage, honor or commitment," said Stone. "This legacy of theirs has been handed down to us by them and by us to our children and to our grandchildren, not just in speeches but by example."

In 1945, after Marines suffered more than 26,000 casualties on Iwo Jima, a Marine chiseled an epitaph on a rock which laid outside the temporary cemetery:

*When you go home
Tell them for us and say
For your tomorrow
We gave our today*

"We will all say back to them, we do remember you, and today we thank you for all our tomorrows that your bravery has brought to us and to our future generations," said Stone. "We will never forget their sacrifice we will always be thankful to them and to the families and friends they leave behind and to their comrades in arms sitting here today."



Pfc. Shawn R. Reed from Headquarters Battalion echoes Taps.



Marines raise the flag during a Memorial Day ceremony on Monday.

Warfighting Lab equips Marines with added, enhanced capabilities

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL S. CIFUENTES
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT



Cpl. Charles Williams, a West Lafayette, Ind., native with 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 1/5, communicates on a personal field radio with other platoon members May 24 in the Combat Center's Rainbow Canyon training area.

Marines fighting the ongoing war on terrorism face enemies that are adaptive, decentralized and elusive.

According to Headquarters Marine Corps, the enemy will continue to develop new tactics designed to exploit perceived seams in Marine Corps capabilities, having recognized the overwhelming conventional superiority of U.S. forces. In order to maintain dominance on the battlefield, it is essential to the Corps that the methods of warfighting change continuously, and Marines continue to adapt to new methods while remaining a flexible, combined-arms force.

The Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory in Quantico, Va., brought a new concept as the challenge emerged — distributed operations.

Distributed operations is an approach which creates an advantage over an adversary through the use of separation and coordinated, independent, tactical actions enabled by increased access to fire support, as well as by enhanced combat capabilities at the small-unit level. Small, highly capable units spread across a large area of operations will provide the spatial advantage commonly required in maneuver warfare. They will be able to perceive an expanded battle space, and can use close combat or supporting

arms to disrupt the enemy's access to key terrain and avenues of approach.

This continuing trend of decentralizing authority that the Marine Corps has relied on in a basic sense for years distributes decision-making authority even further across a number of junior leaders, who are most directly engaged in the fight.

By moving the authority downward, the speed of command increases, explained Lt. Col. Jon M. Jacobs, deputy director of Experiment Division at the MCWL and officer-in-charge of small unit enhancement training.

"We are simply pushing our skill sets down," said Jacobs. "There are ways the Marine Corps can adapt to current threats. We need to distribute authorities at a smaller level to platoon and squad leaders."

We're basically taking authorities from the battalion to company levels, and from company levels to platoon and squad levels, he said. It's an effective and more efficient way of dealing with the threats that we face today. This is nothing more than enhancing our current capabilities."

The first step for units in developing the seenhanced capabilities is to provide better training and equipment to the Marines, fire teams, squads and platoons.

See WARFIGHTING, A4

alert. aware. able.
24/7
 [OPERATION SUMMER FORCE PRESERVATION]

101 CRITICAL DAYS OF SUMMER

Having fun this summer, that is what most of us look forward to. People will be heading off to beaches, cook-outs, and campgrounds. This season, the Combat Center Safety Office is helping Marines, Sailors and their family members take care of each other by encouraging co-workers, families, and friends to make the summer season fun, make it safe, and then, make it home!

The "Critical Days of Summer," the period between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day, poses greater risks for several reasons: it's a period when many service members transfer because school is out (hence, more families are on the road traveling between duty stations); it's when service members visit family and loved ones and often travel longer periods than they should without rest or a break; and it's also a time for beach parties, cookouts and summer parties, which often combine alcohol consumption and hot weather.

Naval Safety Center statistics from the past decade indicate that during some years one-half of a year's total Navy and Marine Corps traffic deaths occurred during the Critical Days of Summer. The following primary factors continue to cause most motor-vehicle fatalities: driving under the influence, excessive speed, not wearing a seat belt or using personal protective equipment, and losing control of the vehicle.

During the Critical Days of Summer from 2000 to 2005:

166 Sailors and Marines have been killed in either private motor vehicles or off duty recreational accidents.

During the summer of 2005:

43 Sailors and Marines died in off-duty mishaps
 65 percent of victims were between 18 and 26 years old
 40 percent of fatal mishaps involved alcohol use
 30 percent of fatalities occurred while riding motorcycles
 30 percent were drivers or passengers in cars or light trucks

The Naval Safety Center predicts that during the "2006 Critical Days of Summer":

38 Sailors and Marines will die from private motor vehicle accidents
 13 Sailors and Marines will die from off-duty recreational accidents

Rear Adm. George Mayer, commander of the Naval Safety Center, emphasizes that "every Sailor, Marine, and civilian must do his or her part to make this year's campaign a success. Make a plan to stay safe while enjoying recreational and off-duty events. All of us, especially your loved ones, are counting on you to get safely through the summer months."

All Marines, Sailors, and civilians at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms are encouraged to be aware of the risks associated with the Critical Days of Summer and incorporate risk management into their plans. The potential for injury often is overlooked in anticipation of beach parties, suntans and cookouts. By reminding our Sailors and Marines of these risks, we help to preserve our most valuable asset: our human resources.

Contact Master Sgt. Brenner, 830-3779 at the Combat Center Safety Office for more information about what activities are taking place, and how you can take care of yourself and your friends.

Minor losses in Combat Center housing fire

DARLENE HULL
 ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

This past week one of our Combat Center families suffered a personal loss when a fire broke out in their home. The fire was most likely started due to rambunctious cats and an unattended candle. A most unfortunate event by anyone's standards, but on the upside, smoke detectors and residential fire sprinklers saved the day. The family was alerted before the whole house was involved in fire and they safely evacuated their home and called 9-1-1.

Due to the working fire protection systems, and the fast response of both the occupant and the Fire Department, the losses were significantly limited. Damage included a few living room contents, (carpeting, furniture, wall hangings, etc.) and water damage from the operational fire sprinkler system and the hoses that were used to put out what remained of the fire. This incident really emphasizes that working smoke detectors and fire sprinkler systems are your family's best defenses against losing your life and property to an unwanted fire.

The facts are in and it is well documented that fires started by candles are on the rise. In fact, the hazard is so prevalent nationwide that last October's Fire Prevention Week Theme was "Use Candles with Care." Why? More people are enjoying the variety of fragranced candles that are available and using them more regularly than they did in the last 10 years.

According to the National Fire Incident Reporting Service and the National Fire Protection Association, although candle fire starts have leveled off over the last couple of years, during 2002, an estimated 18,000 home fires started by candles were reported to public fire departments. That's more than triple the 5,500 candle fires that were reported in 1990. These fires resulted in an estimated 130 civilian deaths, 1,350 civilian injuries and an estimated direct property loss of \$333 million. Homes include one-and two-family dwellings, apartments and manufactured housing.

So what can you do to reduce your chances of a candle fire besides not using them at all?

- Ensure candles are kept in a non-combustible holder with a stable base that won't tip over easily, large enough to contain wax drippings.
- Don't leave candle holders on combustible surfaces and extinguish them when they burn down to within a half inch of the base.
- Keep candles up and out of the reach of children and pets.
- Extinguish all candles when leaving the room, or going to sleep or when getting sleepy.
- Keep candles clear of items that can catch fire, like clothing, books, boxes of tissue and curtains.
- Keep candles and all open flames away from flammable liquids.
- During power outages, avoid carrying a lit candle. Use flashlights instead.

Remember, while the use of candles in private single family homes is not regulated, it is discouraged. And, the use of candles is prohibited in all public facilities to include barracks, business and assembly occupancies aboard base.

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Mystic Chocolate Living Room
 With a stylish design that is as unique as it is comfortable, this set combines a rich, plush fabric with a leather-like upholstery. Set includes sofa and loveseat.



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South Haven Bedroom Set
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A Marine with Bravo Company, 1/5, fireman carries an injured Marine toward an evacuation point May 24.

WARFIGHTING, A1

Current efforts to refine this concept began March 12 with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment.

Squad leaders and some team leaders attended the Infantry Squad Leader's Course provided by the Advanced Infantry Training Company, School of Infantry Camp Pendleton, Calif. The

platoon commanders and selected Marines attended the Tactical Air Control Party Course with the Expeditionary Warfare Training Group. The Marines who best demonstrated the aptitude to control close air support were selected, regardless of rank or billet.

"We are trying to help Marines think for themselves and understand the intent of their higher command without calling and asking for direction every five minutes," said Australian Army Warrant Officer 2nd Class Peter Brinkworth, an infantry officer and observer controller for the experiment. "A platoon with the distributed operations capability can cover the area of a company and remain just as lethal."

The Marines then executed Small Unit Enhancement Training, a six-week training evolution aboard the Combat Center provided at the platoon level. It was primarily focused on enhancing the ability of the platoon to communicate, make use of supporting arms down to the squad level, conduct surveillance and patrol at large ranges for extended periods of time.

Marines were also trained



Two Marines with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, drag Marine with a simulated injury.

on new added technologies designed to enhance their capabilities. The Marines were first trained to perform a mission without technical assistance, such as communications gear. Then tools to enable them to perform better in areas such as navigation, fire support and communication were given for the second time performing the same mission.

First Platoon, Bravo Company, 1/5, conducted a series of missions starting with short duration squad patrols to the employment of the entire platoon at a large range for an extended period of time.

It was the intent of the Warfighting Laboratory to push the forces to the point of failure. This was the only way to determine the capabilities and limitations of the distributed operations concept.

"They now have the capabilities to call for close air support and surface delivered fires," said Capt. Ryan McDonel, experiment fires officer at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory. "The experiment provided the platoons with great command and control in an effort to heighten situational awareness. We're still identifying a lot of areas where we need to spend time and resources."

McDonel stressed that Marines can develop their warfighting skills if properly trained and educated. "Regardless of form distributed operations take, at the end of the day, we'll have a better trained platoon, and establish a good foundation to push this enhanced training out to the fleet," added McDonel. "Distributed operations is building combat power in different means other than mass. Increasing and emerging technology is the next logical step of developmental warfighting."

Distributed operations training is not specific to Iraq, said 1st Lt. David Russell, 1st

Platoon commander with Bravo Company, 1/5.

"The small unit leader intensive training package will help Marines make decisions under stressful conditions, and we will end up with a better unit regardless of the climate and place we are fighting in," he said.

Cpl. Jeremiah W. Johnson, assistant squad leader with 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 1/5, and a veteran of two combat deployments, trained with the added capabilities for the first time.

"It's very different than what we've been trained with before," he said. "This field operation was the first time I actually got to call in artillery support and close air support. Not often does a corporal call in a live firing mission."

"It's very effective and our staff sergeant or platoon commander won't always be able to call in support for us," continued Johnson. "They're pretty much letting us control the mission."

"When we started this experiment, we had a bunch of new Marines right out of the School of Infantry. These guys picked it up real well and ran with it, he said. "It proves that it can be done. It's just another tool in the tool box — a very big tool."

Pfc. Sean K. Johnson, an infantryman with 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 1/5, has been with the battalion for seven months and finds the experiment to be very worthy of use, he said.

"There are tasks that are basically squad tasks, and we learned our squads are ready for these tasks with our added capabilities," he said. "The squad leaders seem to be confident already about all the commands."

The platoon commander and platoon sergeant for 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 1/5, are now certified Joint Tactical Air Controllers and the squad leaders and many of the fire team leaders are now Joint Forward Observers.

"The investment of training, education, and equipping Marines better is a step in the right direction and will benefit the Marine Corps exponentially," said British Royal Marine Sgt. Peter McGinley, an infantryman with the 42nd Commando, and an observer controller. "Now 1/5 has this added capability."

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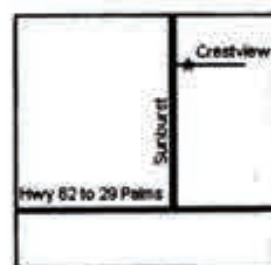
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Grand
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Trying to maintain their formation and fight back mock protestors, Marines of India Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, spray role-players with inert pepper spray during a non-lethal weapons training exercise scenario at Range 200.

3/11 India trains for non-lethal riot control

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

"Forward, MARCH!"

From hundreds of yards down the street, the mob could hear the Marines coming. Outfitted in full riot gear complete with non-lethal weapons as they marched through the city, they kept the platoon in step by beating their batons against the plastic shields in thundering unison.

"Platoon, HALT!" ordered the platoon commander from behind his face shield to halt the ominous cadence.

"Platoon online!"

The Marines took their positions, forming a column of shields resembling modern-day legionnaires against the unruly group of civilians who refused to cooperate.

Although this exercise was only a mock scenario against Marines role-playing in the streets of the Range 200 urban warfare training facility May 24, it was the culmination of a two-week long riot control and non-lethal weapons training course for Marines of India Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment.

"Today's exercises were to expand on the training from the past two weeks — this is kind of the capstone for it all," said Capt. Steven K. Ford, India Battery commander. "This is where we have role players out there with the Marines to give them a feel for the real thing. They are also being evaluated by my instructors, who just got back from the Department of Defense school for non-lethal weapons."

Throughout their two weeks of training, Marines learned a myriad of disciplines including crowd control, holds, baton instruction and techniques, handcuffing, riot control and demonstrations of non-lethal weapons and munitions.

The two platoons individually took part in four different scenarios at the range designed for situations which may occur domestically or abroad. They had to control peaceful protests, unruly crowds, and an unknown and possibly hostile crowd during a voting session and humanitarian relief efforts to hand out food.

Marines were evaluated by their instructors on a number of criteria, including platoon formations and movement, takedowns and detainments, techniques and procedures, judgment for use of force and how smoothly the Marines handled each situation overall.

"For this training, the Marines all were sprayed with oleoresin capsicum, or OC spray," said

Ford, a 36-year-old Gage, Okla., native. "Everyone was sprayed for either their level 1 or level 2 certification."

Marines of India Battery conducted this training as not only an introductory course for their new Marines, but also to refresh Marines who have already completed the training as the battery gears up to deploy to Japan as part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit in coming months, said Ford.

"It's been going well and it seems all the Marines seem to be getting everything well," said Lance Cpl. Kevin T. Collins, fire team leader, Guns Platoon. "Besides getting sprayed with OC, doing this riot training has been fairly challenging. Today lets us see if this were a real life situation how we might handle it."

"We have overcome hurdles over a lot of hills these past two weeks," Collins said. "Role players out here gives us an opportunity to test out knowledge and receive feedback," he went on. "But in reality we would probably see many more people out for things such as this."

"We really can't see our full potential out here just because we have to be careful with the other Marines; we use simulated rounds and inert OC so we don't see our whole effect as a platoon," he said.

Marines spent nearly eight hours in the desert heat at Range 200 as both platoons cycled through the four scenarios throughout the day.

"The Marines are doing great learning this, because for some it's their first time being exposed to this. For others it's old stuff, but they're learning a lot," Ford said. "Marines like doing different things. We love our artillery jobs, but when we go do something else, it's fun and it beats busting rust off the weapons. It's a good change and rejuvenates them a little bit, and they have a good time."

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MAGNETIC MAGNET 2005 CCR

WATER QUALITY DATA

PRIMARY STANDARD	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	MCAGCC WATER	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation (Yes/No)	Typical Source
SOURCE WELLS							
Nitrate (as NO ₃) (ppm)	45	45	5.1	ND - 12	3/05 - 12/05	No	Natural deposit erosion
Arsenic (ppb)	50	0.004	0.029	ND - 0.11	3/05/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	5	ND - 16	3/05/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
Chromium, Total (ppb)	50	100	0.75	0.5 - 1.1	3/05/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
Fluoride	2						
RADIOISOTOPES							
Gross Alpha Particle (pCi/L)	15	0	1.3	0.597-1.86	3/05/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Total Coliform Bacteria (Vib. SA)	1	0	1	ND - 1	6/10/2005	No (*)	Naturally present in the environment
SECONDARY STANDARD							
SOURCE WELLS							
Methyl-tert-butyl ether (MTBE)	13	13	ND	ND	3/05/2005	No	Leaking underground storage
Chloride (ppm)	500	N/A	17.3	8.9 - 33	3/05/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
Turbidity	5 Units	N/A	1.48	<0.2-5.6	3/05/2005	No	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000	1,000	170	150-180	12/19/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
Iron (ppb)	300	N/A	138	ND - 850	3/05 - 12/05	No	Natural deposit erosion
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	48.3	39 - 55	3/05/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
Sulfate (ppm)	500	500	24.4	0.5 - 42	3/05/2005	No	Natural deposit erosion
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT							
Vanadium (ppb)	N/A	50	20.1	0.3 - 1	1/05 - 12/05	NA	Natural deposit erosion
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	N/A	0.005	>0.02	ND - 80	1/05 - 12/05	NA	Chemical used primarily as a solvent & extractive agent
Chromium, Hexavalent (CrVI)	N/A	N/A	9.3	ND - 18	1/05 - 12/05	NA	A dissolved heavy metal that is or has been used in industrial processes
Perchlorate (ppb)	N/A	11	ND	ND-4	1/05 - 12/05	NA	Man-made and naturally occurring compound
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM							
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	N/A	206	0 - 1	1/05 - 12/05	No	System repairs
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000	1,000	148	185-245	1/05 - 12/05	No	Natural deposit erosion
Maximum Total Trihalomethane	80	N/A	2.7	ND - 7.4	3/05 - 12/05	No	By-product of system chlorination
Potential (ppb)	15	0	ND	ND - 12	8/7/03	No	Plumbing corrosion
Lead (90th Percentile) (ppb)	15	0	ND	ND - 31	8/7/03	No	Plumbing corrosion
Copper (90th Percentile) (ppb)	1,000	170	25				

(*) Total Coliform Bacteria: during routine sampling of the MCAGCC distribution system and source wells analytical results indicated the presence of total coliform. Notification was made and resampling was conducted per state requirements. All repeat samples were negative indicating no total coliform in the system.

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3rd LAR keeps eight-wheeled vehicles in the fight

CPL. GRAHAM A. PAULSGROVE
1ST MARINE DIVISION

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq — They wear their skinned knuckles and greasy fingernails as badges of honor. They're the ones who keep the machinery humming for D Company, 3rd Light Armored

Reconnaissance Battalion.

That's no easy task for the mechanics either. They're charged with keeping the eight-wheeled vehicles in tip-top shape so they can run nearly 70 miles-per-hour down a highway or blaze their own path across an open desert. It's on their shoulders to keep the infantry crews mobile across their area of responsibility that spans nearly 60 kilometers.

"We keep our company rolling," said Lance Cpl. Matthew P. Cornett, a 22-year-old mechanic from Huntington, Utah. "Without us, there would be no LAR. It would just be a standard grunt battalion."

Each light armored vehicle platoon has two mechanics who go everywhere the vehicles go. It's not because the vehicles are notoriously unreliable, but because small problems arise and the vehicles are crucial to the mission.

"If a vehicle is rolling on a mission, but stops running or refuses to start, it could be a simple problem that is easily fixed, like a circuit breaker," said Gunnery Sgt. Richard F. Thurston, the company's maintenance chief. "We have the mechanics on site to take care of it so the platoons can go on with their mission."

Sometimes, when the

mechanics are thrown into a tight spot, they have to use ingenuity and whatever materials they can get their hands on to fix a problem.

"If something breaks, but we can fix it in the field, we do a quick fix using anything we can get our hands on," Cornett explained. "I once used a tire that we found on the side of the road to make a gasket. It worked for the time being. But once we got back to base, we corrected it the right way."

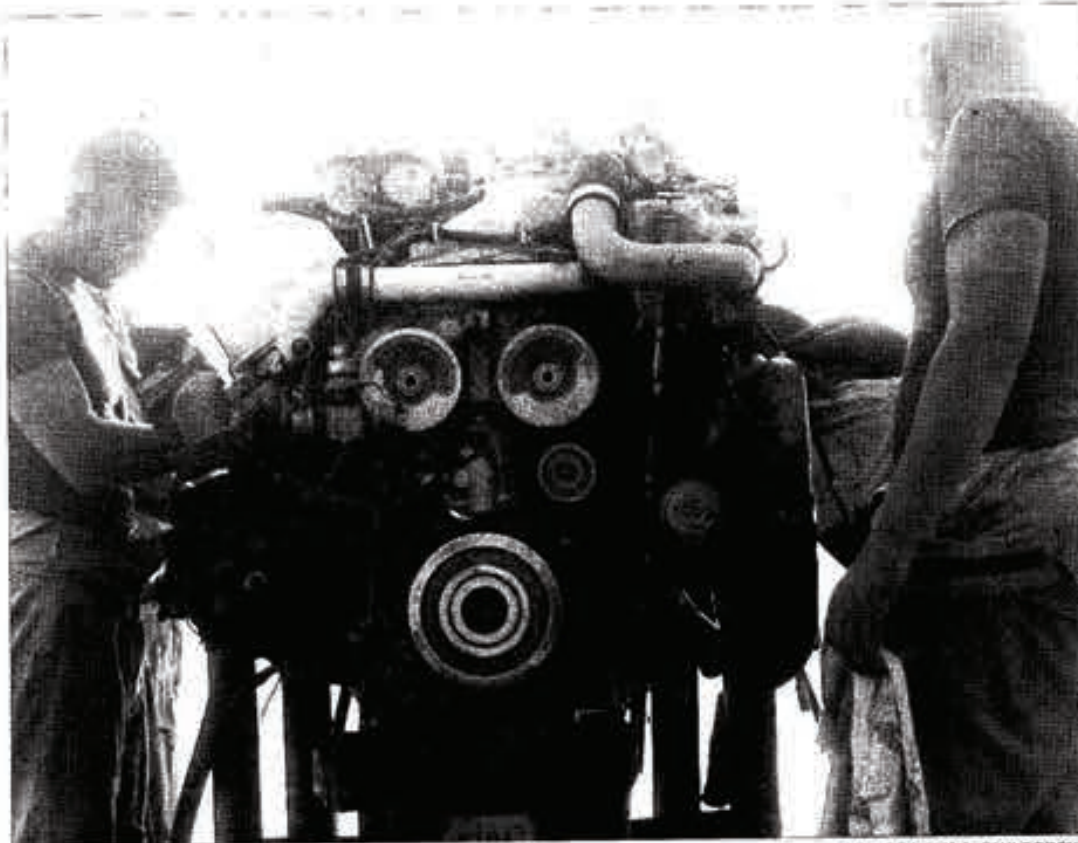
It's not just fixing the eight-wheeled monstrosities. The mechanics get into the mix with the infantry Marines. They're trained to serve as crewmembers on the vehicle — as gunners, vehicle commanders and drivers — according to Cpl. Michael G. Michaud, 24, a mechanic from Presque Isle, Maine.

Still, it's their determination and knuckle-busting know-how that keeps them in business.

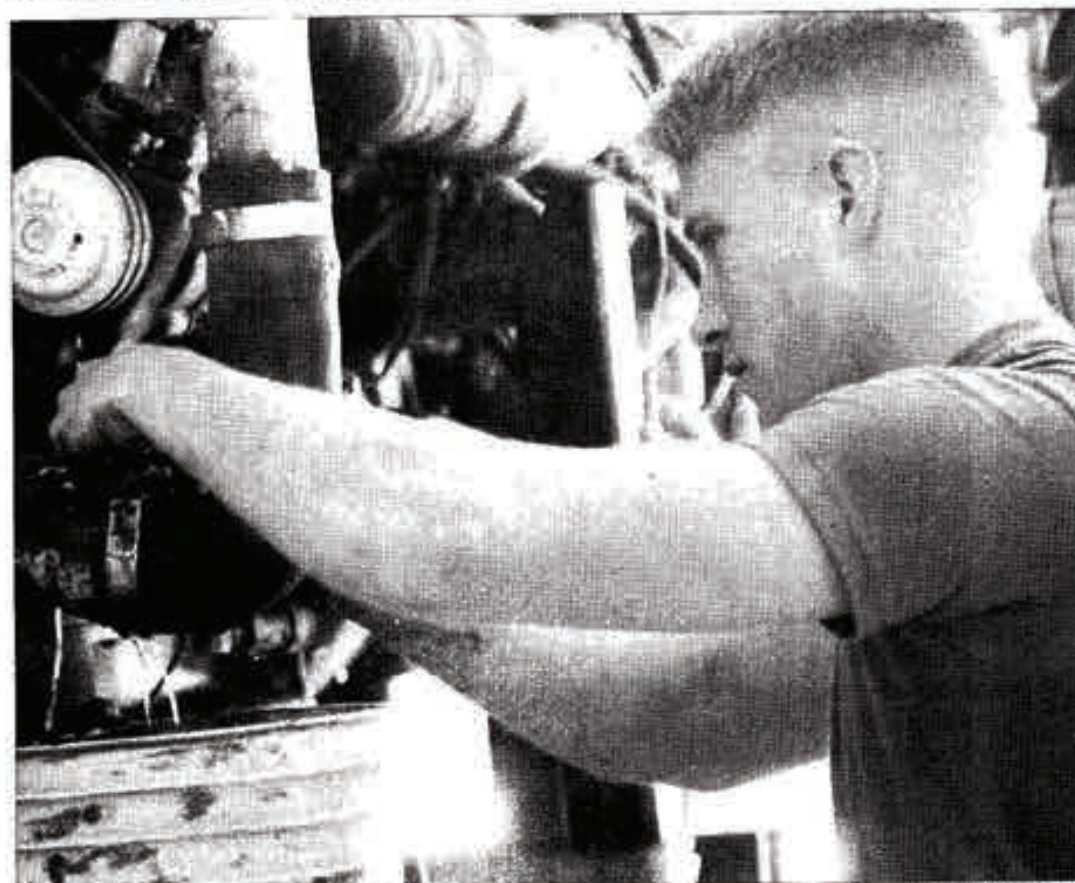
"There is nothing the mechanics can't do on the vehicles," said Thurston, a 35-year-old from Durham, Conn.

The mechanics know their job of fixing the vehicles may not be the most glamorous job in the Marine Corps, but it is crucial to the mission at hand.

"Without working vehicles, a mechanized battalion is useless," said Cornett.



Cpl. Michael G. Michaud, an LAV mechanic from Presque Isle, Maine, and Pfc. Zach L. Pearson, an LAV driver, from Midville, Idaho, both with D Company, 3rd LAR, begin the process of swapping the transmission from an LAV.



Cpl. Michael G. Michaud starts to drain the coolant from an engine from a LAV.

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1/7: New Iraqi police force ready for the streets

CPL. ANTONIO ROSAS
1ST MARINE DIVISION

HUSAYBAH, Iraq — Despite two recent suicide bombings on a new police station here, one Iraqi police officer in this Iraq-Syria border town says his men are undeterred in their duties and are ready to work on their own.

"Ahmed," a 45-year-old police captain, is one of several new police officers in this city of 50,000 who has endured two attacks on the city's district police headquarters which has resulted in the deaths of five police officers and injured eight others.

The first attack occurred a week ago when a man walked to the police station and detonated a vest bomb, killing five policemen and wounding five others.

Several days later, the station was attacked again — this time by a vehicle bomb which detonated prematurely, killing two of the vehicle's passengers and wounding another. Three policemen were wounded in that incident.

The attacks came just one month after the opening of the police station.

Despite these attacks the Iraqi cops are undeterred in their duties, said Ahmed.

"It is a lot safer in Husaybah now," said Ahmed, who recalled more violent times in the city before coalition forces conducted a large-scale operation to rid the city of insurgents last November.

Now, officers are conducting independent operations — regular foot and vehicle patrols through the city, often-times without a large U.S. Marine presence to back them.

"I can walk the streets and not be scared for my life," he said.

The handful of Marines assigned to work with and mentor the fledgling police force agree. They say the police reacted appropriately during the bombings, rushing to the scene to treat the wounded and secure the area.

Even off-duty police came in to assist, according to the Marines.

"They got out into the street pretty quick and they were doing everything they needed to do to take care of their people," said Staff Sgt. David J. Perry, the team's operations chief. "They were immediately setting up roadblocks and checking people out."

Now, just days after the second bombing, the police officers continue to show up

for work and are receiving cooperation from the locals every day — a sign of progress towards stability in the region, according to the transition team.

"They're still doing a good job, just a little more alert now," said Maj. Robert C. Marshall, officer-in-charge of the police transition team here.

The police force was stood up earlier this month after its officers graduated from a six-month officer training camp.

Ahmed was born and raised in Husaybah, a city which has been relatively quiet in recent months, until the two suicide attacks.

Ahmed recalled more violent days in the town — kidnappings, beatings, and murder.

Before becoming a police officer Ahmed spent three years as an interpreter for coalition forces, a dangerous occupation at the time, he said.

"I saw Husaybah fill with terrorists every day and no one could do anything about it because they would be killed," said Ahmed. "I could not continue to work as a translator because they would kill me if they found out about my work."

It didn't take long for insurgents to learn of Ahmed's occupation as a translator. They kidnapped him, and for eight days, he was handcuffed and beaten because he had helped the Americans, he said.

"They just came in and threatened everybody," he said.

The only thing that saved his life was his family's determination to seek retribution for his disappearance, according to Ahmed.

That is precisely the fighting spirit Ahmed claims that the people of Husaybah currently have in their new police force.

Unlike many Iraqi soldiers who often serve outside of their hometowns, the police here are all local men — more incentive for them to keep the neighborhoods crime and terrorist-free, said Ahmed.

"If I see a terrorist, I will kill him," said Ahmed, matter of factly.

The police conduct regular security patrols alongside Marines and for the most part, work independently, according to the Marines who work alongside Iraqi Security Forces here.

"They are providing law and order in their city and are abiding by all Iraqi laws," said Marshall.

"These guys take initiative and they are motivated despite the violence against them," said the Denver native. "They really care about being police officers and are not in it just for the paycheck."

Marshall noted that the police officers here worked nearly two months without seeing a paycheck. It was only until last week when they were finally paid.

The Marines of 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment — the unit assigned to provide security and assist Iraqi Security Forces in the Euphrates Valley region in northwestern Al Anbar province — have also watched the police officers evolve and begin to take the lead in security operations.

"The Iraqi police are doing their job well and they are trying to match the job that the Marines and Iraqi Army are doing of providing security," said 2nd Lt. Chris J. Jamison, a platoon commander with Company B.

Patrolling the area and providing security is a step-by-step process, said Jamison.

"Teaching the police to do that job is tough but they are motivated and they are starting to do things they way we do," said the 24-year-old from North Great River, N.Y.

Jamison and his Company B Marines conducted foot patrols with the new officers for two weeks to establish a presence in the community and introduce the policemen as a new element of Iraqi Security Forces.

Jamison noted that there is an added sense of security for



Cpl. Ben D. Wiese, a 21-year-old Marine from Wisconsin Dells, Wis., patrols the streets with Iraqi police just a few days before the first attack on the police station. Wiese is a squad leader with the battalion's Company B.

his Marines when patrolling with the Iraqi police because the officers know the area and the people.

"They live here. They know who doesn't belong," said Jamison.

Now that Ahmed is working in his hometown after years of serving alongside Marines and soldiers far away from his family in Baghdad, he feels he finally has a job he can be proud of — keeping his city safe.

"I see my family every day now and I am working in the city where I am from,"

said Ahmed.

When asked how his neighbors felt about his decision to become a policeman, Ahmed said that people look up to him and help him everyday. He said the people here want their police to enforce the law.

Furthermore, local tribal sheiks have pushed for the Iraqi police to take over responsibility of keeping the people safe, said Ahmed.

The sheiks maintain regular communication with Marine commanders and have applauded their new police force, he said.

Ahmed knows that the Marines eventual withdrawal from Iraq is dependent on the success of his police officers' ability to maintain security in the town on their own.

But progress is steady, and the Iraqi police are ready for the responsibility of protecting their city, said Ahmed.

"We will sacrifice ourselves to keep the bad guys out," he said.

U.S. government and military officials have stated that Iraqi Security Forces should be ready to spearhead security operations throughout Iraq by

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I MEF honors its fallen on Memorial Day

CPL. JON GUIBORD
I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq — Approximately 400 Marines, Sailors and Soldiers from several commands under the I Marine Expeditionary Force came together at the Camp Fallujah chapel here to remember their fallen in a Memorial Day service Monday.

The service honored 78 Marines, Sailors and Soldiers who have lost their lives in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom since I MEF took authority from II MEF Feb. 28.

Although a somber occasion, the service, which was filled with scripture readings, songs and speeches, was quite lively.

The ceremony's keynote speaker was the Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Michael W. Hagee, who discussed how service members can honor their fallen brothers.

"The best way that we can remember them is to continue to live up to the values that they believed in and that they gave their life for," said Hagee.

The hour-long ceremony included musical performances by two choirs, the Camp Fallujah band, bagpipes, and the traditional playing of Taps, which resulted in an array of emotion from cheering to tearing.

Marines, Sailors and Soldiers filled Camp Fallujah's chapel from scores of units within I MEF.

As one final salute, the I MEF Headquarters Sergeant Major, Sgt. Maj. Neil W. O'Connell read the names of the 78 service members. As each name was called, a bell placed in the middle of the stage was rung as a tribute to the fallen.

"I was impressed with the whole ceremony," said Sgt. Raul C. Garcia, an ammunition technician with Regimental Combat Team 5 Headquarters Company, serving his second tour in Iraq. "It gave us one last moment of remembrance for the Marines that have been killed in action here."



Senior Chief Petty Officer Victor L. Koon, the I Marine Expeditionary Force religious program specialist and senior enlisted advisor, rings the bell for every Marine, Sailor and Soldier that has been killed since I MEF took command of Al Anbar province February 28.

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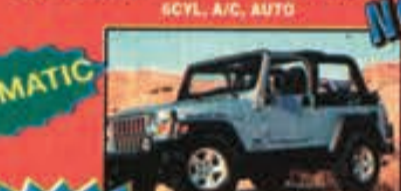
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Lt. Col. Roger B. Turner, commanding officer of 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, pins the Purple Heart on Lance Cpl. Aaron M. Cassel, a mortarman with Weapons Company, 3/7, Wednesday during a formation behind the battalion's command post.

6 Purple Hearts, 3 NAMs awarded to members of 3/7

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL S. CIFUENTES

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Weapons and Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, held a formation behind their battalion command post Wednesday morning to award two Marines and a Sailor with Lima Company the Purple Heart, three Marines with Weapons Company the Purple Heart and four Marines with Weapons Company the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

The Lima Company recipients of the Purple Heart were Lance Cpl. Benjamin J. Rende, a rifleman from Oswego, Ill., Lance Cpl. Jesse H. Hinkley, a rifleman from Las Vegas, and Seaman Benjamin L. McIntosh, a corpsman from Scottsdale, Ariz.

The Weapons Company recipients of the Purple Heart were Keith R. Laskey, an assaultman from Manteno, Ill., Lance Cpl. Francisco J. Conroy, a mortarman from Tempe, Ariz., and Lance Cpl. Michael M. Williams, a machinegunner from Lancaster, Calif.

The four Weapons Company recipients of the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal were Lance Cpl. Aaron M. Cassel, a mortarman from North Manchester, Ind., Cpl. Shane R. Burge, a mortarman from Lyons, Kan., Sgt. Eric C. Dunham, a scout sniper from Wibaux, Mont., and Sgt. Marcus J. Major, a TOW gunner from Cleveland.

Even though seven Marines were awarded medals, all members of Weapons Company were recognized for their hard work. What each Marine did for Weapons Company was very honorable during the last deployment to Iraq, said 1st Sgt. Joseph C. Breze, Weapons Company first sergeant.

"I recall everyone in the company doing an awesome job out there," said Breze as he stood in front of a 'school circle' formation after the ceremony. "From the depths of my heart, I greatly appreciate all the hard work everyone's done in this company. I believe we all were so successful because of our outstanding performance."

Cassel, a member of combined anti-armor team red, Weapons Company, was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his hard work after he arrived to a scene destroyed by a suicide bomber.

"When I first got out there I was shocked by what I saw," said Cassel. "I snapped out of awe and began rushing to assist those who needed help. I didn't have time to think, I just acted as fast as possible."

Three U.S. Soldiers were killed, as well as several Iraqi soldiers and civilians, said Cassel.

"We were ordered to police call the area of any parts that lay behind from the blast," continued Cassel. "This was the time when it all caught up to me. It didn't bother me much, but it was a really bad sight."

"It feels good to receive this award," added Cassel. "I feel like I'm recognized and appreciated. A lot of the people I worked with deserve the same recognition. The company does recognize those Marines and know who they are. Everyone did their part that day. We couldn't ever get through days like that, and the whole deployment, without each other."

Rende, a member of 4th Platoon, Lima Company, received the Purple Heart for wounds he sustained from an improvised explosive device blast in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, Dec. 7, 2006.

"We were coming back from dropping off one of our platoons at an outpost, and our [convoy] took a turn down a side street," said Rende. "The third truck in the convoy was hit with an IED, and the vehicle I was in pulled around to help secure the hit truck. Just then, another blast went off as I was dismounting from the passenger side of my vehicle."

The second IED blast threw Rende back into the vehicle and knocked him unconscious for several minutes, he said. Upon regaining consciousness, Rende continued with his task of helping injured Marines on to a medical evacuation vehicle.

"After returning to the base, my section and I went to the battalion aid station to give blood," added Rende.

Although a Purple Heart is not an award one strives to achieve during a deployment, Marines still earn them. The battalion is just glad that you are still here to receive them, said Maj. Rory B. Quinn, Lima Company commander.



Seaman Benjamin L. McIntosh, a corpsman with Weapons Company, 3/7, stands at attention after he was awarded the Purple Heart Wednesday.

The history of the Purple Heart

SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

General George Washington created the Badge of Military Merit, known today as the Purple Heart, Aug. 7, 1782.

According to Washington's General Orders of 1782, he created the Badge to honor "every species of military merit" who act with "unusual gallantry" or "extraordinary fidelity." He wanted every military man to receive recognition for their supreme actions on the battlefield or in garrison.

The Badge, worn over the left breast, was originally a piece of cloth or silk shaped like a heart and edged with narrow lace or binding.

It was only awarded to three Revolutionary War soldiers and fell into disuse following the war.

Lost or misfiled for almost 150 years among the U.S. War Department Records at Washington, D.C., Washington's General Orders were found prior to his bicentennial celebration in 1932. The War Department revived the Badge and designated it the Purple Heart Feb. 22, 1932.

Also formed in 1932, the Military Order of the Purple Heart takes care of those who have received the decoration. Only Purple Heart recipients may join, so it is the only veteran service organization comprised strictly of combat veterans, according to the Order's Web site at <http://www.purpleheart.org>.

The Purple Heart differs from all other military decorations in that it is not awarded, nor is an individual recommended; rather, they are entitled after meeting specific criteria.

Criteria for the Purple Heart have evolved with military technology, but the overall idea behind it is unchanged.

"The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the armed forces of the U.S. who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action. It is specifically a combat decoration," according to the Order's Web site.

Washington stated in his General Orders of 1782, "The road to glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus open to all." Therefore, we have the Purple Heart today to honor all service members, not just a select few, who were wounded in battle.

For further information on how to join the Military Order of the Purple Heart, call 703-642-5360.

Country music outlaw visits Camp Fallujah

CPL. LYNN MURILLO
MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
(FWD)

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq — Country music superstar Toby Keith performed a Memorial Day concert here for nearly 4,000 service members, live from the Fallujah Chapel and via the internal computer-based broadcast system Monday.

The fans cheers erupted into a roar as the patriotic songwriter and performer stepped onto the small stage at the chapel. Keith opened the hour-long acoustic show with his crowd pleasing hit "I Love This Bar," bringing the Marines, Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen a little piece of America. He played new songs, as well as a few classics like "Should've Been A Cowboy" and "Beer For My Horses."

This is Keith's second visit here. The first was in 2004 just after Marines took over the camp. He played two other venues on Memorial Day as part of the USO's Toby Keith Tour.

"You can't appreciate what [service members] do until you see it," said Keith. "Everybody is so good at what they do and when you come here, you can really understand why America is the number one fighting force in the world."

The country singer expressed a special satisfaction in lifting troop morale and honoring his father, a Vietnam Veteran.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael W. Hagee, was in the front row for the concert and sang along as Keith sang "Courtesy of the Red, White and

Blue" from his 2003 album "Unleashed."

Hagee said he enjoyed the concert and was happy to welcome the superstar known as the bad boy of country music to the headquarters for Marines operating in Al Anbar province.

Longtime fans might consider the performance a way to take their minds off the serious business of war fighting.

"It was an honor to meet him," said Sgt. Cassie L. Lucero, 28, from Phoenix, an administrative clerk with I Marine Expeditionary Force's command element.

"I am a huge fan of anyone that supports us," Lucero said. "The morale boost he just gave everyone here makes me proud to be out here serving my country."

Lance Cpl. Joseph W. Hanson, of Greybull, Wyo.,

also a self-proclaimed big fan, was elated with Keith's performance.

"I think it is awesome that he would come out to the middle of Iraq to give us a concert," said Hanson, a weather observer with I MEF. "If he is spending his Memorial Day out here with us, it means a lot," adding that Keith could be anywhere this weekend.

Maj. Gen. Richard C. Zilmer, commanding general of Multi-National Forces West, presented Keith with a Ka-bar fighting knife and a personalized guitar strap made from a desert-digital camouflage pattern as a token of gratitude for his time and effort. Zilmer jokingly told Keith that he hopes to see the guitar strap in one of Keith's

upcoming music videos. The crowd laughed as Keith smiled, shaking Zilmer's hand and agreeing to his request.

Keith and his crew were on a five-day tour of Iraq, entertaining troops at several forward operating bases and demonstrating their continuing pride and support for service members here.



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Sound appealing?

An unusually large number of payday loan shops are located near military bases and tend to prey upon men and women in uniform.

In a rare move, two California military leaders pleaded with California state law makers to help combat the "legalized loan sharks."

Sergeant Maj. Wayne Bell, Marine Corps Installations West, and Navy Capt. Mark Patton, commanding officer, Naval Base Point Loma, San Diego, asked the Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions and Consumer Protection, to clamp down on high interest lenders and the practice of payday loans during a hearing May 23 in Sacramento.

Patton asked the legislature to crack down on the rising number of loan offices which line the roads near military installations.

"This is a direct threat to military readiness," Patton told the committee. "There are nearly four payday lenders for every McDonalds in California."

The payday loan industry likes mili-

tary members because they are often in financial need but at the same time have steady paychecks, which make it more likely that the loans will be repaid.

"They prey on our young when they're most vulnerable," said Bell.

In order to tide themselves over until the next paycheck service members frequently take out cash advance loans. The problem is that they often fail to realize that borrowing money at 400 percent per year can lead to an endless circle of debt.

Here is an example: A Marine is \$200 short of having enough money to pay his bills, so he borrowed it from a payday lender who charged him \$60 for up to 15 days. His plan was to repay the money when he received his next paycheck in two weeks. When the time came, he still didn't have enough money to pay off the amount he borrowed plus the \$60 fee, so he paid an additional \$60 fee and rolled his payday loan over for another two weeks. The cycle continued, and at the end of six months he had paid \$720 in fees and still owed the original \$200.

A recent article by the San Diego Union Tribune stated in 2001 the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society gave a total of about \$5,800 to nine service members nation-

wide so they could pay off their payday loan debts. In 2006, the NMCRS spent \$987,000 on 1,509 service members.

Ray Caldwell, base director for NMCRS, says the society has in fact assisted service members with payday loan debts.

"We have paid payday loans off when it has become deemed the best interest of the command or service member and to be combat ready," said Caldwell. "Typically we don't, but when it's in his or her best interest we will help them break the cycle. This requires approval by our headquarters in Virginia."

The problem has grown so great that the military considers payday loans to be one of the greatest threats to the armed forces as a whole. It affects military preparedness. Marines who are preoccupied with their financial troubles are distracted from their main obligations.

Patton said since 2000, the number of revoked security clearances has increased 1,600 percent and is a top reason service members can't deploy overseas.

"At a time of war, it is unacceptable to lose this kind of talent and valuable resource," said Patton.

I scream, you scream...



SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III

Marines of Headquarters Battalion and others around the Combat Center's Mainside area were greeted by the Headquarters Battalion Key Volunteers with free ice cream May 25 as part of the KVN ice cream social.

FTC ALTERNATIVES TO PAYDAY LOANS

- When you need credit, shop carefully. Compare offers. Look for the credit offer with the lowest APR — consider a small loan from your credit union or small loan company, an advance on pay from your employer, or a loan from family or friends. A cash advance on a credit card also may be a possibility, but it may have a higher interest rate than your other sources of funds; find out the terms before you decide. Also, a local community-based organization may make small business loans to individuals.
- Compare the APR and the finance charge (which includes loan fees, interest and other types of credit costs) of credit offers to get the lowest cost.
- Ask your creditors for more time to pay your bills. Find out what they will charge for that service — as a late charge, an additional finance charge or a higher interest rate.
- Make a realistic budget, and figure your monthly and daily expenditures. Avoid unnecessary purchases — even small daily items. Their costs add up. Also, build some savings — even small deposits can help — to avoid borrowing for emergencies, unexpected expenses or other items. For example, by putting the

There are other options. Consider the possibilities before choosing a payday loan:

- amount of the fee that would be paid on a typical \$300 payday loan in a savings account for six months, you would have extra dollars available. This can give you a buffer against financial emergencies.
- Find out if you have, or can get, overdraft protection on your checking account. If you are regularly using most or all of the funds in your account and if you make a mistake in your checking (or savings) account ledger or records, overdraft protection can help protect you from further credit problems. Find out the terms of overdraft protection.
- If you need help working out a debt repayment plan with creditors or developing a budget, contact your local consumer credit counseling service. There are non-profit groups in every state that offer credit guidance to consumers. These services are available at little or no cost. Also, check with your employer, credit union or housing authority for no- or low-cost credit counseling programs.
- If you decide you must use a payday loan, borrow only as much as you can afford to pay with your next paycheck and still have enough to make it to the next payday.



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3 bdrm, 2 ba, lg priv. fncd yd, w/gar, dishwasher, no dogs, \$895 very nice. 365-9738
CUTE 1 bdrm, new paint, AC, laundry, carport. Santa Fe & Bannock. avail 6/1 365-3499
DUPLEX - 2 bdrm, 1 ba., w/ single car gar, newly renovated, no pets. Avail 7/1. \$725 + \$725 dep. (949) 278-6350
LG. 3 bdrm, 2 ba, cntl. air, D/W, W/D hkuaps, dbl gar., no pets. \$875/mo. 7595 Kickapoo Tr. (562) 943-5719
NEWLY REFURBISHED TRI-PLEX 3 bdrm, 2 ba, w/ paid, inclosed gar., no pets, \$850/mo 365-2500
SPACIOUS 1 bedroom Apt for rent. No Pets. Available \$475/mo Sec Dep \$350. (714) 313-7106

Lg 2 bdrm, new carpet, paint, in gated security bldg, great location, lovely landscaped grounds, carport, gar, avail. for \$50/mo, w/ pd, on-site mgr, \$675/mo Call Steve at 228-1292

205 COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

29 PALMS
GREAT office, beauty shop or store location in 29 Palms. Pick your size. Start at \$200 - \$1100 per mo. 6427 Mesquite & 6455 Mesquite, 29 Palms. Please call AAA Property Management at (760) 369-1221.

JOSHUA TREE
OFFICE Suite in comfortable, stylish prof. bldg. - all with kitchen, breakroom, training/conference room. Secure lobby. (760) 902-9982

YUCCA VALLEY
HUGE office space, medical or real estate. 7180 Mohawk, \$2,000/mo. Call AAA Property Mgmt at (760) 369-1221

PROF. office / retail space 4 lease, 440-2500 sf, contact Michael

STUDIO & 2 bdrm house, util pd. 362-

210 MOBILE HOME RENTALS

29 PALMS
SMITH'S Ranch 2 & 3 bdrm rentals. Clean, quiet, close to base. (760)367-7203

29P EDGE-O-TOWN

Mobile Home Park. Furn/unfurn. 1 & 2 bdrm. \$300-\$400 + \$300 dep. Laundry room. Adjacent to Stater Bros. Possible discounts available. (760) 367-9364

215 RESIDENTIAL-FURNISHED

YUCCA VALLEY
PERFECT 4 worker! In town studio; util.+Indry use; no dogs or drugs! \$600mo+sec. 369-1125

220 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

3 bdrm, 2 bath, 8741 Frontera, \$1450/month. Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
AVAILABLE now! 1-3 bdrm. houses & apts. Call Affordable Rentals (760) 228-5000 or AffordableRentals.biz
LUXURY Home in C.C. 3bdrm, 2ba, over 1700 sq. ft. Shows like new home! Granite counter tops, spanish tile roof. Many amenities! \$1150 mo. Call Mark (760) 366-7654
1, 2, 3 bedroom rentals, call now for availability. AAA Property Management (760) 369-1221
RENTALS
DESERT VISTA REALTY New 2, 3 & 4 bdrm. homes in YV, JT, 29P Call for Availability (760) 406-1161 or (760) 369-2884 desertvistarealty.com

29 PALMS

2 bdrm, 1 bath plus bonus room, 5656 Mesquite Springs. \$850/month. Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
2 houses, 1 lot. 2 bdrm, 2 ba. + studio. \$800/mo. +dep. \$400 (760) 366-7729
29 Palms - Houses & Apts. G. Mgmt. Co./ Del Gagnon Co. Call for info. 367-3535
29 Palms close to Base & town, 4 bdrm house w/ lg family rm., \$950/mo. + sec., avail now. Lg house freshly painted interior, great neighborhood (760)367-9521
29 Palms rental, 3 bdrm 2 bath \$900, gar, tile, ac/swamp, pets. Details @ 367-9521
29P. Charming 2bdrm 1ba house, carpet, w/d hookups, stove & frig. Lg. fncd yd, trash pd. Nat. gas. \$675/mo+dep. 367-1661
3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, Indian Cove, \$795/mo. (949) 838-5065
3 bdrm, 1 ba, on 5 ac, 12 mi. east of 29Palms. \$675/mo + \$675/dep+pd dep (760)367-0305 Avail 6/6/06
3 bdrm, 1 bath, 73135 Sun Valley, \$995/mo Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
3 bdrm, 2 bath plus den, 4734 Roundup. \$1,100/month. Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
STUDIO & 2 bdrm house, util pd. 362-

220 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

3 bdrm, 2 bath, 5435 Daisy, \$900/month. Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
3 bdrm, 2 bath, 6283 Tamarisk, \$1100/month. Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
3 bdrm, 2 bath, 6622 Tamarisk, \$1,000/mo Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
3 bdrm, 2 bath, 74826 Aladdin, \$1075/month. Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
4 bdrm, 2 bath plus den, 74745 Alta Loma. \$1250/month. Call AAA Property Mgmt. at (760) 369-1221
61626 Capilla Dr. 3 bdrm, 1.5 ba w/ gar. and dining room. New carpet/paint. Pets OK. \$975/mo. +dep. (760) 641-2479
Brand new 283 bdrm homes, wsh/dry/frig included, grt location, a/c \$850+. (714)749-2728
Immaculate 3 bdrm 2 ba, 2 car gar, fncd yd, frp/c, d/w, w/d, frig \$1200/mo (760)401-4961
NEW 3 bdrm, 2 ba, office, 4 car gar, views, backs to JTNP. \$985. (760) 365-5726
NEW home, 29 Palms, 2 bdrm., 2 ba., 2 car gar., 1000 sf., \$825. +sec., For more info. call (715) 643-6404 or (715) 643-2024
NEW homes 29 Palms, 3 bdrm., 2 ba., 2 car gar., 1266 sq. ft. \$895 mo. + sec. dep. For more info. call (715) 643-6404 or (715) 643-2024
YOUR own Shangri-La, fantastic views, lg. 1 bdrm. for someone who likes quiet & privacy, close in. \$625. 366-2125

REMODELED

3/2, jacuzzi tub in master, new paint, heating & air, porcelain tile thru-out, new appl., private on 5 acres plus, bonus work shop, walking distance to Lucky Park, views. Must see! \$900/mo. Mike (760) 401-5733

JOHNSON VALLEY

FURNISHED 2 bdrm, 1 ba, house \$800/mo. sec. utilities included. 364-2058

JOSHUA TREE

2 bdrm, 2 ba, 1 car gar, fireplace, build-ins, w/d & fridge, avail 7/1. \$925 per mo. (714) 270-9651
2100 sq ft, 2 bdrm, 1 3/4 ba, lg den w/bar, frp/c, d/w, utility rm, back fncd, lg dbl gar, a/c, swamp cooler, natl gas, trees, shrubs, near Friendly Hills School \$900. 366-8833

Combat Center Trader Ads

AUTOMOTIVE

'91 RANGER - 4X4 V6 long bed, AC, power windows/locks, cruise, Pioneer AM/FM cassette w/ 12-disc changer, amp, subwoofer, only 64,000 original miles. \$4700/OBO. Call 367-4690 or 217-5474. 5/26/06

'64 FORD - Restoration project need to be completed, 289-C4 engine completely rebuilt. \$3500 OBO 365-4564. 5/12/06

2005 ATV E-TON VIPERXL 90R - Like new! \$1800 or best offer. Call 368-9870.

4/28/06

4 20" CENTERLINE RIMS WITH TIRES - 6 lug nuts, 1 / 2 ton, one year old. \$900. Call 760-365-5128. 4/14/06

'00 HARLEY SOFTAIL NIGHTRAIN - 11, 500 miles, meticulously maintained. Over \$3,000 in extras installed. Asking \$15,000. Serious inquiries only. Call 368-1122. 3/24/06

'74 MGB - All parts included, runs 1.8 engine, 5 speed, project car, excellent body, \$700. Call 361-3509.

'57 CHEVY P/U TRUCK - Model 3100, 350 small block, 350 transmission, auto, \$8,100 OBO. Call 361-3509.

PETS

DOG KENNEL - with gate 4 X 15' panels, \$350 obo. Call 368-3829. 5/5/06

MISC.

MOVING SALE - June 3 & 4: 8210-A Crampton Ct from 7am-1pm. Couches, futon, housewares, videos, toys and much more! Great deals! 6/2/06

ROOMMATES WANTED

- To share 3 bedroom home with in ground pool, close to shopping and base. Call 362-3549. 5/19/06

WINDCHASER PACR9 - Portable air conditioner, 9000 BT4s, dehumidifier, tankless design, remote control. \$99 OBO, call 361-9426. 5/19/06

SIDE X SIDE - Refrigerator \$250. Standard Refrigerator \$150. Washer and gas dryer, like new \$250. Call 367-4690 or 217-5474. 5/19/06

STROLLER - Like new, double jogging stroller,

baby jogger, navy, 20" wheels \$220 OBO. Call 368-0384. 5/12/06

KID STYLE YARD SALE - Kids toys at kids prices. 3520B Cannon Drive, Sat. 13, 8-11 a.m. 5/12/06

GE DOUBLE WIDE FRIG - with water and ice dispenser, \$600 obo. Call 368-3829. 5/5/06

WOMANS BIKE - Specialized crossroad elite woman's bike, \$300 obo. Call 368-3829. 5/5/06

3-BDRM PLUS DEN

2 baths-large kitchen-2 baths-2patios-2 blocks from Onaga Elementary- call 760-401-5415 (NEW HOUSE) Yucca Valley 7773 Hanford Ave. 4/28/06

SCRAPBOOKING SUPPLIES - 11 idea books (6 CM retired), 20 decorative scissors, clip art w/ 36 pencils, 30 templates, 250+ die cuts, 500+ stickers, 14 decorative rulers, and several misc. items \$45. 50+ heavy duty paper punchers. All sizes \$50. 200+ rubber stamps and ink pads, several kits from Stampin' Up \$50. Call Jessica @ 660-9422. 4/21/06

The deadline for submitting Trader ads is noon Friday, the week prior to publication. Trader ad forms may be filled out during normal working hours at the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1417. Ads may

also be submitted through e-mail, but will only be accepted from those with an @usmc.mil address. Ads will only be accepted from active or Reserve duty and retired personnel, their family mem-

bers and civil service workers. The limit for ad submissions is two per household per week.

The Trader may be used only for noncommercial classified ads containing items of

personal property offered by and for individuals authorized to use this service. Such ads must represent incidental exchanges not of sustained business nature.

Ads for housing rentals

will not be considered for the Combat Center Trader.

To have a "House For Sale" ad run in the Observation Post, applicants must provide Permanent Change of Station orders and have the ad

approved by Base Housing. This ensures the Combat Center Trader is not used for commercial real estate endeavors.

Ads are run on a first-come, first-served, space-available basis.

220 UNPUNISHED

BRAND new clean 3 bdrm., 2 ba. Dog lovers bring your dogs, 1 ac. \$1075 (760) 880-1054

COPPER Hills new 3 bdrm., 2ba., huge mstr. w/frpl., 57115 Juarez Dr. \$1395 neg. lease (619) 459-5619

FABULOUS Sky Harbor 4 bdr., 2 ba., 3 car gar., 58484 Juarez Dr. Call 228-2639

FULLY Furnished 3 bdrm, 2 bath house on 1 acre. New carpet and paint. Great family neighborhood. \$1,250 mo + deposit. Call (818) 769-5625

IN-TOWN Home 1 bdrm, 1 ba., detach garage + storage, lg lot \$610/mo. + dep. Call (760) 365-7038

RENT to own, beautiful home, xint. view, 3bdrm, 2.5 ba, totally remodeled, priv. walk way in lg. bckyd. 2000sqft. -6250 Mirlo Rd. Call 310-650-8136

SKY Harbor, beautiful 3bdrm, 2 ba, fncd, landscaped, attached 2 car garage, new carpet/ tile paint throughout. Pets OK. \$1200/mo. (760)267-1849

VINTAGE SKY HARBOR
Spacious 3 bdrm, 2 ba, on 1.5 ac., Exclusive valley neighborhood Formal lr rm, vaulted ceiling and fireplace. Split floor plan, detached garage with remote. Atrium, large covered patio. Lg fenced play area for kids. One block to MacArthur Park "1st month rent free" Judy & Dave Co. \$1,100/mo 366-8229

UPPER Sky Harbor-Amazing Views. 3 bdrm., 3.5 ba., 2750sf casita. Fireplace, all appliances, 3/4 acre fncd. Pets ok. \$1,580/mo. (760) 674-8728 or (760) 799-4120

WESTERN Hills, Fabulous view home, new, 3bdrm, 2ba, 2 car gar. propane. \$1200/mo (760) 365-9507 or (760) 424-6168

WESTERN Hills, Fabulous view home, new, 3bdrm, 2ba, 2 car gar. propane & fenced. yrd. 6344 Murrieta Dr. \$1200/mo (760) 365-9507 or (760) 424-6168

YUCCA MESA, new custom home, 3 bdrm., 2 ba., + fm; rm., 1 ac. corner lot w/view, RV access. Avail now. 58883 Sunflower Dr. (X In-dio) \$1250. Call owner, Dennis Veltz, only (714) 396-5744

PRESTIGIOUS SKY HARBOR
Open floor plan, frplc, all windows, lighting and plumbing fixtures recently updated. Newer heating and air system. Onaga School District, two storage sheds out back, oversized driveway, front and rear porches, landscaping.

223 ROOMS 4

29 PALMS

Military welcome, room for rent \$375/mo. Includes util. Located E. 29Palms(760)218-3724

JOSHUA TREE

CO Grade or SNCO, share 3 bdrm, 2 ba, on 1/2 acre, with a W/D, pool, spa, and BBQ. \$600/mo + dep +1/2 bills. Friendly house broken pets are welcome. Only 10 min from the front gate. cell: (760) 212-0279

RENTAL WEEKLY

In Joshua Tree In rooms refing & micro, cable, A/C & phone. Low rates! 366-1113

YUCCA VALLEY

ROOM for Rent w/ pri. ba. over 55, no drugs or alcohol, no overnight guests. Beautiful new home w/view \$400 mo. Ref. Req. (760) 365-5608

Employment Advertising Policy

This newspaper does not knowingly accept employment ads that indicate an age preference, from employers covered by the Age Discrimination Act, or knowingly accept ads expressing a preference of sex, where no bona fide occupational qualification exists under the Fair Employment Act from employers covered by that act. Nor, do we in any way condone employment that discriminates on a basis of race, religion, ancestry or national origin. For further information regarding occupational qualifications and employers covered, contact the Fair Employment Practice Commission.

Hi-Desert Publishing Co.

Employment 300-399

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Camp Forrest Needs You!! Hiring for Summer Residential Camp in Joshua Tree to run from 6/18- 8/18/06. Counselors & dishwasher needed. Apply at 6889 Sunny Vista, JT (760) 366-8129

CLEANING service now hiring - Morongo Basin Area. Must be exp'd, hard worker, self starter, reliable a must, no felony arrests. FT & PT work avail. (760) 774-6171

COMMUNITY EDUCATOR - Associates degree or equivalent in science, education or a related field req. Bilingual a plus. Computer skills required. Powerpoint, Word, and graphics. \$3,744 - \$4,551 per mo. Visit www.cvmcd.org for complete job description and application instructions or call (760) 342-8287. DMV printout & drug screen required. EOE

LOCAL Telephone Co. Needs tech. w/ knowledge of telephones, DSL and outside plant exp. Fax resume to (760) 830-0334

MEDICAL office has possible openings F/T or P/T in front, back & billing. Respond to Box 984, YV, CA, 92286 or fax to 228-3369

MUSIC Director/Piano Accompanist needed for a small growing church, a few hours per week. Salary \$100-\$140/mo. Please drop resume at 29 Palms United Methodist Church 6250 Mesquite Springs Rd. or mail to UMC PO BX 236 29 Palms. 367-7338

NEWSPAPER delivery assistant. Must be available every Thursday & Friday between the hours of 8am and 5pm. 12-16 hours per week. Valid drivers license, DMV printout and proof of insurance required. If interested, please call John at (760) 568-6633

PLUMBER/Apprentice 1.5 to 3 years exp. own hand tools & truck. Good pay. Honest & Reliable. Leave msg between 7a-5p (760) 365-0833

ROOFERS needed, Foreman position available. must be willing to do hot tar, must have own transportation. Call (760) 361-4402

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FLEET/FACILITIES SUPERVISOR - Five years experience in fleet and/or facilities maintenance. Four year college degree req. \$5,041 - \$6,128 per mo. Visit www.cvmcd.org for complete job description and application instructions or call (760) 342-8287. DMV printout & drug screen required. EOE

HARRISON Air Conditioning is now hiring for the following positions: Exp'd HVAC Service Tech & Trainee Please call 228-0962

WOODS AUTO REPAIR Automotive Tech, apply in person, 55925 29 Palms Hwy Y.V. (760) 365-9204

305 KIDS

KLASSHIES

Free Ads!

If you are between the ages of 12-17 and are looking for work after school, bring your ID to the Hi-Desert Star or Desert Trail office and we will give you a free ad in this classification.

2 - 16 year old hard working & dependable guys will do yard work and swamp cooler servicing. Call Sean @ (760) 688-0291 or (760) 228-0039

RESPONSIBLE & Experienced 14yo babysitter. Willing to give you a night or even a day of alone time. If in need call 228-0649. Ref. Avail.

YARD work, no job too big! 831-7042

310 WORK WANTED

HANDYMAN

needs more work! Plumbing, auto, electrical & swamp. Ref's: 366-4697 or 368-7233 Jim

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Gargage door installer & helper needed. No smoking & valid Driver's License req'd. Call Dan (760) 369-2445

THE Rib Co. is now hiring. All positions. Please apply in person, both locations.3

VALLEY Community Chapel Preschool is growing again! Christian Preschool teacher needed. ECE Units a must. Please call Lisa for an interview. (760) 365-9049

WOODS AUTO REPAIR Automotive Tech, apply in person, 55925 29 Palms Hwy Y.V. (760) 365-9204

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435 SERVICES

ALLPHASES Handyman - electrical, swamps install & repairs, painting, tile & wood flooring, patio covers & pool decks, cust. sheds, remodeling & grey water systems. Call 887-8596

AUTO BOB'S Mobile Auto Repair, reasonable prices, excellent service! 664-1098 or 401-1402 Lic./Reg. #A0233282

BOB Cat Service, rock placement, decorative rock supplier, Silver Star Enterprise, John Harmon, Owner-Operator (760) 780-8029 unlic.

Bubba's Powder Coating 369-3917 Restoring cars, motorcycles, bicycles, rod iron fences.

CLEANING, by George, residential carpet care & commercial cleaning. Military & senior disc. Lic., bonded & insured. (760) 365-4223.

CONCRETE, Masonry & Patio Covers. Call Jeff McGowan Concrete & Masonry @ 228-1694 Lic#772649

CONCRETE, driveways, patios, house slabs. Also carpentry & room add's. No job too small. Call Bill 365-6724. Lic#402280

CONCRETE, Landscape Borders, Erosion Control, Garden Borders. Call The Curb Maker (760) 365-2221 unlic.

CONSTRUCTION Chimney sweep, fireplaces, masonry, waterfalls. Duda's Construction 228-0842 Lic. # 702827

CONSTRUCTION Build-Rite: Room additions & bathroom specialist. Design to complete installation. Call 365-7775. Lic#783113

CONSTRUCTION Floors to doors, remodels, new construction, Marble Granite Travertine, doors hardware molding, ceramic tile, wood flooring. Caves custom construction (760) 333-3636 unlic.

CONSTRUCTION, Custom wood, furniture, finish carpentry & cabinetry. Michael Holz Construction (760) 228-5884. Lic#542705

CONSTRUCTION, New construction, additions, remodels & repairs. John Saffie Construction Co. 363-7134 Lic. #296895

CONSTRUCTION, Room additions, kitchen, baths, roofing & painting. Call Keizer Construction G.C. (760) 220-8986 Lic#791652

CONSTRUCTION, Additions, remodels, tile work, roofing, framing, concrete & backhoe work. Call Paradise Construction 272-4025 ext. 365-5160 off. Lic. #13976 See Business Directory ad

CONSTRUCTION, Home Improvement. No job too small! Specializing in Drywall. Call Hamm Construction (760) 365-0949 Lic#64360

CONSTRUCTION, Serving the Morongo Basin Since 1984. Goodpaster Construction (760) 228-1985 Lic#503172

DRYWALL, Drywall, tape, texture, acoustic, patch work, custom textures. Sunrise Drywall Lic. #494808 365-3525

DRYWALL, A Wizard of Walls. Drywall, ceilings, acoustic, textures, stucco repair, painting & roofing. (760) 364-1907. unlic.

ELECTRIC, KDB Custom Lighting & Electric. "When only the best will do!" (760) 369-7447 Lic#572842

ELECTRIC, Comm. & Resid. Service upgrades, solar installation, ceiling fans, spa hook-ups, landscape lighting. Hi-Tek Electric 363-6743. Lic#10-550908

FENCING Applied Fencing Inc., 24 yrs. exp. Custom fencing, enclosures & automated entry systems. Free estimates. 366-0101. Lic. #328334

FENCING Chain link, field fencing, wood fence, no job too small. Fatty's Fencing 366-5462 or (760) 668-3525. (Lic. pending)

FREE Termite Inspections for homeowners. Call Termitex, Steve Kennedy (760) 272-8123

GARAGE DOORS, For all your garage door needs call Door Medic. (760) 401-732 4 Lic. #45130

GARAGE DOORS, Hi-Desert's largest inventory. Family owned & operated. Precision Garage Doors. 369-DOOR (369) Lic#15220

GARAGE DOORS, Openers, Parts and Service. Great Prices! Dan Dan 366-3353

HANDYMAN Retired electrician. No job too small! Ceiling fan installation, etc., general repairs. (760) 902-1531 unlic.

435 SERVICES

HANDYMAN Try Us Handymen No job 2 big or 2 small Call Art 364-4884 Senior & Military Disc.

HANDYMAN You got chores and don't want to do them... call Mike I do it all... no job 2 big or small. Cowboy Handyman 369-7035 or (909) 841-4311. unlic.

HANDYMAN, Free estimates. Prompt reliable service. Call Husbands for Rent @ 365-3438 or (760) 218-8567 unlic.

HANDYMAN, Call Henry's your #1 confident handyman. Lic#779986 (760) 362-4184 or 362-0034

HANDYMAN, Home Maintenance & Repair. See Business Directory for more info. KMS Services 369-0521

HANDYMAN, one call does it all! General home repair, plumbing, custom sheds & door installation. Call Ed Kennedy 365-2177

HAULING Trash & debris removal from homes, garages, yards & construction sites. Reasonable rates. Call 369-7330 or (760) 408-4334

DEBRIS Removal, Clean-Up and Haul Away. \$20. & up. (760) 910-2196

HEVY Mechanical Services, commercial & residential, a/c, heating, sheetmetal, ventilation, 228-3065 Lic#75706

HI-DESER Building Maintenance, repairs & installations. Electrical, plumbing, painting, concrete, tile & swamp cooler repair. Call 366-0774

HIS & HERS Home Service, HIS-Int/Ext. Painting, plumbing, electrical, sm. additions & roof repair. Quality w/ 25 years exp. HERS-Quality house cleaning w/ 25 years domestic engineering. Call today 364-2141.

HOME Maintenance, S & K Services, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, drywall, painting, roofing, concrete, additions & remodels. Call 369-4230 or (760) 808-4654

HONEST, Dependable Cleaning Service. Local Ref. Avail. Call Rebecca @ 366-0209

HOUSE Cleaning Honest & Reliable. Serving the Desert since 1994. Call Denise's Desert Dusters (760) 365-1967

LANDSCAPING Clear It Away Landscaping. Commercial and Residential landscaping at a low rate. Call for your free quote. 366-3435 or 365-4083

LANDSCAPING General maint., tree trimming, removable items, weed pulling, clean-up, haul away. Alexander Landscaping. 369-0280

LANDSCAPING Yard & trash cleanup, hauling, tree removal & maintenance 366-0383

LANDSCAPING, & Maintenance. Weekly & Monthly. Ret's available Call Alex @ Alvarez Gardening 366-0157 or 228-0409 (unlic)

LANDSCAPING, No job too small! Best Quality & Lowest Prices. Call Bill's Landscaping (760) 365-7964 Lic#785593

LANDSCAPING, yard clean up, tree trimming, etc. Can haul, low rates. Ron 228-2162

LANDSCAPING/TREE Can haul about anything. Reasonable rates! Call Scott's Tree & Yard Svc. 363-7304 / 485-6022 unlic.

MASONRY, Brick, Block, Stone, Tile, and Concrete. A little more money for a lot more quality. Elam Masonry (760) 365-6251 Lic#23651 B+C-29

NOW OPEN! Chinese Caddis Massages 5910 Adobe Rd #D 29Palms 760-361-0928

PAINTING in & out, acoustic ceiling removal & finish, elastomeric coating, cabinets, free estimates. 861-3536 or 228-1627

PAINTING - Classic Painting, Excellent Rates, References & Service! (760) 369-2351 or 898-2588 Lic. #645489

PAINTING, 35 yrs. exp. Quality Work Guaranteed up to 1 yr. Call Dominic's Custom house painting Lic#748880 365-1895

PAINTING, Concrete restoration, acid staining, custom painting, garage floor finishes. Zebra Concrete Coatings & Painting (760) 401-0650 Lic#29537

PLUMBING 24 hr emergency service, senior disc. Plumbing, drain cleaning, sewer & pipe locating, video drain inspection, leak detection, etc. Desert Empire Plumbing Drain (877) 775-8624. Lic# 803145

435 SERVICES

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JOSHUA TREE

BIG Sale! Sat. 06/03, 7-7: Lots of everything! First Baptist Church, 6740 Sunset Rd. (Corner of Capilla & Sunset)

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BLOCK/MOVING Sale Several Families! Sat. only. June 3rd. 7:30am-?? 49036 to 49075 Tamarisk Dr. Furn, Rugs, household items, antiques. Tools- const- auto, 04 Honda motorcycle, 01 5th wheel, 89 Jeep, 67 Mustang, 48 Jeep quad, 04 Nissan Mirano, 98 Dodge diesel P/U, 98 Chevy Blazer, 8 ft. Camper Shell V-6 Buick Engine.

GIANT Yard Sale hosted by MV Firefighters Auxiliary to benefit MV Fire Dept. Sat. June 3 8am-12pm. Social Club, 49840 29 Palms Hwy. Near Happy Cooker.

YUCCA VALLEY

ESTATE Sale- Thurs-Sat 8am. Old western cowboy hats & boots, oil paintings, furn, antiques, rugs and lots of stuff. 55860 Sunnyslope Pioneertown Rd.

FRI-SUN, 06/02-04, 8-7, washer & dryer, roll-away beds, armoire, crafts, scrubs, misc. items. 7100 Tamarisk Ave. (XCoyote)

FRI. & SAT., 06/2 & 3, 8am-7, typewriter, tape players, Mattress Genie, craft items, lots of misc. 7428 Cherokee Tr. Xst Santa Fe Tr.

GARAGE Sale June 2 & 3 8am-1pm. Baker's Rack, tools and lots more!! 7400 Cherokee Tr. Xst Santa Fe Tr.

GARAGE Sale- Fri. & Sat. June 2 & 3. 7am-1pm Antiques, Furniture and vintage etc. 5553 Palm Ave. OWS To Cobalt to Palm. Western Hills area.

GARAGE Sale- June 2&3, 7:30am-12pm. Tons of toys!! Military gear, deep freezer, clothes and much more! 56848 Navajo Tr. Xst Sage

GIGANTIC Yard Sale- June 3 & 4, 8am-4pm Apache M.H.P. 56254 29 Palms Hwy. Look for the balloons!

HUGE Garage Sale Fri & Sat June 2 & 3 8am-2pm Furniture, Dishes, Pictures and much more! 7402 Dumosa Xst Yucca Tr.

HUGE Yard Sale June 1-3rd. 8am-7. Furn, much misc., some oriental. 7448 Cibola Tr. (1 1/2 W of Church)

JUNE 2 & 3, Fri & Sat, 8am-2pm Home & Christmas decor, massage chair, handmade afghans & scarves, rugs, shoes & clothes, outdoor stuff and much more! 56234 Onaga Tr. Xst Church

MULTI-FAMILY garage/estate sale, Sat. 06-03 7-7, juke box, years of collectables. Harley Davidson Golf Cart, much more 57635 Pueblo Tr. (X Lucerne Vista)

MULTI-FAMILY Sat. June 3, 8am-2pm Microwave, treadmill, sm. appl., clothes and much more! 56396 Carlyle Dr. xst Tamarisk

533 GARAGE SALE

RECYCLED Riches! Huge rummage & bake sale, Sat. 6/3, 7am-noon, Y.V. Church of Religious Science, 7434 Bannock Tr. (So. of Hwy. 62)

SAT 6/3 & 6/4 8am-2pm Couch, Chair, Fridge, Toys, Clothes, Stroller, Baby Stuff, etc! Buena Vista Dr (across from theatre)

SKY Harbor - 2 house-hold moving sale. Everything must go! Sat. only June 3 @ 7a-3p. 57803 San Tropez

SKY Harbor, 57806 Desert Gold, Fri-Sun. June 2-4, 8a-7, gold & silver jewelry & coins, collectables, figurines, artwork & lots more!

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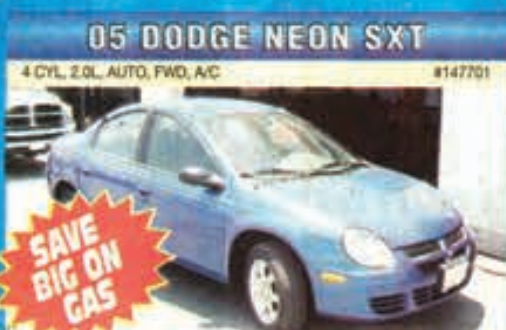
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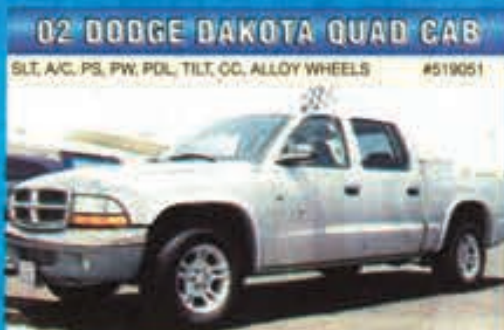
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PMO warns cell phone drivers

SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Driver inattention is the leading factor in most crashes and near-crashes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Nearly 80 percent of crashes and 65 percent of near-crashes involved some form of driver inattention within three seconds before the event. The most common distraction for drivers was the use of cell phones.

The Provost Marshal's Office plans to include cell phone use while driving as an offense in their upcoming bi-annual review of Motor Vehicle and Traffic Regulations.

"There's been a long-going push on traffic safety — we're really focused on drunk driving and speed — it's making a difference," said Maj. Wesley T. Prater, provost marshal. "The next big issue is cell phone usage. It seems like the most ignored traffic rule we have. People just don't appear to be taking it seriously, and it is dangerous."

Driving on base while talking on a cell phone could result in a seven-day suspension of on-base driving privileges, upon approval of the new order.

"The spirit of the order is, don't talk on a cell phone because it takes your attention away from your primary duty when operating a vehicle," said Prater.

Driving a vehicle without paying attention can easily turn it into a weapon, said Sgt. Maj. William Johnson, base sergeant major and traffic court judge.

"We're taking it seriously, the [commanding] general takes it seriously, and we're going to continue to focus on it," said Prater.

Some motorists may have the misconception that merely slowing down is all it takes to safely talk on a cell phone.

"What I see a lot of times is people fiddling with the radio, talking on the cell phone, eating french fries and they got a coke between their legs and they're operating a 5,000 pound vehicle moving 50 mph. That's what we're trying to prevent," said Prater.

"If you're going 50 miles an hour down the street and you steered into somebody because you're not paying attention, it can be as dangerous as causing a fatality," he said.

Drivers need to pull to the side of the road and into a safe spot before using a cell phone. However, drivers are allowed to use a hands-free device to talk on a cell phone, but a driver must still focus their attention on the road and driving safely.

"Stopping at a red light doesn't count, you're still on the road," said Capt. James P. Dollard, deputy provost marshal. "You need to get out of the

roadway before you talk on the phone."

Some researchers have compared the dangers of talking on a cell phone while driving to drunk driving.

"It is in the same category as drunk driving," said Prater. "It's dividing your attention and that's what drunk driving does. You're focused on being drunk, you can't physically pay attention."

"You have to take into consideration what the conversation is about... all those things psychologically come in, and it takes your focus away," he said.

Even the safest drivers can cause an accident in the short moment their attention is diverted to a cell phone.

"Regardless of how well you think you can drive, it only takes a second of diverted attention to cause an accident," said Johnson.

A cell phone can easily distract someone. When a driver's attention is not on the road, they are no longer in complete control of their vehicle.

"Looking down at the phone to see who is calling on the caller ID might be the time that a three-year-old runs out in the street," said Prater.

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