

Meal prices increase

A surcharge which went into effect Saturday now affects all officers who eat their meals at the Air Station dining facility. This price increase does not, however, affect the price of enlisted personnel's meals.

The price increase came into effect as a result of the annual pay increase. The following surcharges for officer's meals came into effect Saturday: breakfast \$.40; lunch \$.40; dinner \$.40; breakfast brunch \$.40; dinner brunch \$.55.

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'251 returns from "Teamwork '80"



Photo by LCpl. Jon East

Marines of VMFA-251 step out of a cargo plane upon returning to the Air Station from "Teamwork '80".

Everyone was working 12-hour shifts, and the cold really made things uncomfortable, says Corporal Mike Wallace, from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA)-251's hydraulics shop.

Cpl. Wallace was one of more than 200 Marines from VMFA-251 who participated in Exercise "Team Work '80" held in Norway from September 18-24. VMFA-251 also took all 12 of their F-4 aircraft.

The squadron of Marines and their aircraft joined approximately 6,800 Marines from the 4th Marine Amphibious Brigade (MAB) in the exercise in which more than 60,000 personnel, 170 ships and 400 aircraft from eight North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries were involved.

Reinforcement and resupply

Team Work '80 included the passage of military and

merchant reinforcement and resupply shipping from North America and the United Kingdom to Northern European ports and an amphibious landing by the United States, United Kingdom and Netherlands Marines in Norway.

Air support for troops

"We were there to provide air defense operations in support of the fleet and the landing force. To do that we had to fly Combat Air Patrols (CAP's) over the fleet and when the landing force hit the beach, we flew CAP's over it. A CAP flew over a specific area to make sure no 'enemy' aircraft came in to attack the ships or the men on the beach," says First Lieutenant Nick Episcapo, training officer for VMFA-251. He adds, "The deployment was a good experience for most of the Marines because we definitely felt welcomed over there."

Cpl. Scott Schmelzel, '251 hydraulics, agrees and adds, "The people were very friendly. If you asked passers-by on the street where something or someplace was they would take you there most of the time instead of just telling you where to go."

Not much liberty

Lance Corporal Matthew Watkins, from '251 metal shop, adds, "We didn't have much time for liberty but what we had was great. The Norwegians speak a lot of English and they're really interested in talking to us."

Still returning

Over 100 other Marines from both Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron-31 and Marine Air Control Squadron-5 joined '251 on their deployment to Norway. Some of these Marines have returned but some are still on their way back onboard ship.

Welcome back Marines