

BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

December 18, 2003

CO's Holiday Message

Base commander behoves all hands to remember those unable to come home.

Page 2

Web Auctions

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate warns Internet browsers to watch out for fraud.

Page 4

Easy Credit?

Skip out of college classes the honest way, through college credit exams.

Page 5

MLK to be Honored

Prayer breakfast tickets on sale until Jan. 9.

Page 7

Check out the Marine Corps Web site.

<http://www.usmc.mil>

BARSTOW LOG
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<https://www.barstow.usmc.mil>

Bush: Fate of Saddam in Iraqi hands

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- The United States will assist Iraqis in developing a process to bring captured former dictator Saddam Hussein to justice for his crimes, President Bush told reporters here.

Saddam will continue to be detained as the U.S. government works with Iraqi authorities "to develop a way to try him that will stand international scrutiny," Bush said during a press conference.

The Iraqi people, the president asserted, "need to be very much involved" with Saddam's fate, since they were the ones who were brutalized during Saddam's rule.

"He murdered them, he gassed them, he tortured them," Bush pointed out.

Nonetheless, the president maintained that the deposed dictator — who was discovered hiding in a hole and captured Dec. 13 by U.S. troops near Tikrit, Iraq — deserves a fair trial.

Saddam's ultimate fate, Bush declared, "is going to be up to the Iraqis."

Bush said he doubts any useful information — such as the whereabouts of weapons of mass destruction — would be gleaned from interviews with the former

Iraqi dictator.

"I don't trust Saddam Hussein," Bush declared, adding, "I don't believe he'll tell the truth."

Bush re-

fused to put a timetable on possible withdrawals of U.S. troops from Iraq in light of Saddam's capture, noting, "we'll stay the course until the job is done."

The capture of Saddam, Bush noted, not only makes America more secure, but

"I don't trust Saddam Hussein ... I don't believe he'll tell the truth."

- President George W. Bush

See **FATE** page 12

MCLB, NTC share SRT training ops

By **Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt**
Editor

A handful of Marines and soldiers went head-to-head recently when a joint service training exercise brought MCLB Barstow and NTC Fort Irwin deep into the high desert at NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex.

The objective: train soldiers and Marines in the fundamentals and general tactics of a special reaction team, or SRT, utilizing M4 rifles, MP5 assault weapons, and the classic cold steel of an M9 sidearm, loaded to the teeth with simunition, or "sim" rounds.

The training began in the birth of the dawn hours Dec. 12 at MCLB Barstow's Provost Marshal's Office. Sleepy-eyed Marines stood by for a standard SRT gear issue, including body armor with front and back ballistic plates, kneepads, drop holsters, goggles, ballistic shields and a few thousand sim rounds.

Once the Marines were prepared for a rigorous day's training, a convoy of white

government vehicles snaked its way down Fort Irwin road, creaking to halt at NTC's PMO headquarters.

It was there that the Marines met with their comrades-in-arms, soldiers from NTC's very own SRT, sized each other up, and made the final leg of the journey into the high desert valleys of Goldstone.

The training area was nary a sight to be seen. An abandoned office building, which lay beneath the towering presence of a 150-foot satellite dish, a relic of the end of the Cold War in the early '90s.

Day one of the nearly three-day evolution focused on the fundamentals and origins of an SRT.

"This isn't just dealing with a drunk on a Saturday night," stressed Army Sgt. Adam Gutierrez. "Everything is stepped up a level."

Gutierrez, a military policeman from Fort Irwin and SRT member, gave classes most of the morning to the Marines and soldiers, covering such topics as entry weapons, verbal commands and two-man room entries.

The students then snapped to a session of practical applications, "stacking up" in twos and engaging half-sized dummies, endearingly named

See **SRT** page 8



Lance Cpl. Quyen Au, a dog handler from MCLB Barstow's K-9 unit, sights in with a holographic laser sight mounted on an M4 rifle during a Special Reactions Team joint service training exercise with soldiers from NTC Fort Irwin at NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex Dec. 10-12.

Base commader's holiday season message

CO stresses remembrance, pride during special time of year

By Col. Liz Bergman
Base Commander

Season's greetings to all the Marines, sailors, civilian employees and families aboard MCLB Barstow. We are, once again, in that magical season where we share the spirit of various holiday celebrations with our family and friends.

It is a time when we reflect

on the accomplishments of this past year and look forward to the coming of the New Year.

It is indeed a special time.

As we celebrate at home please take time to remember all our Marines and sailors serving in all corners of the world. Their selfless service and love of liberty is nurtured by their belief that basic human rights are an inalienable right of every human

being. Their absence from loved ones is sustained by their love of God and country and the knowledge that we truly appreciate the great sacrifices they and their families make for our way of life.

To all the Marines, sailors, civilian employees and families at MCLB Barstow, I cannot overstate how proud I am of your accomplishments during

this past year.

You can take personal pride in the knowledge that your selfless and professional dedicated efforts met the year's challenges and demonstrated again how vital you and this base are to those serving abroad and to this nation's defense.

The New Year promises more challenges and together I'm confident we'll excel. You have

my most sincere appreciation for your efforts. As you celebrate this holiday season be safe in all you do. Joe and I wish you safe and joyous holidays and may God bless you and your families throughout the New Year.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Semper Fidelis.

I.E. Bergman
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps,
Commanding

Pass meaning of holidays on

By Lt. Cmdr. Randel Livingood
Base Chaplain



As we move closer toward the end of the year and the holiday season, I believe there is an air of expectation that permeates most everything.

There are people shopping for Christmas, and

music is playing in the stores.

Some folks are wearing bright smiles and Santa Claus hats; others are moving with a purpose to try and get what they need and make it out of the shopping experience as quickly as possible.

There are those for whom this season equates to nothing more than a hectic time of year that leaves them stressed out and at time unable to cope with the demands they have allowed to be placed on themselves.

As I write this article, I am thinking of the travel plans that I am making to drive home to Southern Oregon to family and friends for the holidays and I wonder about weather and poor driving

conditions and about nice things like putting tire chains on and taking them off in the drifting blowing snow.

There are times when I wonder why I make that drive and in the same way there are times when people stop and wonder why they go through all the difficulties that come with gift giving and preparation for family get-togethers.

I believe the reason that we do all these things is because we love and care for our family members and we want to make each holiday season a fond memory and time that shows our fondness for each other.

Where we have sometimes gone astray is that we have mistaken ideas about how we can demonstrate our love for each other.

Sometimes we think the number of gifts we can purchase shows our affection.

Other times, it is how far we travel or what an extravagant family meal we can arrange.

Now here is the dilemma, all of these events are good when done properly.

It is when we allow the events to become the focus of our lives that we

See CHAPLAIN Page 6

Just doing my job ...



Photo by Pfc. Jenna Lassandrello

Carol Ann Lockett, a cashier at the Marine Corps Community Services Super Seven Day Store, has a blast while setting up all the Christmas gifts to buy for loved ones this year. See page 9 for more information about the Super Seven Store.

Chapel Services

Protestant Sun. 8:30 a.m.
Mass Sun. 10:30 a.m.

Confession services before Mass

Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of every month.
3 p.m. at the Base Chapel.

For more info call 577-6849.

Nebo Bible Study

Wednesday Noon-1:30p.m.

At the Chapel Office.

For more info call 577-6849.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Ingrid E. Bergman, Commanding Officer

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News Briefs

"News Briefs" is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Submissions should include a point of contact and phone number, and be received by noon Thursdays for the next week's issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

Lunch Menu

Lunch menus for the Family Restaurant and Cactus Cafe are the same. Lunch menus are subject to change.

Today – Honey touched chicken.

Friday – Fish.

Monday – Breakfast, lunch only.

Tuesday – Breakfast, lunch only.

Wednesday – Holiday hours.

Thursday – Closed for Christmas Day.

Active duty military \$3.25, all others, including civilians \$4.75. Lunch is served at the Family Restaurant from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Cactus Cafe from 11 a.m. to noon. Cactus Cafe serves hamburgers, subs, salads and other line items available for walk in lunch – for other Family Restaurant lunch menu items, call in orders before 9:30 a.m. to the Family Restaurant at 577-6428.

Breakfast

Breakfast at the Family Restaurant is from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m. At the Cactus Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 a.m. Prices: Active duty military \$1.60, all others \$3.25.

Family Night Dining

Tonight – Baron of beef carved on line, mashed potatoes with gravy, roll, green salad, dessert plus fountain drink.

VITA Volunteers

The MCLB Legal Assistance Office is once again gearing up for tax season and seeking dedicated military and civilian volunteers for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Volunteers will provide free income tax assistance and electronic filing to active duty military, retired military and their

dependants for their 2003 income tax returns.

This program is sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service in cooperation with Headquarters Marine Corps through the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate and provides a major quality of life benefit to the military community.

VITA volunteers will attend a two-week training program from Jan. 12 to the 23 at Building 236.

Volunteers will become knowledgeable in federal and California income tax law. In addition, volunteers will also be trained to use software so that tax returns may be electronically filed.

Each volunteer will be required to commit at least eight hours per week from Jan. 27 to April 15 at the tax center to provide assistance.

If you are interested in helping our military community by participating as a VITA volunteer or would like more information, contact Jacque Fadeley at 577-6874.

Blood Drive T-Shirts

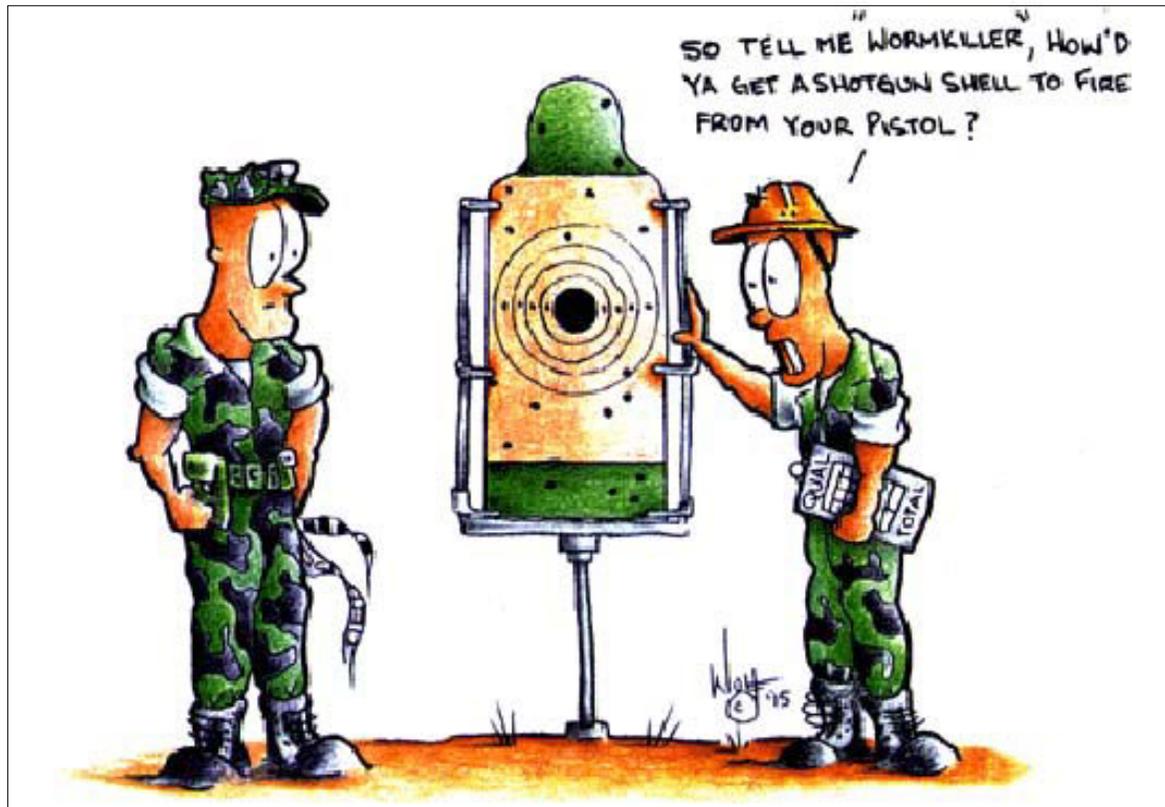
The last blood drive for this year was held on Nov. 20 and it was noticed that blood drive T-shirts were not distributed to donors. In order to receive a shirt, individuals must have donated blood three times in the past year. If you qualify and did not receive a T-shirt, please call and give your name, social security number and mailing address to Josie Marquez, blood bank coordinator, at 577-6483.

Leave Sharing Program

Edward B. Hayes, Margaret Steele and Charles Ashbrook have been affected by medical emergencies. Anyone wishing to donate leave may do so under the Leave Sharing Program by obtaining a leave donor application through his or her division/center administrative officer.

For more information, call the MCB Manpower and Administration Department at 577-7138 or the base Civilian Management Support Division at 577-6734.

Construction-Bldg. 129



The Marine and Family Services Division, Building 129, is undergoing minor construction for the next 60 days.

The office has announced it will be open for the regular business hours of 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

The office requests all patrons please bear with them through this construction. For more information, contact Bette Poe, administrative support clerk, Marine and Family Services Division, at 577-6533.

Barstow Log

This will be the year's last issue of the Barstow Log so staff can take holiday leave.

The first edition of the Barstow Log for 2004 is scheduled for Jan. 8 and will include a "year in review" section.

For more information, please call the Public Affairs Office at 577-6430.

Mystery Shoppers

The Marine Corps Exchange is looking for "Mystery Shoppers" to participate in periodic assessments for

the exchange operations.

Mystery Shoppers enter the local exchange as average customers and evaluate the products and services offered.

They would provide feedback on the service and quality they received. Mystery Shoppers must have exchange privileges and are paid \$15 to \$25 for each completed assignment.

To become a Mystery Shopper, register with Confero at www.conferoinc.com/mccs-mcx.htm. On the Mystery Shoppers page click on the "Apply Here" link at the bottom of the page to complete an application. For more information about the Mystery Shopper program go to <http://www.conferoinc.com/mccs-mcx.htm>.

Online Training

Online training is available through

Army, Navy and other Web sites. Some courses are free, but courses charging a fee must be authorized by a supervisor. Training is available at:

MCLB Barstow Online Training at <http://www.mclbtraining.com/>

Navy E-Learning at <http://www.navylearning.navy.mil/>

Gov Online Learning Center at <http://www.golearn.gov>

Graduate School USDA at <http://grad.usda.gov>

Marine Corps Institute (MCI) Online at <http://www.mci.usmc.mil>

Chief of Naval Education & Training at <https://www.cnet.navy.mil>

Army Correspondence Course Program at <http://www.atsc.army.mil/acp.acpdnew.asp>

Advance Learning Technology Resource Center at <http://altrc.gov>

Air Force Institute for Advanced Distributed Learning at <http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/afiadl>

President grants extra day off for federal employees

President George W. Bush recently ordered executive branch agencies to close on Friday, Dec. 26, giving most federal employees a four-day holiday weekend.

Employees can reschedule any annual leave they have scheduled for Dec. 26. No employees will be charged annual leave for that day. If employees scheduled use-or-lose leave for Dec. 26 and can't reschedule it, they'll have to forfeit it. For most employees, use-or-lose leave must be used by Jan. 10, 2004.

Will federal employees get an extra day off after New Year's Day?

It seems unlikely. The last time federal employees got an extra day at New Year's was in 1973, when President Richard M. Nixon gave employees a full day off on Dec. 31. Christmas and New Year's Day both fell on a Tuesday that year.

Federal employees got half days off on New Year's Eve in 1957, when New Year's Day 1958 was on a Wednesday; and 1953, when New Year's Day 1954 was on a Friday. When New Year's Day 1955 fell on a Saturday, employees who usually worked on Saturday got a half-day off on Friday, New Year's Eve 1954.

Job Watch

Ann No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
DEU-033-04 NR	Industrial Maintenance Manager GS-1101-14	11-21-03	12-22-03	12-05-03	MCLB Barstow
DEU-027-04-A-NR	Firefighter (paramedic) GS-0081-04 (target GS-07)	11-24-03	12-29-03	11-26-03	MCLB Barstow
DEU-032-04-A-NR	Firefighter (paramedic) GS-0081-07	11-24-03	12-29-03	11-26-03	MCLB Barstow

Applicants interested in the above positions should submit resumes, online at the following Web sites: <http://www.donhr.navy.mil> or <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>. For information regarding Open Continuous announcements point your browser to <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>. For more information concerning public job announcements visit the Self-Service Center, Building 236, Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or call the Human Resources Office, 577-6357/6279/6481. This is not an official list. Please see the Web sites listed for a complete list.

Web browsers beware of fraudulent Internet auctions

Submitted by 1st Lt. Aniela Szymanski
Staff Judge Advocates Office

Internet auction scams have been the number one consumer complaint to the Federal Trade Commission in the past year. Internet auction sites allow users to bid on items for a set amount of time and then a purchase is set up between the buyer and seller.

The winning bidder usually mails the funds to the seller with a check or money order, or makes an electronic fund transfer to the seller's account using online payment services.

Many sellers prefer online payment services because payment services tend to provide more security than, say, personal checks. The seller then normally sends the item in the mail to the winning bidder.

The most common scam involving Internet auctions is when a buyer mails or transfers the money for an item he or she has won, and never receives the item.

Sellers will set up sham auctions and attempt to collect the payments from the winning bidders when they have no intention of ever sending the

item or the item does not even exist.

Here are some tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of fraudulent auctions:

- Find out what protections the auction site offers buyers. Some sites provide free insurance or guarantees for items that are undelivered, not authentic or not what the seller claimed. EBay, for example, offers a Buyers Protection Program, which may entitle a buyer to a partial reimbursement for items paid for but never received. Details are available at ebay.com/help.

- If you are using an online payment service, know what kind of protections they provide.

Some provide buyer protections. Paypal.com offers a PayPal Buyer Protection.

Buyers are eligible for up to \$500 of coverage at no additional cost, for tangible items purchased on eBay and paid for through PayPal.

The seller must have a "Paypal Buyer Protection" icon on the auction information. For those items without the icon, Paypal still offers a

Buyer Complaint Process that will prompt Paypal to conduct an investigation on claims of auction fraud and possibly provide some coverage for the buyer. Details are available at the Web sites of all reputable online payment services and you should review them before making a payment.

- Know exactly what you're bidding on.

Read the seller's description of the item or service, and read the fine print.

Look for words like "refurbished," "close out," "discontinued," or "off-brand," especially when shopping for computer or electronic equipment — to get a better idea of the condition of the item being auctioned.

- Be aware that some fraudulent sellers may use a forged e-mail header that makes follow-up difficult, if not impossible. Get the seller's telephone number so that you have another way to get in touch. Dial the number to confirm that it is correct.

Some auction sites post feedback ratings of sellers based on comments by other buyers. Check them out. Although these comments and rat-

ings may give you some idea of how you'll be treated, know that sometimes the seller may submit comments or "shills" paid by the seller.

- Save all transaction information. Print the seller's identification, the item description, and the time, date and price you bid on the item.

Print and save every e-mail you send and receive from the auction company or the seller.

- E-mail or call the seller if you have any questions. Don't place any bids until you get straight — and satisfactory — answers.

If you are the victim of a fraudulent online auction:

- Try to work the problem out directly with the seller by contacting the seller by e-mail or phone, if you have the seller's telephone number.

- Not all problems are due to fraud. Sometimes people simply fail to hold up their side of the bargain in a timely manner or there may be a misunderstanding about something.

Some auction sites provide links to third-party mediation services that help people resolve disputes.

There may be a small fee that is

usually paid by the party who requests the mediation.

- If you used a credit card to make the payment, dispute the charge with your credit card company.

- File a complaint with the state attorney general's office. In California, caag.state.ca.us/consumers.

- File a complaint with the FTC online at www.ftc.gov or call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357).

Many times, you may also file a complaint with the United States Postal Service for mail fraud if you have used the mail in the transaction, such as mailing a check or money order for items you never received.

Usps.com/postalinspectors provides details on when a complaint may be filed with the Postal Service and an online complaint form.

The Legal Assistance Office is available to help with these problems, as well as any other consumer law issues you may have.

Call 577-6874 to make an appointment to see the legal assistance attorney, 1st Lt. Aniela Szymanski.

College credit exams available

By Pfc. Jenna Lassandrello
Barstow Log Staff

The registration deadline for local colleges is quickly approaching, but prospective scholars can begin earning college credits even before registering by taking a college credit examination.

College credit examinations are summary tests, similar to end-of-course exams.

When scored high enough on, college credit exams allow people to get credit for a course without formally taking the course.

The college credit examinations are offered in more than 150 subject areas and can make it possible to earn one-third or more credits needed for a degree without ever taking a class.

"The best thing about (college credit exams) is that it speeds up the process," said Francis Villeme, base education officer at the Lifelong Learning Branch.

It can allow a student to challenge out of the lower level courses so that they don't have to sit through a math or history course they learned during their sophomore year of high school, said Villeme.

There are three main types of exams that pertain to the residents of MCLB Barstow.

Those are the College Level Examination Program, or CLEP, the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support Subject Standardized Tests, or DSSTs, and the Excelsior College Examination, or ECE.

The CLEP and DSSTs are more focused on general education or credit required for an associate's degree, whereas the ECEs are more focused on gaining upper level credits that are more bachelor-degree oriented.

There are two types of CLEP exams, the general examinations and the subject examinations.

The general examinations measure college-level achievement in five basic areas of liberal arts, which are English composition, social science and history, humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences.

"(The general examinations) cover a general area with different subjects within the exam," said Villeme. For example, the history exam covers different subjects like world history or U.S. history, said Villeme.

The CLEP general examinations can only be administered at a National Test Center.

The closest National Test Center is located in San Bernardino.

The CLEP subject examinations measure college-level achievement in specific courses.

CLEP subject examinations are



Francis Villeme

specific to a particular subject, like U.S. history since 1865, said Villeme.

The CLEP subject examinations measure knowledge of basic concepts, principles, relationships and applications involved in the college courses.

The CLEP subject examinations can be taken at the Lifelong Learning Branch in Building 218.

Some, but not all, colleges accept the credits obtained by the college credit examinations.

"CLEP is a commonly known examination program that most colleges and universities accept," said Villeme. The second type of testing available on base is the DANTES subject standardized tests.

The DSSTs provide additional subject areas the CLEP examinations do not cover and cost less for non-military examiners, said Villeme. The ECEs can be multiple-choice or essay exams.

There are an estimated 40 ECEs in the subject areas of arts and sciences, business, education and nursing.

The college credit examinations are free to service members and available to civilians and military family members for a fee.

The CLEP examinations average around \$50, the DANTES examinations average around \$45 and the ECE examinations can range anywhere from \$80 to \$400. A setback when taking a college credit examination is that a future school the student transfers to may not accept the credits gained from the examinations, said Villeme. The only way to prevent this is to find out before taking an exam if the school accepts credits from taking a specific exam.

Some colleges or universities may accept credits from one examination program but not from another.

If interested in taking an examination, the first plan of action would be to consult with the base education officer, Francis Villeme.

Then a degree plan would be made up identifying the testing that is available that is accepted by the college of choice. Study materials can be accessed in the base library, and sample questions of the tests are also accessible through Lifelong Learning Branch.

The examinations are paper-based and can be administered at the Lifelong Learning Center.

For more information, contact Villeme at 577-6118.

**"The best thing about
(college credit exams) is that
it speeds up the process,"
-Francis Villeme**

Editor's note:

Information in this article was taken from www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes.

'Meticulous' sailor wins quarterly honors

By Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt
Editor

This quarter's Branch Medical Clinic Barstow's Sailor of the Quarter is Hospital Corpsman, Petty Officer 2nd Class, Diana L. Corcoran. Corcoran was born Feb. 21, 1964, and first entered active duty in 1986. She remained on active duty until 1990 and stayed in the Naval Reserve until April 2000. She then came back on active duty and was stationed at Branch Medical Clinic, Barstow. Throughout her long and illustrious career, Corcoran has seen many duty stations around the world, including Helicopter Support Squadron 3, Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego; Hospital Corpsman School, Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill.; Naval Hospital Beaufort, S.C.; Aviation Medical-Tech School, Pensacola, Fla.; and Branch Naval Hospital Sigonella, Sicily. Corcoran said she looks forward to continuing her naval career at her next duty station, the USS Halsey (DDG 97), a destroyer. Corcoran wears



HM2 Diana L. Corcoran

on her uniform a Navy Achievement Medal, two Good Conduct Medals, a Meritorious Unit Citation, an Expert Pistol Ribbon, two National Defense Medals and an Overseas Service Ribbon. "HM2 Corcoran is motivated, meticulous and reliable," said Lt. j.g. Danny Nixon, a physician's assistant at the Branch Medical Clinic, on why Corcoran deserved the honor of Sailor of the Quarter. Corcoran, modest in her ways, added simply, "The competition was tough."

CHAPLAIN from Page 2

cease having a good time. It is when I spend all of my time baking, cooking, cleaning, and preparing and when I have to have everything

"just right" that my offering to the family becomes less than a joyful experience and I begin to experience the negative side of Christmas.

My thoughts should be on the fact that people are gathering and that during the gathering we will be able to put our arms around each other and share the grace that only a family can share.

The feelings of tenderness will far exceed the great turkey and ham dinners and the highly caloric deserts that

await the late afternoon.

The wonderful moments of reflection will be far more precious than any gift that might

The feelings of tenderness will far exceed the great turkey and ham dinners and the highly caloric deserts that await the late afternoon. The wonderful moments of reflection will be far more precious than any gift that might be opened or even any music that might be heard.

be opened or even any music that might be heard.

The fact is that gifts, meals, and events come and go, but love of family can and should be a thing without end or boundaries.

It is more precious than the time and effort it takes to drive to make the gathering, and when the whole family is together it brings truth to the idea that the whole is indeed greater than the sum of the parts.

This holiday season focus on the things that are important.

Don't let the last minute shopping get you down, (I will see you at the store.)

rather focus on the joy of being together and teach that lesson to the young children.

They deserve to learn this time of year is about more than the latest

marvelous toy and that if they do not get exactly what they want but what they need the world will not come to an end.

Share the gift of love with your family this year.

Start by loving yourself and by loving what you do for the family that way everything you do to celebrate the good times will be built on love.

Peace,
Fr Randel

If you've got something newsworthy, call the MCLB Barstow Public Affairs Office at 577-6430.

MLK breakfast slated

The Black Employment Program Committee will host its annual Prayer Breakfast, honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., on Jan. 15 at the Oasis Club from 7:30 to 9 a.m.

Guest speaker for this event is Reverend Jeanette Glass, associate minister with the Agape International Spiritual Center.

Cost for the breakfast is \$6.75 per person, which includes scrambled eggs, creamed beef, biscuits and butter sausage or bacon hash browns, and coffee or hot tea.

Tickets must be purchased by Jan. 9 and can be obtained from the following committee members:

Robin Cross-Walker 577-6395
 Brenda Santiago 577-6552
 Toni Gentry-Irvin 577-7006
 Wendy Jackson 577-7220
 Gunnery Sgt. Craig Stanley 577-6984
 Marva Johnson 577-6965

Ed Virgil 577-7118
 Clarence Green 577-6585
 Howard Wyche 577-7193
 Odis Gentry 577-6002
 Rob Jackson 577-6451

HEAR THE LATEST NEWS?

If you think you've got something newsworthy, pick up the phone and call the base Public Affairs Office at 577-6430. We'd love to hear from you.

BJSOQ announced

By Pfc. Jenna Lassandro
 Barstow Log Staff

Hospitalman Joseph Bindert, a treatment room corpsman at the Branch Medical Clinic here, has been awarded the title of Blue Jacket Sailor of the Quarter.

Bindert left his hometown of Strawberry Point, Iowa, in June of 2002 to join the Navy. "I wanted to serve in the military ever since I was a kid. That is what I wanted to do when I grew up," said Bindert. And as soon as high school was over, Bindert enlisted.

Bindert attended recruit training at Naval Training Center Great Lakes, Ill. After Naval Hospital Corpsman School, Bindert attended Field Medical Service School at Camp Pendleton, Calif. "I really wanted to be a grunt, but I wanted to do more than fight. So I thought I would become a corpsman, that way I would be with the Marines and still be in action, but with another job," said Bindert.

But at MCLB Barstow, Bindert hasn't seen the kind of action he was hoping for.



HN Joseph Bindert

"This isn't what I expected my military experience to be like," said Bindert. Even so, the MCLB Branch Medical clinic does have its positives for Bindert as well.

"Because the base is small, I

get experience in all of the jobs here. Pharmacy, records, trauma ...we get cross training in all of the departments," said Bindert.

Bindert's ability to take on all that the MCLB Barstow's Branch Medical Clinic has to offer him is what got him nominated for the award of Blue Jacket Sailor of the Quarter. HM1 Allan Maluto nominated Bindert for the award. "(Bindert) has been doing a great job here. He has a lot of responsibility from sick call to keeping records and he balances everything well," said Maluto.

SRT from Page 1

“Ivans.”
“We call them Ivans because they used to have red stars painted on them, after the Russians,” said Army Sgt. Robert Angulo Jr., SRT member of 10 months.

Angulo graduated from the Army's Law Enforcement Training Division SRT school at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

The SRT course is accomplished in phases, said Angulo, of about two weeks per phase.

After running through a few two-man drills, the Marines and soldiers were ready for real-world situations.

Staff Sgt. Donald Hopkins, physical security chief at MCLB Barstow's PMO, ordered the Marines out of the building for a briefing.

“There's five maniacs in the building, and it's total chaos,” said Hopkins.

“Your job is to get in there and neutralize the situation.”

With a short deliberation of tactics peppered with the Marine Corps' own brand of four-letter words, the Marines stacked up and entered the building.

Within minutes, screams of pain rang through the empty corridors and, one-by-one, the Marines shuffled outside, comparing wounds and paint splatters on their uniforms. When an “index” was called, signaling a cease-fire and end of the exercise, the Marines were given a feedback session from Hopkins, sighting positive and negative aspects of the event.

The day continued with force-on-force drills, usually involving maniacs occupying the premises, as the Marine's skills improved.

At the day's end, Hopkins counseled the Marines, noting that vast tactical improvement was demonstrated throughout the day.

Day two introduced new challenges to the Marines mostly from a PMO night shift, but also a few from Headquarters Battalion S-4. Four- and six-man room entries were covered, and once again, force-on-force exercises were conducted.

Marines learned to be aware of potential danger zones when clearing a building, including avoiding the “funnel of death,” or doorways, practically engaging targets that may not be seen, modified weapons handling for close quarters combat and room entry travel patterns, similar to football plays like the buttonhook, said Angulo.

But as the sun went down on the second day, instead of packing up the vans and moving out, the Marines and soldiers cracked chem-lites as Hopkins lit a lantern and conducted night-ops training with night-vision goggles and flashlights.

“It was really interesting,” said Lance Cpl. Melissa Coleman, a military policeman with MCLB Barstow's PMO.

“(Opposing forces) had the NVGs, and all we had were flashlights,” she added, “so they could see us, but we could blind them with the flashlights.”

Coleman said the Marines continued to train until approximately 1 a.m., and then retired to their sleeping systems staged inside the building.

Overall, said Coleman, the joint training was an invaluable asset to those who participated.

“It's good to learn what the other branches of the service do, and how they're different.”

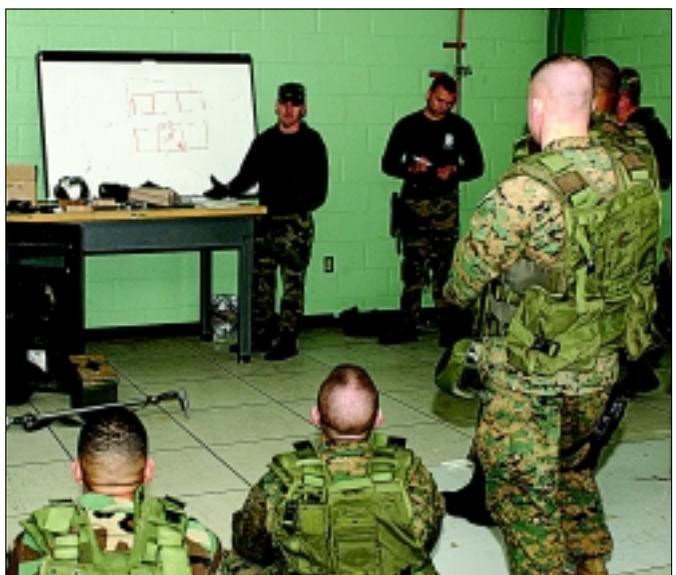


Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Left: Sgt. Adam Gutierrez, a military policeman and Special Reaction Team member from NTC Fort Irwin, gives a class to Marines on two-man entry fundamentals during a joint training exercise at NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex near Fort Irwin Dec. 10.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Above: Lance Cpl. Nicholas Paul, a patrolman at the MCLB Barstow Provost Marshal's Office, reveals what a shot to the neck with a “sim round” can do to an unsuspecting victim. Although the impact from the rounds is virtually harmless, a welt is usually left on the skin for two or three days.

Left: Marines from MCLB Barstow engage in a force-on-force firefight with Staff Sgt. Donald Hopkins, physical security chief at the MCLB Barstow Provost Marshal's Office. Hopkins was responsible for coordinating the joint training SRT exercise with soldiers from NTC Fort Irwin's Military Police Company Dec. 10-12 at NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex.

Below: Marines from MCLB Barstow's Provost Marshal's Office practice four-man room entries during a joint Special Reaction Team exercise with soldiers from NTC Fort Irwin Thursday.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Lance Cpl. Quyen Au, a military policeman with MCLB Barstow's K-9 unit, along with Sgt. Robert Angulo Jr., a soldier from NTC Fort Irwin's Special Reactions Team, breach a door utilizing a halligan tool during a joint training exercise at Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt



By Jim Gaines
MCCS Publicity

Gift ideas at Super Seven Store

Bypass the crowds! Do your Christmas shopping at the Super Seven Store.

It's convenient, it's budget-minded, and a great selection of gift ideas.

Check out these gift ideas: For him - Chaps casual dress pants, was \$19.99, now \$14.92.

Haggar casual dress pants, was \$16.99, now \$9.92.

Dockers casual dress pants, was \$29.99, now \$19.92.

For her, Women's Christmas sweaters and Christmas vests, all 15 percent off. Women's whet-blue leather jackets, sale priced at just \$99.99.

Women's assorted dresses, were \$17.99 each, now each only \$6.92.

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For more information call 256-

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Catch all the football!

Playoffs, finals, bowl games, catch it all at the Enlisted Club.

Saturday is NCAA College Football Championship Playoffs.

Doors open 10 a.m. Sunday is NFL Sunday Ticket.

Doors open 10 a.m. Monday is Monday Night Football with Green Bay at Oakland.

Coming up on and after the first of the year - the New Year's Bowl games, the NFL Wild Card Games, Divisional Playoffs, Conference Championships, and Super Bowl XXXVIII.

New Year's Eve Open

Play in Tees & Trees New Year's Eve Open and win your New Year's Eve bottle of bubbly.

Call for details at 577-6431 and enter the tournament. Tees & Trees Golf Course is open seven days a week from 6:30 a.m. to sunset.

New Year's Eve Parties

At the Oasis Club: Open to E-6,GS-5, WG-1, WL-1 and NF03 and above. Members free, non-members \$19 per couple, \$11 single.

At the Enlisted Club: Open to all. E-6 and below free, all others \$11 per person.

Food, party favors, music and champagne at both clubs.

Buy your tickets in advance at ITT.
Call ITT at 577-6419

For child care information, call Tammy at 577-6418

AROUND THE CORPS

U.S. and Philippine Marines gear up for ...

TALON VISION

Submitted by
Headquarters Marine Corps

Talon Vision '04 is a bilateral training exercise designed to improve and maintain the interoperability, combat readiness and professional relationship between the U.S. and Philippine armed forces.

Reserve Marines participating in the Unit Deployment Program and Marines stationed in Okinawa, Japan, came to the Philippines to participate in the exercise, share knowledge with their Philippine counterparts and strengthen relations between the two countries.



Photo by Cpl. Daniel W. Yamall

Pfc. Charles Engblom a military policeman with Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Foster, plays with Filipino children outside of a Filipino school as U.S. Marines, members of the Philippine military and some local volunteers help to build an elementary school in the Philippines during Exercise Talon Vision.



Photo by Cpl. Daniel W. Yamall

Marines of Combat Engineer Platoon, Battalion Landing Team 1/1, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), and soldiers of the Army's Detachment 2, 463rd Engineer Battalion, a reserve unit out of Wheeling, W.Va., combined their skills and manpower to complete a construction and refurbishment project on the new command operations center in Building 111 opened here.



Photo by Cpl. Daniel W. Yamall

A CH-53D Helicopter prepares to land as U.S. and Philippine Marines secure a landing zone during Talon Vision 2004, Nov. 2003. Talon Vision '04 is a bilateral training exercise designed to improve and maintain the interoperability, combat readiness and professional relationships between the U.S. and Philippine armed forces.

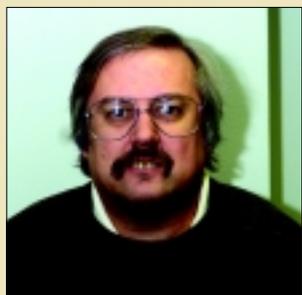


Photo by Cpl. Daniel W. Yamall

A Philippine Marine helps to secure a landing zone for a CH-53D helicopter during in Talon Vision 2004, Nov. 4, 2003.

Gunny's Picks

Week 16



Congratulations to Rick Wiley, engineering technician with Installation and Logistics Department, this week's winner of the Gunny's Picks. Wiley, an Oakland Raiders fan, beat out everyone this week-end compiling a 14 – 1 record and extended the MCLB men's lead over the women at 9 – 6. "It was a great day," he said.

"I went 14 and one and we got Saddam." On his Raiders' victory Wiley said they've had a tough year but just have to retool next year.

Since this is the last issue of the Barstow Log until Jan. 8, 2004, here are the rest of the pairings for Weeks 16 and 17. Have a great holiday and we'll see you for the playoffs.

Saturday, Dec. 20

- Atlanta @ Tampa Bay*
- *Kansas City @ Minnesota
- *New England @ NY Jets

Sunday, Dec. 21

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Cincinnati @ St. Louis* | *New Orleans @ Jacksonville |
| Miami @ Buffalo* | *Tennessee @ Houston |
| *Washington @ Chicago | San Diego @ Pittsburgh* |
| *Baltimore @ Cleveland | Arizona @ Seattle* |
| NY Giants @ Dallas* | San Francisco @ Philadelphia |
| Detroit @ Carolina* | Denver @ Indianapolis* |

Monday Night

- *Green Bay @ Oakland
- Total points: _____

Name, work section and phone number: _____
 Monday night's game is a tie-breaker and must include a total score.
 Send submissions to Editor@barstow.usmc.mil, or place in the drop box near the Public Affairs Office in the Green Wing of Building 15.

Week 17

- Buffalo @ New England*
- Seattle @ San Francisco*
- *Philadelphia @ Washington

Sunday, Dec. 28

- Jacksonville @ Atlanta*
- Cleveland @ Cincinnati*
- *St. Louis @ Detroit
- *Indianapolis @ Houston
- Tampa Bay @ Tennessee*
- Chicago @ Kansas City*
- NY Jets @ Miami*
- *Dallas @ New Orleans
- *Carolina @ NY Giants
- *Minnesota @ Arizona
- Oakland @ San Diego*
- Denver @ Green Bay*
- Pittsburgh @ Baltimore*

FATE from Page 1

also represents a watershed event in Iraqi -- and world -- history. "The emergence of a peaceful Iraq," Bush pointed out, "will transform the (Middle East) region in a positive way that will make it more likely that the world is more peaceful."

The commander in chief saluted the efforts of U.S. troops in Iraq,

Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world serving in support of the war against terrorism, noting that Iraq is one of the principal battlefields of that struggle.

Saddam's fall from power eight months ago and his recent capture represents a case of "good riddance," Bush asserted.

"The world is better off without you, Mr. Saddam Hussein," Bush declared.

It was interesting, Bush said, that the formerly fearsome, boastful dictator was found hiding in a hole in the ground and gave himself up without a fight.

"Our brave troops, combined with good intelligence, found you," Bush said to the captured former dictator.

Saddam will be brought before justice, Bush pledged, which he said was something the former dictator didn't afford his own people.