

# WEARE MCBH NEWSLETTER

Keeping our Marines and Neighbors Informed...

Vol. 1, Issue 6, September 2023

<https://www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil/>

<https://linktr.ee/mcbh/>



## MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII

### Marine Rotational Force - Darwin MV-22B Osprey Tiltrotor Aircraft Crash

DARWIN, AUSTRALIA – Marine Rotational Force - Darwin can confirm the names of those killed in the U.S. Marine Corps MV-22B Osprey crash on Melville Island, north of Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, on 27 August 2023 at approximately 9:30 a.m. The cause of the crash remains under investigation.

#### Deceased are:

- U.S. Marine Corps Corporal Spencer R. Collart, male, 21, MV-22B Osprey crew chief for VMM-363 (REIN), Marine Rotational Force – Darwin, originally from Arlington, VA
- U.S. Marine Corps Captain Eleanor V. LeBeau, female, 29, MV-22B Osprey

pilot for VMM-363 (REIN), Marine Rotational Force – Darwin, originally from Belleville, IL

- U.S. Marine Corps Major Tobin J. Lewis, male, 37, the executive officer of VMM-363 (REIN), Marine Rotational Force – Darwin, originally from Jefferson, CO

Injured:  
• Three Marines remain in Royal Darwin Hospital, with one in critical condition and two in stable condition. 17 others were taken to Royal Darwin Hospital, treated for minor injuries, and released.

Additional information on the deceased:



- Spencer Collart enlisted in the Marine Corps on October 26, 2020, and was promoted to the rank of Corporal on February 1, 2023.

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### THE HAWAII MARINE



### MCBH's News Segment

The Hawaii Marine is a monthly news segment from MCBH highlighting events and training that have occurred aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii in the last month. Tune in each month to get a look at what your Marines are up to and how the installation is working to support the Marine Corps and our community.

[Click here or scan the QR code to watch the newest Hawaii Marine](#)

### PUBLIC ADVISORIES



### Public Notices and Updates

MCBH publishes notices and updates in the form of Public Advisories to inform base residents and neighbors in the surrounding community of upcoming events, changes in base services, irregular training impacts, and any other information you need to know as you go about your day. Public Advisories are meant to keep you informed and aware of any changes that could affect you.

[Click here or scan the QR code to view MCBH Public Advisories](#)



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### MCBH and the Community Work Together to Combat Invasive Species

#### Story by 2nd Lt. John O'Hara

MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII – Representatives from Marine Corps Base Hawaii's Environmental Compliance and Protection Division and Environmental Protection Integration Program gathered alongside elected and local leaders as well as community members during a town hall to address mutual concerns regarding the impact of invasive species on the Windward side of Oahu. As stewards of the unique and culturally significant Mokapu peninsula and surrounding training areas, MCBH takes pride in our role of protecting local resources. Invasive species pose



a threat to the local economy, the island's ecosystem, and the safety of Oahu's residents. As a member of the community, MCBH has direct lines of effort to help mitigate the spread and impact of invasive species.

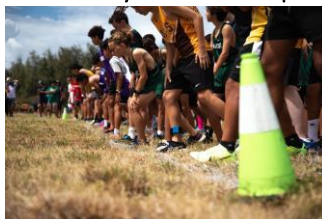
The REPI Program is a vital component of the Marine Corps' holistic encroachment mitigation strategy that can be used to combat detrimental impacts of invasive species and other environmental conditions that threaten MCBH's ability to perform mission requirements that are critical for national defense. This unique partnership program supports cost-sharing agreements between the Department of Defense, Marine Corps, state and local government, and private conservation organizations.

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### Fostering a Competitive Spirit: Cross Country Runners Compete at MCTAB

#### Story by Lance Cpl. Hunter Jones

MARINE CORPS TRAINING AREA BELLOWS, Hawaii – The Ko'olau mountains loomed in the blazing afternoon sun at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows while 600 high school and middle school students representing 16 schools gathered to compete in the Hawaii High School Athletic Association's season opening cross country race, August 26, 2023.



3,000-meter races for middle school and high school open, and 5,000-meter races for high school varsity athletes,

hosted aboard MCTAB. MCTAB, a 1,049-acre non-live fire training area, is used by Marines across the Pacific for urban operations training, and waterborne, heavy equipment, and forward area aviation operations. An area designed to test, train, and prepare Marines for combat, saw young athletes compete on its grounds for the first time.

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The season opener consists of the

## MCBH DIGITAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT



Marine Corps Base Hawaii community members interact with firefighters with the Federal Fire Department during a National Night Out event, MCBH, Aug. 1, 2023. National Night Out is an annual campaign that enhances the relationship between law enforcement, first and emergency responders, and the community they serve. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Julian Elliott-Drouin) [More Imagery](#)



U.S. Rep. Jill Tokuda, Hawaii 2nd Congressional District, and U.S. Marine Corps Col. Jeremy Beaven, commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Hawaii, tour the northern side of the base during a visit to MCBH, Aug. 23, 2023. Tokuda visited MCBH to gain insight into current base modernization efforts. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Brandon Aultman) [More Imagery](#)

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## 3d MARINE LITTORAL REGIMENT

<https://www.3rdmardiv.marines.mil/Units/3d-mlr/>



### 3d MLR Conducts Pololu Strike

**Story by 1st Lt. Anne Pentaleri**  
MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII – From August 7 to 31, 3d Marine Littoral Regiment conducted Pololu Strike, a 3d MLR exercise consisting of staff education, planning, and battalion-led field training.

During the first two weeks of the exercise, 3d MLR headquarters established a planning cell on Marine Corps Base Hawaii where members of the regimental and battalion staffs received and developed orders in support of the upcoming Force Design Integration Exercise.



During the final week of Pololu Strike, companies from each of 3d MLR's three battalions—3d Littoral Combat Team, 3d Littoral Logistics Battalion, and 3d Littoral Anti-Air Battalion—conducted expeditionary advanced base rehearsals, reconnaissance patrols, and cache drills while spread across disparate training areas on Oahu. The training

focused on the education and development of the regiment and battalion staffs, deliberate planning repetitions, and execution of training and readiness standards in a field environment.



3d MLR utilized Kahuku Training Area, Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, and MCBH's Crater Range to execute training over the course of Pololu Strike.

[More Imagery](#)

### 3d MLR DIGITAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT



U.S. Marines with 3d Littoral Combat Team, 3d Marine Littoral Regiment, 3d Marine Division, conduct a Multi-Purpose Anti-Armor Anti-Personnel Weapons Systems range at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, August 21, 2023. The purpose of this training is to sharpen the LCT's weapons handling skills and increase their readiness for future exercises and operations. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Eric Huynh) [More Imagery](#)

## MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 24

<https://www.1stmaw.marines.mil/Subordinate-Units/Marine-Aircraft-Group-24/>



### VMGR-153 Assists in Maui Response Efforts

**Story by 2nd Lt. Hannah Venables**  
MCAS KANELOE BAY, Hawaii – U.S. Marines with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 153 (VMGR-153), Marine Aircraft Group 24, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, answered the call on Aug. 14 and Aug. 22, 2023 to assist Joint Task Force 50 (JTF-50) in their efforts to provide relief in the wake of the devastating Maui wildfires of Aug. 8. VMGR-153 facilitated the transport of personnel and equipment with their KC-130J Hercules in support of Maui response efforts.

The KC-130J Hercules is most recognized for its incredible versatility, including medical evacuations, cargo and personnel transportation, air support and reconnaissance, and the ability to land in austere environments. The aircraft can support humanitarian, special operations, aerial refueling, firefighting, and search and rescue missions around the globe.



VMGR-153's flight on Aug. 14 transported Hawaii National Guardsmen with JTF-50, the command-and-control element that will coordinate Department of Defense response efforts. The Aug. 22 flight transported personnel and equipment with the U.S. Navy's Mobile Dive and Salvage unit.

VMGR-153 is a relatively new squadron in Hawaii, formally activated less than a year ago, that has quickly demonstrated dedication to service and professionalism with adept pilots, aircrew, and maintainers.

"Our squadron was on standby, and when we heard that JTF-50 requested our support, we were excited to help. Times like this are why we work and train so hard, to excel in both combat and humanitarian missions at a moment's notice. We are always happy to help when needed," said Capt. Ezekiel Cary, who piloted the Aug. 14 flight.

"Joining the Marine Corps, that's one of the things that I wanted to do, is to be able to be ready to support in any way that I can during humanitarian and disaster relief events. I was glad we could answer the call because we were here and ready," Cary added.

VMGR-153's recent assistance highlights the importance of unified joint-force efforts and how they can be critical in disaster response.

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### MAG-24 DIGITAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT



U.S. Marines with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 268 (VMM-268), Marine Aircraft Group 24, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing deploy sensor buoys from an MV-22 Osprey aircraft at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Aug. 16, 2023. The sensor floats provide real-time data to help study hurricanes and increase naval knowledge of the ocean battlespace, including littoral areas which are crucial to expeditionary and amphibious operations. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Clayton Baker) [More Imagery](#)