

# 3rd EOD blasts through training aboard Combat Center

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Marines with 3rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, completed a one-month-long training exercise aboard the Combat Center, Sept. 21.

“Since the Marines have been out here, they have encompassed a wide variety of training including a post-blast analysis, cache scenarios, dismounted and mounted [improvised explosive device] scenarios, along with a [Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel] scenario,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Drew B. Jordan, platoon commander, 3rd EOD, 9th ESB. “We also performed a [Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosive] event encompassing a platoon-level exercise where EOD technicians identified, [decontaminated,] and disposed of chemical munitions.”

Throughout the exercise, 3rd EOD utilized Ranges 112 and 114, and Emerson Lake and Quackenbush training areas. The Marines of 9th ESB took advantage of the desert terrain and vast area of the Combat Center to meet training needs.

“The terrain at the Combat Center is something we don’t get a chance to utilize in Japan and we are trying to take advantage of everything we can while we’re out here,” said Staff Sgt. Joshua K. Crabtree, EOD technician, 3rd EOD, 9th ESB. “Being able to operate in this terrain is extremely beneficial to us because it gives us another medium to train in than a jungle environment.”

According to Crabtree, the training aboard the Combat Center is vital in preparing for real-world scenarios the unit might encounter in a deployed environment.

“This training is by far one of the most important things we can do while operating at the Combat Cen-



Sgt. Mitchell D. Taylor, explosive ordnance disposal technician, 3rd EOD, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, utilizes rope to remotely dispose of ordnance during a post-blast analysis training scenario at Emerson Lake training area, Sept. 19.

ter,” Crabtree said. “The mountainous terrain has a lot of choke point areas we can utilize and a sandy environment similar to the Middle East. It’s definitely advantageous for our development.”

Major goals of the exercise included giving the Marines exposure to a different environment and experience with a wider variety of ordnance.

“Since the EOD technicians have been out here, they have had the opportunity to utilize ordnance they don’t normally have access to,” Jordan said. “Adding this kind of real-

See **Training** pg. A6



Staff Sgt. Joshua K. Crabtree, explosive ordnance disposal technician, 3rd EOD, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, performs a sweep with a metal detector during a post-blast analysis training scenario at Emerson Lake training area, Sept. 19.

## Combat Center stays prepared for power outages

BY LANCE CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

The Combat Center is on its last of four informational weeks for America’s Prepare-A-Thon 2015. The month-long presidential campaign is geared toward providing residents aboard the installation with the knowledge needed to prepare for, respond to, and recover from man-made incidents and natural disasters. This week’s focus is power outages.

An unexpected power outage can occur for any number of reasons, causing unforeseen consequences. Without electricity, people may become more susceptible to extreme temperatures and experience a shortage of clean water and fresh food. In the event of a power outage, one must be prepared to manage without power for an extended period of time.

“It is very important to have a plan because in the event of a natural or man-made disaster occurring you’ll be ready,” said J. Luis Aguirre, installation emergency management specialist, G-7 Mission Assurance. “The point that we try to drive home to everybody is that being prepared can make a huge difference in the outcome of a situation.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, extreme heat is the cause of most summertime blackouts and the best way to prepare is to develop an emergency plan that includes a disaster supply kit.

“We live in California and we’re all susceptible to power outages because of the earthquakes and other natural disasters,” said Gary Morrisett, base energy

manager, Public Works Department. “It doesn’t really take a lot for a whole area to lose power and you can never tell when you’re going to be without power for an extended period of time so it’s always good to have the basics whenever something like that happens.”

When preparing for or dealing with a power outage it is important to:

- Use flashlights for light instead of candles.
- Throw out any food that has been exposed to temperatures higher than 40° for two hours or more.
- Turn off the electrical equipment that was on when the power went out.
- Drink and use bottled, boiled or treated water.
- Try not to open the freezer or refrigerator too much; a full freezer can keep food for up to 48 hours.

“What we accomplished this month is we created a basic foundation from which we can build on for a more resilient community,” Aguirre said. “I don’t think taking just one month out of the year is sufficient enough when it comes to staying prepared. I think being proactive, trying to educate ourselves and learn more is what will ultimately make the difference.”

An information booth will be set up at the main exchange on Friday at 10 a.m. For additional information on how to take actions to prepare for or respond to a power outage, or any other natural or man-made incident, visit [www.ready.marines.mil](http://www.ready.marines.mil) or contact the G-7 Mission Assurance branch at 830-1884.

## Four-legged robot runs toward potential future with Marine infantry



SGT. ERIC KEENAN

Spot, a quadruped prototype robot, aids Marines in clearing a room during a demonstration at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., Sept. 16. Employees of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency trained Marines from the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab how to operate “Spot.”

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. ERIC KEENAN

Employees of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and Boston Dynamics trained Marines from the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab how to operate “Spot,” a quadruped prototype robot, at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., Sept. 16.

Spot is a 160-pound, electrically powered, hydraulically actuated robot designed by Boston Dynamics.

“We want to continue to experiment with quadruped technology and find ways that this can be employed to enhance the Marine Corps warfighting capabilities,” said Capt. James Pineiro, the branch

head for Marine Corps Warfighting Lab.

All week the Marines with the lab tested Spot’s abilities on different terrains including hills, woodlands and even in urban terrain.

“I think a robot like Spot has tons of opportunities [Marines] could use it for, like scouting or load carriage,” said Ben Swilling, a roboticist with Boston Dynamics.

During a military operation in urban terrain drill, Spot went into the building before the Marines simulating peaking around corners

See **Robot** pg. A6

## Marine Corps’ Top Shot

Every week, thousands of fans cast their votes for the best photograph posted on the Corps’ Facebook page. This week’s top shot comes from Pfc. Devan Gowans.



PFC. DEVAN GOWANS

Marines with Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force - Phoenix, stand at parade rest during a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at the Healing Field in Tempe Town Lake, Ariz., during Marine Week Phoenix, Sept. 11.





Reprinted from the Observation Post  
September 29, 1967

# Poisonous snakes vary in size, color

Throughout the world there are many snakes whose poisonous bites can be fatal to man. In the United States there are four different types, the coral snake, the copperhead snake, water moccasin and the rattlesnake.

There are 16 distinct kinds of rattlesnakes. There are numerous subspecies and color variations, but they can all be positively identified by the jointed rattles on the tail. Most of the rattlers are concentrated in the Southwestern United States. The Pacific and rattlesnake is the only rattler found in the Pacific region north of Southern California. In California its range extends south from Oregon to lower California.

Some types of snakes lay eggs. In others the eggs are retained in the mother's body until hatched and the young

are born alive. Rattlesnakes are among those that give birth to living young.

Except for the extreme northern portions of California, mating takes place in the spring and the young are born between August and October. If all goes well they will grow rapidly. As they grow larger, and each time they come out of hibernation, they shed their skin. Each time they shed their skin a new rattle is added. During the rapid growth of the first few years they may shed their skin three times a year. Thus the number of rattles is not a true indication of age.

Rattlesnakes eat lizards and small rodents. They strike rather than attempt to hold their prey. The fangs are hollow, and when they penetrate flesh, the venom is injected into the victim.

Much of their small prey is stunned. If a larger animal runs some distance before it dies, they trail it down and proceed to swallow it whole.

From Lake Tahoe north you might see the Great Basin rattler; from Tahoe south, the sidewinder and Panamint rattlers; along the Colorado River, the western diamondback; in the southwestern area, the red diamond back and speckled rattlers; and in the Mojave Desert, both the Mojave and of the sidewinder.

Many persons spend a lifetime hunting, fishing and picnicking in California and never see a rattlesnake. Few people are bitten. Yet, because the bite is extremely painful and can be fatal, when you are in the field you should always keep alert as to where you step

or put your hands. Be careful after dark, for on warm nights rattlesnakes are out searching for food. If you are alone and are struck where the wound can be reached, suck out as much poison and as you can in two or three minutes. Then, moving very slowly, seek a cool spot, preferably near water, and remains as quiet as possible. Expect ugly swelling and extreme pain.

There are varying degrees in the amount of poison a snake injects. Many people recover without medical aid. If help is near, get a doctor as soon as possible. Most rattlesnakes when disturbed normally try to withdrawal, but if they think they are cornered the explosive sizzling buzz of their rattles is an unmistakable warning and a sound that will long be remembered.

## CROSSWORD

"Q-Tips"

- Across**
- 1 6, for a TD
  - 4 Stopper, slangily
  - 10 Bookstore area, often
  - 14 "\_\_\_ we there yet?"
  - 15 "Same here"
  - 16 Automobile pioneer
  - 17 Young feudal attendant from Austria?
  - 20 Jedi Skywalker
  - 21 Gardening aid
  - 22 Boil fluid
  - 23 Ring combination
  - 25 Flagpole \_\_\_ (exhibitionist of sorts)
  - 29 Page 2, usually
  - 30 Sinai snake
  - 33 Like fuel-rich bogs
  - 34 Prankster
  - 37 Arched recess
  - 38 Corrective pier?
  - 42 Subjective surrounding
  - 43 Cool and calm
  - 44 Short drinks
  - 46 Actor Beatty
  - 47 Muslim holy men
  - 52 Slim and graceful girls
  - 54 Frisbee forerunner
  - 55 "A Boy Named \_\_\_"
  - 56 Country north of Mex.
  - 58 Last single-digit number
  - 59 Getting in line?
  - 64 "Pay me later" marker
  - 65 Take flight
  - 66 Chauffeur's "office"
  - 67 Wait, as one's time
  - 68 Informed (on)
  - 69 1997 U.S. Open champ Ernie

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14				15							16			
17			18							19				
20					21				22					
23				24					25			26	27	28
29						30	31	32		33				
				34	35				36		37			
		38	39	40						41				
42					43									
44				45		46				47	48	49	50	51
52					53				54					
				55				56	57		58			
59	60	61				62				63				
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

- Down**
- 1 Stimulating scientist
  - 2 Three in one
  - 3 Petitioner
  - 4 People related to you
  - 5 Moscow is there
  - 6 Kidvid puppet-hobo
  - 7 Early Nebraskan
  - 8 Healthful crop
  - 9 Test sites: Abbr.
  - 10 "Calypso" captain
  - 11 Ring name
  - 12 32nd pres.
  - 13 Dir. opp. WNW
  - 18 Hits into the goal
  - 19 Bon mot
  - 24 Get down to business
  - 26 Appetizer that literally means "lid"
  - 27 Online DIY jewelry source
  - 28 Bread choice
  - 30 Home of the world's longest chair lift
  - 31 Freak out
  - 32 Stepped off
  - 35 Biblical equine
  - 36 Tony winner Cariou
  - 38 Hide, as a dog's bone
  - 39 Uzbekistan's \_\_\_ Sea
  - 40 Jamboree locale
  - 41 Liner, briefly
  - 42 Commercial info
  - 45 Avoid socially

- 48 List of alternatives
- 49 Each, in pricing
- 50 Aid for a confused user
- 51 Signs of superciliousness
- 53 Popeye creator
- 54 Art class goop
- 56 Military force
- 57 Place at the table
- 59 Letters in "Respect"
- 60 \_\_\_ tuna
- 61 Word repeated in "I \_\_\_! I \_\_\_!"
- 62 Fertility lab supply
- 63 Theorem letters

## SUDOKU

Sudoku Puzzle #3768-D

	1	2		3			4	
			5	1	6			
7		8			2	3		
			1			8		
9								2
		5			3			
		3	4			5		7
			6	9	7			
	4			8		6	1	

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Difficult

Last week's answers

I	D	I	O	T		S	I	L	L		A	T	O	P
D	I	N	A	H		T	R	E	E		C	U	B	E
L	O	C	K	E	R	R	O	O	M		H	U	M	O
E	R	A				K	E	E	N		O	U	T	S
						S	N	A	P		K	N	E	E
B	I	T	M	A	P		K	A	T	Y		C	A	B
A	D	H	O	C		T	R	U	E		S	H	O	E
S	T	O	C	K		C	H	A	R	A	C	T	E	R
T	A	N	K			H	I	F	I		O	R	A	T
E	G	G				T	I	N	T		S	N	A	P
						C	O	V	E		C	I	T	Y
T	R	A	U	M	A		A	O	N	E		S	P	A
B	A	R	R	E	L	O	F	M	O	N	K	E	Y	S
A	V	I	D			R	H	E	A		T	I	A	R
R	E	D	S			Y	O	W	S		S	T	R	O

Sudoku Solution #3766-D

7	8	1	6	2	9	3	5	4
3	4	2	8	1	5	9	7	6
9	6	5	3	7	4	8	1	2
2	9	3	5	4	1	6	8	7
1	5	4	7	6	8	2	9	3
8	7	6	9	3	2	5	4	1
5	3	7	4	8	6	1	2	9
4	2	8	1	9	3	7	6	5
6	1	9	2	5	7	4	3	8

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- Puff's Tobacco Mart, 57063 29 Palms Hwy.  
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- NYPD Pizza, 260-262 N. Palm Canyon Drive

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WHAT I'VE LEARNED

# Marcellous MASON

Las Vegas Supply administrator, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Age 19

Mason has been producing rap music since he was in sixth grade. He uses his lyrics as a form of preaching to spread the word about his beliefs.

>Before I started making music

I used to preach. I felt that music was a good way to get the word out because people love to listen to music. If people listen to my music, then they are listening to preaching.

>I like to make music that motivates people. I would make songs of a different genre but I can't sing.

>Music uplifts people in a way. You don't know what people are going through and music can help them bond and get through hard times.

>I believe that my music can help people realize that life is short and that things will get better.

>My religion is Christianity. Through my own research I've come to believe in Jesus Christ. I feel that he reveals himself to people in different ways than you can see with your eyes.

>I've been in the Marine Corps for just over a year now.

>In my time in the Marine Corps, I've built bonds with my fellow Marines. Each Marine in a company or platoon knows what the others have to go through.

>There is always that rivalry between west and east coast Marines, and Marines from different battalions or platoons. In the end, we are all Marines and will work together to accomplish the mission.

>There is also rivalry between the Marines and the other branches of service. In the same way, services members have a bond and can work together when the time comes.

>My family consists of my mother, father, three brothers and two sisters. I have a twin brother who is a pastor.

>I moved around a lot throughout Alabama growing up. One thing I noticed growing up in Alabama is that people say sir or ma'am to show respect. The Marine Corps is similar in that we use our customs and courtesies to be respectful and professional.

>Before I joined the Marine Corps, I used to cook everyday with my mother. While we would cook every meal, my specialty is breakfast foods. In Alabama, my grandfather would also show me different things to cook.

>Drawing is another way for me to express my beliefs. I noticed that I was very artistic and that I loved to draw. Many of my drawings have hidden meanings and symbols.

>While in my [military occupation specialty] school I received the motivation award. I don't know why but I



seem to motivate people. I like to keep a positive attitude because it helps those around me stay motivated.

>I joined the Marine Corps for the challenge. A Marine Corps' recruiter came to me and asked me if I would accept the challenge. I took it and it certainly has been difficult.

>Before boot camp, I never knew anything about the military because none of my family members are in the service.

>If I get out of the military, I will be able to put the skills I've learned to use in my resume. There are a lot of little things that go into doing your job in the military and they help you when you are looking for a job.

>The most important thing in my life right now is my career. I have high hopes for the future and would like to be a sergeant major someday.



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# Partnership

## U.S. Marines, Senegalese military

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. OLIVIA MCDONALD

U.S. Marines and Senegalese military members spent a week sharpening their infantry skills in Toubacouta, Senegal, Aug. 31-Sept. 4.

Marines with the Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa worked with their Compagnie Fusilier de Marin Commando counterparts on everything from the planning process to how troops move and why. These skills are necessary to help the Senegalese mitigate illicit trafficking and maintain regional stability in the area.

This engagement is an evolution of the multiple training progressions the COFUMACO and Marines have shared together in the past.

“In this week’s training we have learned a lot of things,” said Senegalese Private Jean Pierre Thiare, who previously trained twice with U.S. Marines. “They are things we have not experienced before. It is very good training that we can use to add to the techniques we have and apply it when we are on the front or in a real situation.”

The Senegalese COFUMACO are equally a land and water-based fighting force, much like U.S. Marines. This is the latest rotation of Marines in Senegal exchanging maritime security force assistance tactics with the Senegalese.

“The Senegalese are really motivated,” said Cpl. Mario Montanez, a machine gunner and primary instructor with the U.S. Marines. “They are a smart group of individuals. They are really energetic and eager to learn.”

After seeing the COFUMACO’s drive, the Marines jumped into training with their counterparts, challenging them at every chance.

“Across the Marine Corps we learn from a crawl-walk-run method and we didn’t change anything here,” said Staff Sgt. James Renwand, course and team chief with the team. “We started off day one, introduction to buddy pairs. So you and your buddy, how do you move? How do you support one another? We built on that the next day with team movement. Now how do you move in a team? Then we started targeting small-unit leadership on the team level.”

The fifth and final day of infantry tactics was a culminating exercise that tested skills in notional, real-time scenarios.

“I like working with the Marines because they are respectful and they respect their jobs and they do everything to make it correct,” Thiare said. “They are very tactful in time management. Those are the important things I have noticed in other trainings as well as this one.”

As the final training event for this rotation nears, COFUMACO will conduct an exercise that challenges all the skillsets, land and water based, that they have worked on with the Marines and Coast Guard. It is these skillsets that are essential for Senegalese to keep stability in the region.

“I don’t think we only came here to better the COFUMACO. The US Marines coming out of it are definitely significantly better and better equipped,” Renwand said. “It has been an amazing experience.”



A team of Compagnie Fusilier De Marin Commandos prepare to enter a room during an “actions at the objective” class conducted by Marines with Security Cooperation Team- 4, Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa, in Toubacouta, Senegal, Sept. 3.



Cpl. Benjamin Swanson, a rifleman with Security Cooperation Team-4, Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa, ‘bumps’ his Compagnie Fusilier de Marin Commando counterpart to signal him to cross the danger area with cover during a patrol exercise in Toubacouta, Senegal, Sept. 2.



Cpl. Mario Montanez, a machine gunner with Security Cooperation Team-4, Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa, posts security during a patrol exercise with Compagnie Fusilier de Marin Commandos in Toubacouta Senegal, Sept. 2.



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# in action

## sharpen infantry skills



Three Marines with Security Cooperation Team-4, Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa, demonstrate the proper handling of a non-hostile to Compagnie Fusilier de Marin Commandos during an 'actions at the objective' class in Toubacouta, Senegal, Sept. 3.



Lance Cpl. Nathan Howard, a rifleman with Security Cooperation Team-4, Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa, uses hand and arm signals to communicate with his Marine and Compagnie Fusilier de Marin Commando counterparts across a danger area during a patrol exercise in Toubacouta, Senegal, Sept. 2.



Two Compagnie Fusilier de Marin Commandos scan their surroundings during a patrol exercise alongside Marines with Security Cooperation Team-4, Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa, in Toubacouta, Senegal, Sept. 2.



Staff Sgt. Renwand, Security Cooperation Team-4 team chief with Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa, explains different techniques to cross danger areas to Compagnie Fusilier de Marin Commandos during a patrol exercise in Toubacouta, Senegal, Sept. 2.

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# Marines bid farewell to Phoenix



Marines retire the American flag for the final time in the city of Phoenix at Civic Space Park, Sept. 13.

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY SGT. CUONG LE

The 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. John A. Lejeune, once said that the future success of the Marine Corps depends on two things: efficiently performing all duties it is assigned, and bringing that efficiency to the attention of the American people.

Six years ago, the Marine Corps came up with a plan to maximize their ability to show that efficiency by bringing assets from across the country to cities across America. With more than six million people in the surrounding area, Phoenix was selected to host 2015 Marine Week.

“Phoenix is so thrilled to have Marine Week, we’ve been working very hard to bring it here,” said Councilwoman Kate Gallego. “We know the purpose of Marine Week is to educate Phoenix about the Marines but we are also hoping they learn how much Phoenix supports our armed services.”

Hundreds of Marines swarmed the streets of downtown Phoenix and along with their tactical vehicles and equipment, filled up parks and parking lots. The suburbs of Phoenix also experienced

special events with static displays and performances by military working dogs and handlers, Marine Band San Diego, the Silent Drill Platoon and instructors from the Martial Arts Center of Excellence.

“This week has given us a chance to appreciate what the Marines do and show our support by being out here,” said Lorena Ramirez, a spectator at one of the various static display locations around town. “They put their lives on the line to keep our country safe and we appreciate that,” adding the Marines were very friendly and hospitable to people who knew very little about the Marine way of life.

Phoenix residents also had the opportunity to participate in daily workout sessions and learned the importance of physical training for Marines. They also tested residents on their own Combat Fitness Test, which includes counting ammunition can lifts, running two track laps, and completing a timed obstacle course.

Each morning, a Marine team participated in community service projects, cleaning up parks and grounds, and building beautification structures in schools across the city.



Marines retire the American flag for the last time in the city of Phoenix at Civic Space Park, Sept. 13. More than 800 Marines participated in Marine Week Phoenix to give the citizens of the Valley of the Sun the opportunity to meet the individual Marines and celebrate community, country and Corps.

Laura Eliza Valdez, a poolee in the Marine Corps’ Delayed Entry Program, said she was happy to be able to see the Marines in her community.

“I hope that people learn a bit more about what the Marines actually do for our country and not take what they do for granted,” said Valdez, who is slated to attend Marine Corps recruit training in October.

Also as a part of Marine Week, Marines and community members gathered together to pay homage to the Marines lost in battle, as well as to the victims of the September 11 attacks.

“We are a part of the community. We are sons and daughters. We’re brothers and sisters, and we only happen to choose to fight a different fight for our country,” said Lt. Col.

Antonio Scofield, a program manager with Marine Corps Systems Command. “I think this week has gone a long way in explaining, not only to the citizens of Phoenix, but ev-

everyone who has seen us, that we love America.”

Marine Week ended with a small closing ceremony and ceremonial lowering of the flag to say goodbye to the city of Phoenix.

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*by Lou Gerhardt*



I become 90 on September 28. My granddaughter Gabriella becomes six on the same day!

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You are precious. You are unique. There has never been another person like you. Accept yourself, like yourself, and have a high opinion of yourself.

Have a high opinion of the other people in your life. Each person is basically good and you should always endeavor to recognize and encourage the good and the beautiful that exists in each person.

Have a significant and practical involvement in a project or institution that demands your best efforts. My efforts include seeking homes for the homeless, food for the hungry, and day by day contributions to alleviate the pain and suffering in my immediate community.

I enjoy each and every day as I follow the advice of the great writer and thinker Johann Goethe:

“A person should hear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the Beautiful, which God has implanted in the human soul.”

Finally, I share the words of John Burroughs:

“I still find each day too short for all the thoughts I want to think, all the walks I want to take, all the books I want to read, and all the friends I want to see. The longer I live the more my mind dwells upon the beauty and the wonder of the world.”

*This column sponsored by:*

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# 1/3 Marines maintain their combat mindset

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
CPL. BRITTNEY VITO

Beneath the scorching Hawaiian sun, camouflaged in utilities, a flak jacket and kevlar, Marines with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, conducted training at Training Area Boondocker aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sept. 15, to keep the Marine's combat mindset sharp and intact.

The Marines put their minds together to complete the Leadership Reaction Course, which empowers small-unit leaders to overcome various obstacles, such as moving a squad from one location to another, using minimal resources. They also worked on hand-to-hand and close-quarter combat techniques with the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, completed multiple iterations of a modified obstacle course and busted down doors during military operations in urban terrain training. Leaders reminded Marines to train like they fight to stimulate their combat mindset.

"Combat mindset is always having a mental awareness of what is going on offensively with your guys and defensively with the enemy," said Sgt. Michael Kelley, a squad leader with Bravo Co. 1st Bn., 3rd Marines.

The Marines recently returned from Integrated Training Exercise at Marine Air-Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms, Calif., which is the last step in the Hawaii Marines' predeployment training cycle before departing Hawaii on the Unit Deployment Program later this year. To avoid complacency as well as sustain and build upon the skills they gained at ITX, the Marines will continue to train here while awaiting deployment.

"Just because we have a scheduled UDP doesn't mean the Marine Corps couldn't decide (It) needs us somewhere else," said Cpl. Zachary Soto, a squad leader with Bravo Co. 1st Bn., 3rd Marines, and a Salem, Ore., native. "That is why we go to ITX and we train to the same standard as the rest of the Marine Corps."

Soto, who is also a Marine Corps Martial Arts Instructor, stressed the importance of constantly having a combat mindset to ensure Marines are prepared for the unex-



Pfc. Benjamin Austin, assaultman, Company B, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, a St. Louis, Mo., native, holds his body weight up while attempting to untie a rope while completing the Leadership Reaction Course at Training Area Boondocker aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sept. 15.

pected. During the sustainment training, he instructed Marines on martial arts techniques ranging from gray to brown belt.

"(MCMAP gives Marines) an introduction to interpersonal violence," Soto said. "If you don't continue to do MCMAP, you may lose your edge, making you a target. You need that aggressiveness to keep you aware and in a combat mindset so we are ready for anything."

Kelley, a Philadelphia native, who has completed two combat deployments in Afghanistan with the 'Lava Dogs,' said it's important to maintain that level of aggressiveness even during peacetime. He said it can be hard for the Marines to keep a combat mindset because they may think there's no chance of seeing combat, but it should not deter them from their training.

"As a squad leader it's my job to make sure they are keeping their minds focused on the training that we are doing," Kelley said. "It's important to always have a combat mindset because the Marine Corps is the United State's expeditionary fighting force, and we always have to be ready."

Training like this supports the mission of Marine Corps Base Hawaii by enhancing and sustaining combat readiness.



Marines with Company B, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, move in a fire team while conducting military operations in urban terrain training at Training Area Boondocker aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sept. 15.

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Installation Personnel Administration Center Marines play volleyball during the Headquarters Battalion Appreciation Day at the Desert Winds Golf Course, Sept. 18.

# HQBN gives thanks with appreciation day

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
LANCE CPL. THOMAS MUDD

**H**eadquarters Battalion promoted camaraderie and troop welfare with a battalion appreciation day at the Desert Winds Golf Course, Sept. 18.

Marines, sailors and their families socialized with people from around the battalion while participating in games such as dodge ball, football, volleyball and tug-of-war. Sgt. Maj. Abel Leal, sergeant major, Headquarters Battalion, and Maj. Sean Merlin, executive officer, Headquarters Battalion, gave Marines the chance to drop their leaders into a dunk tank. Additionally, every person who attended received a raffle ticket for a chance to win a \$175 gift certificate to the Main Exchange.

"The best part about being out here is that we get to meet people that we never get to see," said Cpl. Nicholas Illames, packaging specialist, Preservation, Packaging and Packing, Distribution Management Office. "We get to play sports with these Marines and grow closer as the battalion."

Various base entities, such as the Substance Abuse Prevention Program and the Sexual Assault

Prevention and Response program provided displays to educate those in attendance.

"Most of us are stuck in our daily routines," Illames said. "being out here breaks us away from our everyday lives and gives us the opportunity to enjoy ourselves for the day."

Marine Corps Community Services, Bob Hope USO and National Communication Training Center sponsored the event.

"I enjoy being out here and out from behind a desk," said Sgt. Christopher Decosier, color sergeant, Combat Center Color Guard. "The best thing is being able to see the members of our command in a different light. It's refreshing."

The leadership of the battalion hosted the event to recognize the hard work of the service members in the battalion.

"I'm truly thankful to all the Marines, sailors and civilian employees for all that they do," said Lt. Col. Dennis Sanchez, battalion commander, Headquarters Battalion. "This means a lot to the Combat Center, to be able to get our Marines out here and break bread with one-another."



Pfc. Adam Gonzalez, administrative assistant, Installation Personnel Administration Center, plays cornhole during the Headquarters Battalion Appreciation Day at the Desert Winds Golf Course, Sept. 18.



Marines of Headquarters Battalion compete in a game of football during the Headquarters Battalion Appreciation Day at the Desert Winds Golf Course, Sept. 18.





**Combat Center Events**

Check out the Officer's Spouses' Club's Bunco Night at the Frontline Restaurant, tonight at 6 p.m. Show your pride by wearing a jersey from your favorite college or hometown team. Tickets are \$15 and include a prize drawing. This event is open to all hands. Purchase tickets at [www.ocs29palms.com](http://www.ocs29palms.com).

Show off the results of your physical training at the Semper Fit hosted final race of the 4-6-8 Race Series, Sept. 29 at the PFT Course. The entry deadline for the 8-mile run is 7:30 a.m. The race is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. For more information or to register, call 760-830-4092.

Can't get enough of your favorite movies? Marine Corps Community Services is scheduled to host Movie Trivia Night, Sept. 30 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Mameluke's Pub. Come dressed as your favorite movie character and enjoy food and drink specials as well as prizes throughout the night. This event is open to all hands. For questions or more information please call 760-830-8429.

For some friendly competition sign up for the Combat Logistics Battalion 7 hosted Birthday Ball Golf Tournament at Desert Winds Golf Course, October 1. Enjoy a fun and challenging golf tournament while supporting CLB-7 in fundraising for the Marine Corps Ball. The tournament is scheduled to kick off at 7:30 a.m. For more information or to register, call 760-401-6358.

**Sunset Cinema**

**Friday, September 25**  
6:00 p.m. – War Room, PG  
9:00 p.m. – American Ultra, R

**Saturday, September 26**  
12:30 p.m. – War Room, PG  
3:00 p.m. – The Gift, R  
5:30 p.m. – Fantastic Four, PG-13  
8:00 p.m. – Mission: Impossible-Rogue Nation, PG-13

**Sunday, September 27**  
12:00 p.m. – Straight Outta Compton  
3:00 p.m. – The Man from U.N.C.L.E., PG-13  
5:30 p.m. – Hitman: Agent 47  
8:00 p.m. – American Ultra, R

**Monday, September 28**  
7:00 p.m. – Sinister 2, R

**Tuesday, September 29**  
7:00 p.m. – Fantastic Four, PG-13

**Wednesday, September 30**  
7:00 p.m. – The Gift, R

**Thursday, October 1**  
6:30 p.m. – Mission: Impossible-Rogue Nation, PG-13

**Friday, October 2**  
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# To Grandma's house we go

## Kids get more than milk and cookies in frightening, funny 'Visit'

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*"The Visit"*  
Starring Olivia DeJonge and Ed Oxenbould  
Directed by M. Night Shyamalan  
Rated PG-13

Old people sure can be odd—and sometimes scary—to young 'uns.

Director M. Night Shyamalan riffs on that generational rift, with frightening and sometimes very funny results, in this tale of two teenage siblings sent to spend a week in rural Pennsylvania with the grandparents they've never met.

As their divorced mom (Kathryn Hahn) departs on a cruise with her new boyfriend, Becca (Olivia DeJonge) and her younger brother Tyler (Ed Oxenbould, from "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day") ship off via train to get to know her estranged parents, whom she hasn't seen in nearly 20 years.

Nana (Tony-winning Broadway actress Deanna Dunagan) and Pop-Pop (Peter McRobbie) are a bit strange, all right. She walks, runs and crawls around at night all ghost-like, in a white

nightgown — and she projectile vomits on the floor and claws the walls. He thinks strangers are watching him, dresses up for a costume party that never happens, and squirrels something away in a shed behind the house.

Becca, a budding filmmaker, captures everything on camera for the movie she's making about her mother's childhood and the difficult relationship she had with her parents. As such, Becca's movie becomes much of our movie, as we watch her "found footage" as she or Tyler are shooting, viewing or editing it.

Writer/director Shyamalan has given us suspenseful movies before — "Unbreakable," "Signs," "The Sixth Sense," "The Village," "The Lady in the Water." It's easy to pick up here on some of his familiar themes: broken families, the mystical power of storytelling, otherworldly creatures, the "magic" of water. Becca's movie-within-the-movie feels almost like a tribute to the director's craft itself, with Becca and Tyler using filmmaking phrases like mise en scene and denouement. A deranged game of the board game Yahtzee veers for a

moment into Quentin Tarantino territory. Beneath its carefully crafted scares, this is a very artful movie about movies, a story about stories, and a tale of a tale — with a trademark, last-minute Shyamalan twist.

"The Visit" has some truly hair-raising scares — and some genuine laughs. Many of the chuckles come from young Tyler, a wannabe rapper who uses female pop singers' names instead of curse words ("Oh, Shakira!") when he's in need of expletives. As the grandparents, Dunagan and McRobbie are old pros, TV and film veterans who keep the movie's nasty, bone-chilling surprises closely guarded secrets until it's time to spring them, when "The Visit" shifts from creepy to crazy and Nana and Pop-Pop's home becomes a modern-day, Hansel-and-Gretel house of horrors.

You'll squirm when Becca crawls deep inside the kitchen oven. You'll gasp when Tyler ventures into Pop-Pop's shed. And after the most outrageous, hilariously icky gross-out gag you'll see in any movie this year, you'll never look at an adult diaper the same way again. Don't say I didn't warn you.

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**REAL ESTATE** 130  
**29 PALMS**  
Fixer upper, 3bd/3ba 1940 sqft, 4car/gar 3.484 acres, \$140,000. Call brkr 909-792-8977

**YUCCA MESA**  
GREAT DEAL- 2 1/2 ac, 2 Dwellings 1st-2bd/1ba, 816 sqft, tile flrng 2nd- 2bd/1ba, big kit 866 sqft \$58,000. Call (760) 364-9218

**APT. & DUPLEXES** 200  
**29 PALMS**  
**Apts In 29 Palms**  
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2bd/1ba,10acres, utilis incld, fully fncd, \$800/mo. 53353 29 Palms Hwy (760) 365-5596

**REAL ESTATE** 130

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"It matters who you do business with"

**APT. & DUPLEXES** 200

**APT. & DUPLEXES** 200  
\*\*\*\*\*SPECIAL\*\*\*\*\*  
Move In Deal O.A.C. \$960 Total=Rent+Sec. 2+2 w/gar, water paid NO pets, Perf for 2/3 (951) 312-9513 24/7

**COMMERCIAL FOR RENT** 205  
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Central YV office suite 600 sq ft. Attractive ranch-style bldg. \$400/mo 760-367-2463

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**Hi-Desert Publishing Co.**

**29 PALMS**


**3bd/2ba large yard, covered patio, 2 1/2 car gar. All apps incld. \$800+dep. 619-743-0408 29 Palms**

**29P NICE AREA** 3bd/2ba, w den, tile, lrg walkin closets, fncd bk- yard, \$1250 +dep OAC Call 760-898-1122

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**REAL ESTATE** 130

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Ask for current move-in special **760-366-3388**

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Nice & quiet, 1bd, 1ba, storage, stove, fridge, private lg fenced yard, w/d hkups, complete remod. \$675mo+dep Call (310) 993-0303

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**REAL ESTATE** 130

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Newer 2, 3 & 4 bdrm homes in YV. JT, 29P  
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3bd/1ba, 2/gar, fenced front & back yrd, small pet ok \$825/mo+dep. Call (949) 637-1128

**ROOMS FOR RENT** 223  
**29 PALMS**

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**YUCCA VALLEY**

Furn. rm, gar, Indry, kitchen, utilities pd, senior female preferred. \$400mo 760-228-2979

**HELP WANTED** 300

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Exp'd tow truck driver, must pass drug/DMV/ background checks & live in 29 Palms. AAA exp. helpful. (760) 365-9410 ask for Bob Scheduler and Book-keeper for local HVAC Contractor seeking person with experience for 40hrs/wk. Must know Quick Books Pro and Scheduling jobs. Background check and drug test required, e-mail resume to oldacude@hotmail.com

**Hi-Desert Publishing Co.**

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**UNFURNISHED HOUSES** 220

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**HELP WANTED** 300  
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Call 760-367-2855 or email: [hking@wonderelectric.com](mailto:hking@wonderelectric.com) for interviews.  
EEO/AA/M/F/Vet /Disability Employer

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Must have experience. Background check. Apply with in between 10am-1pm. Located in the Morongo Plaza, Morongo Valley. **Call 760.363.6333**

Landscape construction Laborer position for a very busy landscaping company. Must have 1 year experience, CDL & pass drug test with clean background. Call (760) 364-3019

Landscape Maintenance position. Must have 1 year experience, CDL & pass drug test with clean background. Call (760) 364-3019

2+YRS EXPERIENCED Line Cook & Waitress needed for a local family restaurant. Apply in person @ 73780 29 Palms Hwy in 29 Palms. NO phone calls!!!

**Automotive Technician Wanted**  
Minimum of 5 yrs experience A.S.E. Certified a plus. Salary according to experience. Must apply in person at: **Woods Auto Repair 55925 29 Palms Hwy, Y.V.**

RVT Wanted Part-time Spay Clinic in JT Fax resume to 760-366-7300

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Quality Care with Love

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**KIDS KLASIFIED** 305  
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To place your classified ad call 760-365-3315 or submit ad online: [www.hidesertstar.com](http://www.hidesertstar.com)

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**PSYCHIC 1 free question by phone. Call NOW! 760-699-3655 • 760-363-2048**

**INSTRUCTIONAL** 420

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**SERVICES** 435

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**HELP WANTED** 300

  
**Mental Health Specialist/Trainee - Needles**  
San Bernardino County  
\$35,942.40 - \$49,441.60  
Annually (Mental Health Specialist)  
\$31,012.80 - \$41,662.40  
Annually (Trainee)

San Bernardino County is recruiting for **Mental Health Specialists and Mental Health Specialist Trainees** in the Needles area who assist licensed/pre-licensed professional staff in assessing, planning, and providing mental health services. For more details and to apply, visit [www.sbcounty.gov/hr](http://www.sbcounty.gov/hr). Apply ASAP.

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**HELP WANTED** 300

**CARS** 620

**CARS** 620

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**SERVICES** 435  
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California State law requires that contractors, builders, and landscapers who perform work for \$500 or more, including materials and labor, must be licensed. License numbers should be so indicated in their advertising.

Family child care providers are required by state law to be licensed, and facility license numbers must be indicated in all advertising.

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Please refer questions to Contractors State License Board, 1250 East Cooley Drive, Suite 200, Colton, CA 92324

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**HELP WANTED** 300

  
**Mental Health Specialist/Trainee - Needles**  
San Bernardino County  
\$35,942.40 - \$49,441.60  
Annually (Mental Health Specialist)  
\$31,012.80 - \$41,662.40  
Annually (Trainee)

San Bernardino County is recruiting for **Mental Health Specialists and Mental Health Specialist Trainees** in the Needles area who assist licensed/pre-licensed professional staff in assessing, planning, and providing mental health services. For more details and to apply, visit [www.sbcounty.gov/hr](http://www.sbcounty.gov/hr). Apply ASAP.

EEO/ADA (909) 387-8304

**HELP WANTED** 300

**CARS** 620

**CARS** 620

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We Pay **\$1,000** If Qualified  
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**www.oldcarbuyback.com**  
Some Restrictions Apply – Program Available Until Funds Are Exhausted  
This Voluntary program is sponsored by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

**APPLIANCES** 500  
**Blair's Appliances**  
Appliances, NEW and USED on SALE! **FREE Service call w/ repair.** Open 9-5 55825 29 Palms Hwy. 760-369-2504

**AUTO PARTS** 510  
**NEW DELUXE CHROME**, Go Rhino Dominator IV Running Boards with Down Step for 2009-2013 Dodge Ram, Quad Cab. Never taken out of box. Box has only been opened \$350 (Retail for \$475-\$575) Call 760-365-5174

**LOST & FOUND** 545

Missing: black, Samsung Note 4 at Base Theater, September 8. Reward for return. Call 760-361-3949 or 760-401-4657.  
Found: Car keys in the dirt 9/10/15 on the (N) side of Yucca Trail in YV. Text 760-636-2347. Describe set/ring.

Missing Grey Female Cat on medication 760-488-7275

**LOST OR STOLEN:** Red car hauler trailer, has side rails. It is older but has new tires, single axle. It was stolen from our house in Yucca Mesa and we would like it back. If you see it please let me know. \$100 to get it back, no questions asked. 714-878-5304.

Desert Tortoise, Lg. female, found in the Alta Mesa/Aberdeen area. Call Wild Life Rescue (760) 819-2231

**LOST** Very friendly small fm Boxer mix, purple collar, is micro chipped, brown coat w white mussel & chest, last seen 9/17 off of 29 Palms Hwy & National Park Dr. If found please call 760-880-5973.

**LOST** fm Chihuahua, light brown & gray w white face, no collar, normal house dog, new to the 29P area, last seen 9/16 at Sahara & 29 Palms Hwy. Please call if found 760-498-6805.

**FOUND** Female dog, fawn colored, medium sized, mixed breed in the area of Cholla & Tamarsk. Call 760-853-0039

**MISC. FOR SALE** 055



**FIREWOOD SALE!!!** – Orange Oak, Avocado, Mxd hardwood. Full, 1/2, 1/4 Cords avail. Call (760) 401-1119

Electric Scooter, like new, runs good. \$1000 obo (760) 418-5149

Beautiful Thomas Trianon organ for sale \$150. Please call (760) 365-6832

**MISC. WANTED** 55

**WANTED! 1950s-60s travel trailers. 10-24ft. Any condition no title ok. Cash buyer 818-261-5318 Local \$\$\$\$**

**PETS & SUPPLIES** 595

**Pitbull Puppies**  
6 weeks old, father's blue, mother's white \$150ea. Please Call (760) 676-7415

**CYCLES** 630

**PRICE REDUCED!!!**  
1999 Yamaha motorcycle, model RC class AC \$2,000 (760) 365-4748

**RVs** 635

2009 Jayco Jay Flight G2 30FT - Xlnt condition. Too many Xtras to list. \$15,000. (760) 364-4953

2011 Keystone "Springdale" 28 ft. trailer. Fully loaded, half ton towable. \$17,500 call/text (760) 408-7306

## GARAGE SALES

**FLAMINGO HEIGHTS**

**FLAMINGO HEIGHTS**  
206 Soledad Ave October 2/3 8-5 Friday & Saturday. Priced to sell. House items, outside items, treasures

**YUCCA VALLEY**

**Moving Sale, Fri 09/25 & Sat 09/26** from 7:30am-2pm. Toys, kids clothes, furniture, housewares and LOTS more. 57027 Selecta Ave, Copper Hills area



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