

Marines SCUTTLEBUTT



Hey Little Pig
Let Me In

These tools will take more than the hair off your chiny chin chin. The Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory's new squad

items suitable for the forcible entry of urban structures, including the obviously essential instruments "Thor's Hammer" and the "Hooligan Tool." Marines know the streets are the most dangerous place to be during urban operations, so the Warfighting Lab wanted to provide riflemen a method of breaking and entering safely.

The lab's Project Metropolis has been involved in the development of tactics, techniques and procedures for the past four years, providing Marines with only the high-

forcible entry kit is perfect for breaking into buildings and generally feeling like one bad "wolf." The kit contains seven

est quality devices for quickly entering buildings. The kit is also intended to reduce casualties and increase

the lethality and speed of operations.

Marines lucky enough to receive the much-desired squad forcible entry kit will find a bolt cutter, sledge hammer, inspection mirror, Kevlar sleeves and gloves, collapsible and nylon ladders and the aforementioned Thor's Hammer and Hooligan Tool. These tools will allow Marines to cut chain links and locks, view around corners, smash windows — avoiding those pesky glass shards — enter at upper levels and open doors.

Fielding is to be conducted in fiscal year 2004, so stop the huffing and puffing, save your breath. **M**



Throw away those tin cans and string, the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory has a new hands-free communication tool. The Integrated Intrasquad Radio provides Marines with the capability for unsecure and secure connections between fire teams, squad leaders and platoon commanders.

including batteries and ancillaries. The connected headset can even be used during nuclear, biological and chemical attacks as it boasts a boom microphone with a NBC respirator adaptor. The device

Warfighting Lab Asks > **Can You Hear Me Now?**

The lab determined that the previous intrasquad radio and tactical handheld radio were ineffective in allowing squad leaders to communicate above to platoon commanders and below to fire team leaders. The new radio solves the problem by providing a single headset that enables communication above, below and between the platoon and squad.

The new radio is lightweight, only 550 grams

is wireless so Marines can communicate while keeping their hands on their weapon. The radio has 256 channels and emits spectrum signals that create noise, making the communication difficult to detect. Therefore, making fake static noise—while entertaining to your platoon commander—is now unnecessary.

The 1st Marine Division is currently evaluating the Personal Role Radio, the first attempt at the new radio, in Iraq, and will provide a report upon their return. **M**



Taste Testers Say < **'So Long Mon'**

The Jamaican Pork Chop is history—so is his Italian partner, Pasta Alfredo. These two Meals Ready to Eat have been added to the list of MREs to hit the skids following an Army survey to determine what service members really want to eat, according to a Defense Logistics Agency press release.

The May 2003 release further expounds on the virtues of its newest entrees, which include, Pork Rib and Sauce, Vegetable Manicotti and Roast Beef with Vegetables.

The meals are being shipped immediately and should be in the hands of desert-dwelling jarheads any day. And they'd better be good, the Defense Logistics Agency's Defense Supply Center Philadelphia has shipped about 40 million MREs so far—enough to go across the United States east to west more than two times! **M**





Corps' New Riverine Craft
> Jets Lejeune Waterways

Get out the water skis, the Marine Corps is putting a new boat in the river. The Marines and Sailors of Small Craft Company, Headquarters and Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, at Camp Lejeune, N.C., are operationally testing the Small Unit Riverine Craft.

The 39-foot-long craft is capable of transporting a 13-man infantry rifle squad for primary support of inland water-

way operations—the currently used Rigid Raiding Craft only transports up to eight Marines. The SURC can also carry up to three different weapon systems on board. Two mounts are located on the port and starboard side at the bow of the craft, and a single mount is centered along the back bulkhead.

The craft is powered by two 440 horsepower, six-cylinder engines backed by two

water jets, which move the craft forward by drawing water in the bottom of the boat and pushing it back out at high speeds. The water jets make this craft quieter too, which is a prime concern when you think you might be near the enemy.

The propulsion system is rated up to 35 knots and requires only 8 to 9 inches of water in which to operate. The engines also allow it to travel up to 300 nautical miles on one tank of gas—talk about good mileage! **M**



SAPI Plate
< Anything But Sappy

They may not look like much, but the Small Arms Protective Inserts used in Operation Iraqi Freedom did their jobs stopping small arms fire that would have certainly wounded and killed Marines in combat.

Sgt. Michael Simmons, while deployed to Iraq, received a serious gunshot wound to his arm. The round penetrated through his arm into his flack vest and was stopped by his armor plate.

The surgeons who worked on him said that the round would have hit him dead center in his ascending aorta, a likely fatal injury.

This is just one example of the plates' effectiveness

"We have seen many after action reports and heard many success stories from commanders in the Iraqi theatre," said Capt. Cliff Carpenter, SAPI project officer, Marine Corps Systems Command. "For a Marine assigned as a cubicle

Faced with increasing fatigue cracking the tail booms of aging UH-1N Huey helicopters—and unwilling to use performance-enhancing drugs—H-1 program engineers at NAVAIR Patuxent River, Md., recently found an

answer. A commercially-available aerodynamic device will help prolong the helicopter's life and reduce pilot workload.

Hueys Lose
> Tail-Draggin' Blues

answer. A commercially-available aerodynamic device will help prolong the helicopter's life and reduce pilot workload.

The device, a strake kit, developed by Boundary Layer Research, Inc., of Everett Wash., consists primarily of an aerodynamically shaped strip of metal attached to the left side of the Huey tail boom, according to Bob Moore, senior systems analyst.

"We were looking for something to fix our fatigue problems in the Huey tail booms in the short term," Moore said. "We've got tail boom fixtures and other fixes in place ... We found this and saw it as something that would reduce the fatigue and

help get us to our long-term fix for the tail boom." NASA, according to Moore, initially developed the technology. The technology was then bought by BLR and marketed to civilian single-rotor helicopter operators.

The NASA research indicated that the strakes, when installed, would eliminate stresses on the tail and dramatically decrease the vortexes and their effects by smoothing the airflow around the tail boom, eliminating the alternating sideways lift.

The kit, as applied, consists of two strakes, each of which is formed from three 42-inch segments attached to the left side of the tail boom.

Rotary Wing's Maj. Pat Lindauer evaluated the strake kit installation in 10 flight hours flown over the course of nine flights Feb. 5-14. His maneuvers included turns, approaches and departures, hovers, level, climbing and descending



flight, and simulated engine failures.

"I think the biggest benefits the fleet will see is improved flying qualities of the stab bar Hueys," Lindauer said.

With the initial indicators looking good, the strake kits are on their way to the Fleet,

according to Tom Boswell, a program management member. Testing will also take place to determine if the strakes will yield the same benefits when installed on an AH-1W SuperCobra. **M**

Three... Two... One...
SHORT COUNT

1,800 – Average miles Los Angeles recruiter Staff Sgt. Donald E. Tarver travels in a month to attain three contracts

100 – The new maximum number of self-education points for a composite score, which, per MarAdmin 246/03, goes into effect Oct. 21

6 – Months suspension of base driving privileges is the awarded for the third offense of not wearing a seat belt per MarAdmin 225/03

2,200 – Hot meals served to I Marine Expeditionary Force Marines by Camp Babylon, Iraq, field mess cooks daily

22 – Marines received the Medal of Honor for their actions during the World War II battle for Iwo Jima

1987 – Year "Full Metal Jacket" was released in theaters

21,000 – Rough estimate of the number of new recruits to arrive at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in a year

2,275 – Female Marines deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm

30 – Of the 55 "Iraqi Most Wanted" have been captured or surrendered as of June 9

30,000 – Number of Coalition troops still in and around Baghdad June 4

6.66 – Six dollars and 66 cents was the monthly pay of an E-1 in the Marine Corps in 1775