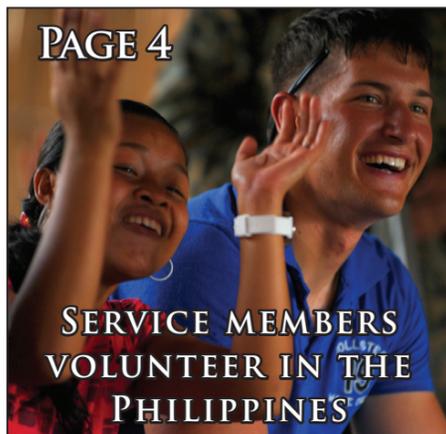


THE PARRIS ISLAND BOOT

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MV-22 Raid

Quantico Marines fly to Parris Island for exercise



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Photo by Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis

An infantry officer student descends a rope out of an MV-22 helicopter onto the grounds of Parris Island, S.C., during a long-distance raid conducted by the Marines of the Infantry Officer Course on the evening of March 26. The Marines flew more than 500 miles from Quantico, Va., for the training operation, which simulated an aerial departure from a ship in response to distant global crises. The Corps believes this training will resemble typical future missions.

Nation's top general speaks on what nation expects from Marine Corps

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION BEAUFORT, S.C. – What does the United States expect from its Marine Corps?

A young Marine asked the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that question during a town hall meeting here March 21.

Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey said that he has asked himself that basic question about all U.S. armed services.

"We need you to be exactly who you are," the chairman told the theater full of Marines and family members.

He said the service is the "rock upon which this great military of ours rests."

This consistency is needed as the fiscal situation becomes more confusing and uncertain, he said. The resources devoted to the military will go up and down, but the military – especially the Marines – must be constant, the chairman said.

Dempsey said the Marine Corps is known as the nation's ready force: ready to go where the country needs them, via sea or air. But the service also has another image equally important to Americans – that of a new Marine receiving the Eagle, Globe and Anchor in his or her grimy



Photo by Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

Army General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks with Sgt. Maj. Robin Fortner, sergeant major of the 4th Recruit Training Battalion, during his visit to Parris Island, S.C., on March 21.

hands having just finished the final recruit test known as the Crucible.

"You have to be that young man or woman walking through the airport who just looks like a Marine," Dempsey said.

But it is more than looks; it is character, he said. The Marines' Hymn is the only service song that specifi-

cally mentions a value.

"I find that to be the most important thing about the United States Marine Corps, that you take it upon yourselves to commit to keep your honor clean," Dempsey said.

"What do I expect of the Marine

SEE GENERAL PAGE 2

Even with budget, civilians likely to face furloughs

Claudette Roulo
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Now that Congress has passed a continuing resolution that will fund the government for the rest of the fiscal year, the Department of Defense is trying to find the best way to make \$46 billion in spending cuts.

Specifically, the Pentagon hopes to be able to reduce the number of days its civilian employees are furloughed, but no decisions have been made.

Employees were given a brief reprieve last week, when DOD delayed delivery of furlough notices for about two weeks, pushing the start of any potential furloughs until at least mid-May.

The continuing resolution, passed March 21, provides

SEE FURLOUGHS PAGE 2

NEWS BRIEFS

Correction of last print

In the March 22 edition, Volume 65, Issue 11 of the Parris Island Boot, in the article titled "Marines no longer able to use tuition assistance," it was stated that the University of South Carolina reduces the price per class for military members by \$100 by Les Brediger, director of military programs at USC. The school actually reduces the price per credit hour by \$100. A class usually consists of three credit hours, making the classes \$300 cheaper for military members.

Notice to Boaters

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island is scheduled to conduct predawn live-fire training Wednesday from 6 to 7:15 a.m. The waterways along the east side of Broad River near the pistol ranges will be closed to boater traffic. The west side will remain open. Normal fire will resume afterward for all ranges.

For questions regarding firing times and waterway closures please contact the Weapons and Field Training Battalion Range Control at 843-228-3170.

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Motor Transportation division consolidates in new building

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Marines of Infantry Officer Course conduct raid exercise on Parris Island

Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis

Design Editor

Parris Island hosted a trial run of a long-range, MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor raid that is being considered for the course used to train new Marine infantry officers March 26.

Flying approximately 500 miles from Quantico, Va., aboard MV-22 Ospreys, a rifle platoon took part in an exercise the Corps believes may resemble typical future combat missions.

Prior to the use of MV-22 aircraft, the Marines with the Infantry Officer Course typically used CH-46 and CH-53 helicopters, which lack the speed, range and overall versatility of the Osprey, thus preventing the Marines from conducting distance training. However, the Osprey provides a means of traveling further and faster, with a maximum range of about 700 miles on a single tank.

The Osprey arrived here at around 7:30 p.m. after flying approximately 500 miles from Quantico. The Marines descended a rope from the suspended aircraft and trekked to their objective point to dispose of hostile threats. The exercise simulated Marines departing from a ship and quickly responding to distant global crises.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James Amos, intends for Marines to operate in a more distributed manner in the future, said Maj. Scott Cuomo, course director. This means single companies and platoons will operate hundreds of miles away from their higher headquarters.

"Parris Island is very advantageous,"

Cuomo added.

In addition to the distance from Quantico to Parris Island coinciding with the commandant's intent, Cuomo said using the island as the training site is essentially free, except for the costs of fuel and maintenance for the aircraft.

With the sequester act taking its toll on the Corps' funds, paying top dollar for another training venue is not within the current budget, said Capt. Jason Deane, an instructor for the IOC. However, using another Marine base eliminates that issue.

Despite its small size, Parris Island also offers an adequate training area, Deane said. The combat training area here has a simulated urban town, which acted as the enemy base for the Marines' exercise.

"There is an objective already built so there is nothing that we need to build or tweak," he said.

Also, Parris Island's consistent training schedule allowed the Marines to conduct the exercise without interfering with recruit training, Deane said. Other Marine Corps bases have more irregular schedules, making it more difficult for the IOC to find an open slot.

If the IOC training schedule is modified, Parris Island could potentially be used up to four times per year for similar exercises in the future, Deane said.

Marines with the Weapons and Field Training Battalion here acted as enemy combatants for the raid, and Marines with the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort, S.C., supplied the aircraft with fuel for the return flight to Quantico. Marine Test and Evaluation Squadron 22 provided the aircraft.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis

An MV-22 Osprey exits Parris Island's combat training area after collecting 16 Marine officers following a nighttime raid exercise held March 26. The Marines, with the Infantry Officer Course, flew more than 500 miles from Quantico, Va., to test run a long-distance training operation, which could potentially become a permanent part of the IOC's training regimen.



Marine officers patrol a building during a nighttime raid held March 26 on Parris Island, S.C. The officers were with the Infantry Officer Course in Quantico, Va., and flew more than 500 miles to Parris Island, which simulated an aerial departure from a ship in response to distant global crises. The Corps believes this training may resemble typical future missions.

Officers with the Infantry Officer Course make a stop in the wooded area of Parris Island's combat training area after arriving to the island via MV-22 Osprey. The Marines regrouped prior to moving toward the simulated enemy base and ultimately disposing of hostile threats.



GENERAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Corps? I expect you to be Marines."

The town hall meeting was the last event of the chairman's visit to the air station and nearby Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, where he toured 4th Recruit Training Battalion and shared lunch with Parris Island Marines.

At the air base, he toured the F-35 pilot training facility that is nearing completion, as well as the new hangar complex for the aircraft.

FURLOUGHS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

limited flexibility in making the mandatory cuts.

Even with some relief under the continuing resolution, making the cuts will be "tough," Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said March 26.

Before the continuing resolution passed, officials expected that with few exceptions, Defense Department employees would have 22 unpaid furlough days through the remainder of the fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30.

"We're going to have to make a decision relatively soon," Little said, adding that he's unsure whether the decision will be made this week or next.

"The main concern we have right now - one of many concerns, actually - is the readiness of the force," Little said. "We understand the impact to our DOD civilian workforce. This is a decision that we didn't take lightly, and it's problematic on many levels. But, when you're faced with a series of tough choices, this is one we felt like we had to make."

Distribution Management Offices combine

Lance Cpl. David Bessey

Staff Writer

Distribution Management Offices are scheduled to consolidate personal property offices April 1.

DMO offices from Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany and Naval Air Station Jacksonville are being regionalized into the Personal Property Shipping Office Southeast.

Local DMO offices will assist in processing property documentation and act as suboffices.

The regionalization will not affect personal prop-

erty entitlement counseling or daily operations for the Passenger Travel Office or Freight Office.

Service members receiving orders should begin arranging their move as soon as possible to ensure they have all the information they need to move due to the change.

Service members must be flexible in arranging their pack or pickup dates and be aware their desired dates are not confirmed until the Transportation Service Provider contacts them.

The Parris Island office can be contacted at 843-228-2238 at Building 602.

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THE PARRIS ISLAND BOOT

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Parris Island's motor transportation relocates

Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda
Staff Writer

After residing in the same building since 1942, Parris Island's motor transportation office relocated to a new home March 8.

The motor transportation division moved from three buildings to one consolidated unit, part of an effort to relocate the civilian workforce to an area separate from the Recruit Training Regiment.

"I believe that was the original intent, not to refurbish the old facility but to relocate everyone ... get all the (Facility Maintenance Division) outside the training perim-

eter," said Louis Compion, motor transportation supervisor.

The facility, though smaller than the old buildings, took approximately three years to build. Compion said he feels the new site is more efficient than the old buildings.

"It's almost more user-friendly for us as an operation," said Compion, 50, from Hammond, Ind. "We're all on the same level. We're all in the same building. We can all communicate quicker with each other."

In addition to a new workspace, the motor transportation division was given 30 electric carts from Headquarters Marine Corps, help-

ing create a smaller fleet of vehicles.

The use of electric vehicles will help to reduce spending, due to a lower demand for fuel and maintenance, said Bob Cannon, a 58-year-old maintenance work leader from Norristown, Pa.

The mission of the motor transportation division is to provide transport support for all organizations on the depot, said Compion. The motor transportation division was established in 1942 during World War II, nearly three decades after Parris Island became the first site of Marine Corps recruit training.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

The motor transportation division on Parris Island moved into a new facility March 8. Previously motor transportation was spread out into three buildings; it has now been consolidated into one.



A HELPING HAND

Parris Island Marines build community relations by helping special needs children

Lance Cpl. David Bessey
Staff Writer

Marines and sailors from Parris Island's Support Battalion are helping special needs students from two local schools in Beaufort, S.C., prepare for the Special Olympics.

Kids from Battery Creek High School and Robert Smalls Middle School have been training for weeks in anticipation of the big event scheduled to be held at Hilton Head High School on April 9.

"It's not just a community service, it's reaching out to the community and helping these kids," said Navy Petty

Officer 1st Class Robert Maxwell, 32, a Support Battalion religious specialist.

From 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday, Marines assisted the students in various exercises and events such as walking and sprinting.

Pfc. Austin Copes, 21, with the battalion's Basic Marine Platoon, has been helping kids with their tennis ball throw for the upcoming competition.

"I love helping them and I love coaching," said Copes, a native of Venice, Fla. "I just want to give back to the community."

The student's effort and hard work has shown vast improvement.

"Some of the students have become stronger, more physically fit and even lost weight," said Navy Lt. Janet Clarke, 42, battalion chaplain and a native of Augusta, Ga.

Several students have already won silver and bronze medals during a Special Olympics Tennis Tournament.

The Marines have been volunteering at the schools since October 2011 and are continuing to dedicate their time and energy to the kids who need it, said Clarke.

"What has started as just a community service has forged lifelong relationships," said Clarke.



Photo by Lance Cpl. David Bessey

Darelle Lesesne, left, 16, a student of Battery Creek High School, walks with his classmate Eddy Parter, 18, and Sgt. Jeannie Hernandez, 30, from Parris Island's Support Battalion, during a quarter-mile warm up in preparation for training drills March 13. Marines and sailors helped special needs students from Battery Creek High School and Robert Smalls Middle School in Beaufort, S.C., train for the Special Olympics scheduled for April 9 at Hilton Head High School. Lesesne and Parter are from Beaufort, S.C. Hernandez is from Houston.

Filipino children turn tables on US volunteers

Petty Officer 1st Class Chris Fahey

U.S. Marine Forces Pacific

SAN ANTONIO, Zambales, Philippines – Combined Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force staff members joined 40 other U.S. service members to visit a Philippine orphanage during a community relations event coordinated by the CJCMOTF chaplain.

Initially designed as an event during which military members would visit some of Zambales' displaced youths at the Shepherd of the Hills Children's Foundation and lighten their spirits, to the surprise of many, it was the children who delighted the volunteers.

"Today was a total shock," said Marine Corps 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion Lance Cpl. Juliana Gatica. "I thought the purpose of coming here would be for me to make them feel better, but each time they placed my hand on their forehead, wrapped me in a hug or laughed at nearly everything we did, my heart would melt. They cheered me up in so many ways."

Shepherd of the Hills was founded in 1976 after a typhoon displaced 20 children. From there, the foundation grew from a simple act of charity into a 5-acre, globally-funded foundation that provides education and support in a family environment.

According to SOTH President Nathaniel Mejica, success from the school stems from the home-like setup. The 60 children are separated into groups and cared for by an assigned mom and dad. This format inspires a strong family bond, said Mejica, and unlike most group homes, remains in place for life.

"Our children can stay as long as they like," said Mejica. "As long as they are pursuing education or employment – something every

parent wants – then we aren't required to push them out."

Mejica says that being part of a family is crucial to the development of the children.

"When you've been teaching these kids that family is eternal, only to push them away later, confuses them and is damaging," added Mejica. "We don't want that. We are a real family that has built healthy homes."

During the event, military members played basketball and other games with the children. Some members sat quietly with other children, talking and learning about each other. For CJCMOTF Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. Ron Kennedy, the only required activity was keeping an open heart, the same way other military members have done in the past at the foundation.

"The ties our U.S. military has with this orphanage date clear back to its beginning," said Kennedy. "It's a fantastic foundation that truly, truly cares about the children they take into their arms."

As the volunteers prepared to depart, each gave their day's adopted child a hug, which reminded Gatica of her home.

"I come from a big family," said Gatica. "Today was the only day I didn't miss them and that last hug I got from Cherrie made me feel as though I was right there with them again."

The SOTH community relations is one of several being coordinated by Kennedy in support of Exercise Balikatan 2013.

Balikatan is an annual Republic of the Philippines–U.S. military bilateral training exercise and humanitarian assistance engagement.



Photos by Petty Officer 1st Class Chris Fahey

Master Sgt. Antoine Robinson hugs Mary, a 9-year-old Shepherd of the Hills Children's Foundation resident, during a community relations project. Robinson was among 40 other volunteers participating in the project coordinated by the Combined Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force chaplain.



Nerissa from the Shepherd of the Hills Children's Foundation cheers alongside Lance Cpl. Marshal Schmidt from 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force, during a community relations project. Schmidt was among 40 other volunteers participating in the project coordinated by the Combined Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force chaplain. The children's home was founded in 1976 after a typhoon displaced the foundation's first 20 children. The foundation is dedicated to providing a caring home for abandoned, neglected, abused or underprivileged children. The event was one of several scheduled by CJCMOTF units in support of Exercise Balikatan 2013. Balikatan is an annual Republic of the Philippines – U.S. military bilateral training exercise and humanitarian assistance engagement.

FAMILY DAY SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

WELCOME TO FAMILY ORIENTATION DAY AT PARRIS ISLAND

6am - 10pm.....Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) open
 6am - 6pm.....Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Food Court open
 7am - 5pm.....Engraving Shop open
 7:30am - 4pm.....Douglas Visitors' Center open- please register upon arrival
 10am - 12pm.....Marine Corps 101 Brief including a "Behind the Scenes" tour at Douglas Visitors' Center
 LUNCH.....Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club), Food Court, Subway, Golf Course
 1:30pm - 3pm.....Family Orientation Brief at the Lyceum
 5pm - 8pm.....Steak Night at Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club), reservations required

THURSDAY

WELCOME TO FAMILY LIBERTY DAY AT PARRIS ISLAND

6am - 4pm.....Douglas Visitors' Center open - please register upon arrival
 6am - 10pm.....Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) open
 6am - 6pm.....Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Food Court open
 7am - 5pm.....Engraving Shop open
 7am.....Motivational Run at Peatross Parade Deck
 8am.....Depot Museum opens
 8am - 9am.....Marine Corps 101 Brief at the Douglas Visitors' Center
 8:15am.....All Weather Training Facility (AWTF) opens
 9:30am - 10am.....Battalion Commander's Brief to Families and Liberty Ceremony at AWTF
 10am.....Liberty Begins
 10am.....Marksmanship Training Unit Open House
 10:30am - 1pm.....Family Day Buffet at the Lyceum - new Marines eat for FREE!
 2pm.....Warrior's Prayer at Recruit Chapel
 3pm.....Liberty Ends
 4pm - 4:30pm.....Command Reception with Depot Command Members at Traditions Lounge
 4:30pm.....Command welcome remarks
 4:45pm.....Family Day Dinner with Depot Command at Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club)

FRIDAY

WELCOME TO GRADUATION DAY AT PARRIS ISLAND

6am - 2pm.....Douglas Visitors' Center open - please register upon arrival
 6am - 10pm.....Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) open
 6am - 6pm.....Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Food Court open
 7am - 5pm.....Engraving Shop open
 7:45am.....Morning Colors at Barrow Hall
 9am - 10am.....Graduation at Peatross Parade Deck (weather permitting)
 11am - 1pm.....Lunch Buffet at Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club)

