

APRIL 2013

MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES

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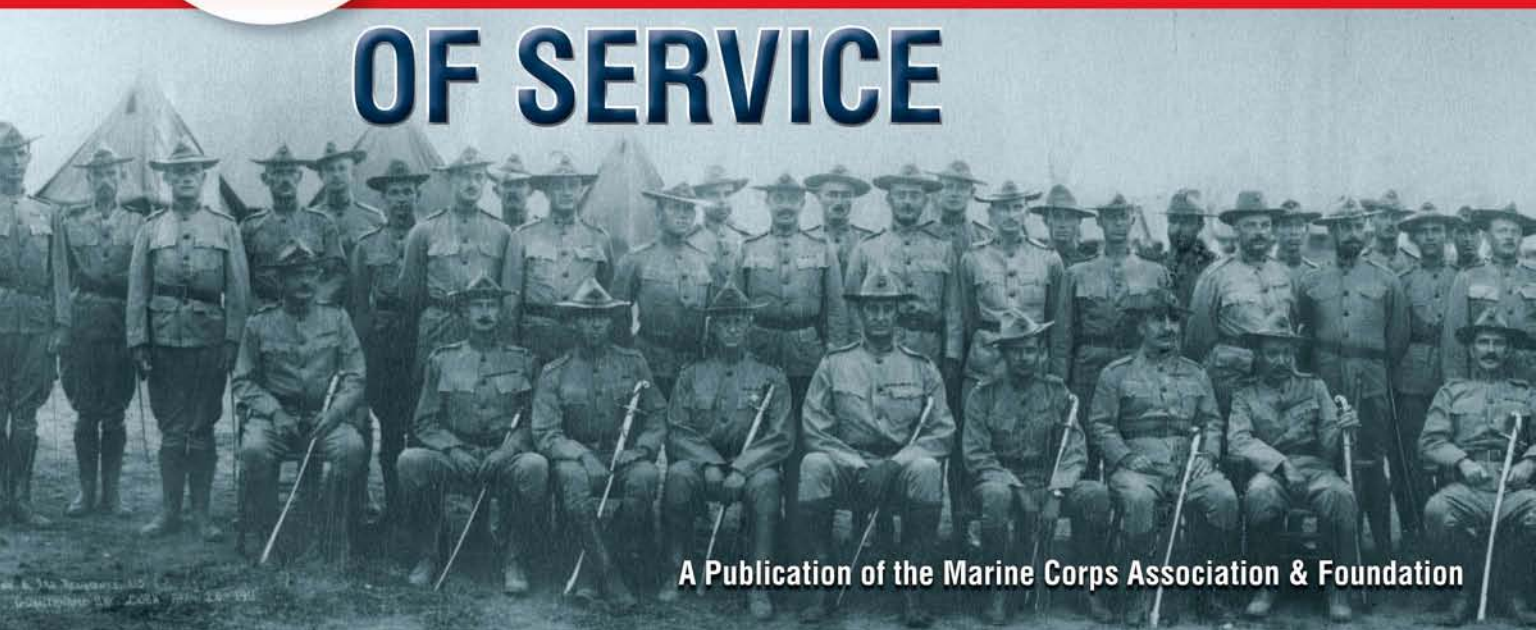
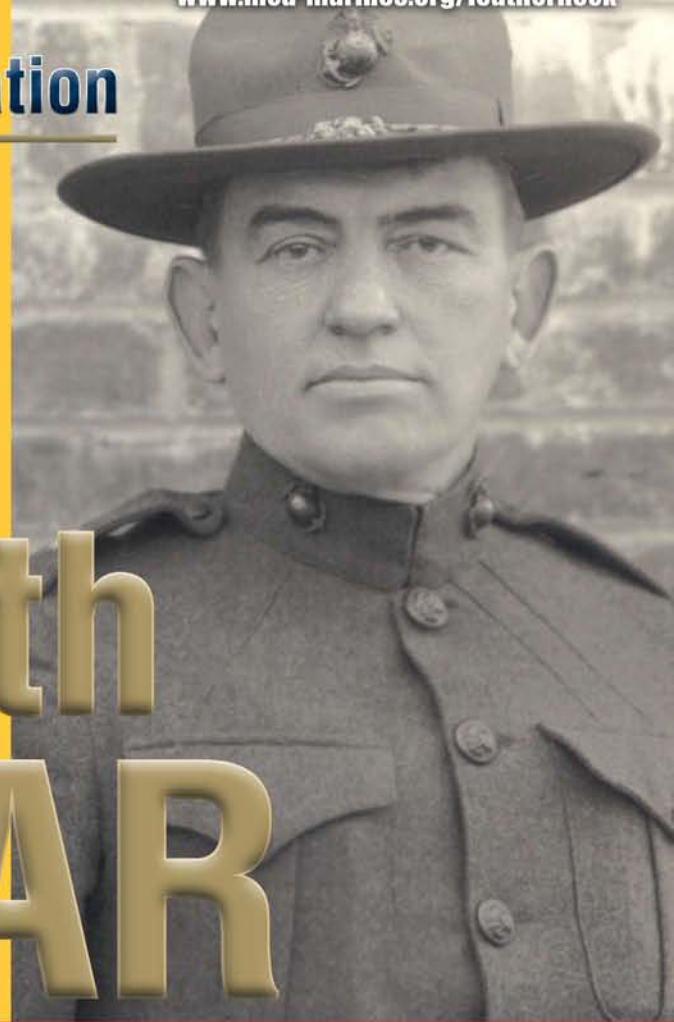
The Marine Corps Association

MARKS ITS

100th YEAR



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A Publication of the Marine Corps Association & Foundation



Welcome to *Leatherneck Magazine's*

Digital Edition

April 2013

We hope you are enjoying our digital edition with its added content, and we encourage you to visit us for frequently updated Marine Corps content on our website (www.leatherneckmagazine.com) and in our social media postings.

This year, 2013, the Marine Corps Association marks its centennial of service to Marines and Marine families. Throughout the year we will be republishing articles of enduring value from our archives. Bear in mind that all *Leatherneck* issues back through 1921 are online and searchable. If you want to find an old article, go to www.leatherneckmagazine.com to access the archives.

We thank you for your continuing support.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walt Ford". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Col Walt Ford, USMC (Ret)
Editor



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MARINE RESERVE



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COVER: This month marks 100 years of the Marine Corps Association supporting Marines (see story on page 42). The special MCA centennial cover was designed by *Leatherneck* art director Jason Monroe. Copies of the cover may be obtained by sending \$2 (for mailing costs) to *Leatherneck Magazine*, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134-0775.

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Sound Off

Edited by R. R. Keene

Have a question or feel like sounding off? Address your letter to: Sound Off Editor, *Leatherneck* Magazine, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134, or send an e-mail to: r.keene@mca-marines.org. Due to the heavy volume, we cannot answer every letter received. Do not send original photographs, as we cannot guarantee their return. All letters must be signed, and e-mails must contain complete names and postal mailing addresses. Anonymous letters will not be published.—Sound Off Ed.

Letter of the Month

(*Leatherneck* will provide a free one-year courtesy subscription to non-MCA&F members who are selected for the Sound Off Letter of the Month. *Leatherneck* will continue to pay \$25 for the Sound Off Letter of the Month submitted by members.)

I did two tours in Vietnam. My family is a Marine family. My oldest is First Sergeant E. S. Heyward, my son-in-law is Gunnery Sergeant Mike Mumaw, and my unofficial adopted son is Gunnery Sergeant Joseph Starkey. We are all combat veterans.

Last July, my oldest invited me to Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., for his graduation from the Senior Enlisted Professional Military Education Course.

I was met at Reagan National Airport by my son and we drove to Quantico. We stayed at the Crossroads Inn on base. That night, I drank one or two beers with my son and some of the finest senior staff noncommissioned officers the Corps has to offer. As my wife likes to put it, “You were with your own kind.”

I attended their graduation. Their guest speaker was Sergeant Major John P. Ploskonka. During his speech, he pointed me out to the audience and the fact that I was a two-tour Vietnam veteran. I relayed to the Sergeant Major afterward, that it was not necessary for him to single me out, because I was only doing my job as a Marine. His response was that, because of Marines like me and the lessons we learned in Vietnam, a lot of Marines today are coming home, and not in bags.

That afternoon, after graduation, we went to the National Museum of the Marine Corps. It was outstanding. Each display brings a sense of pride as well as belonging to an organization that has no equal on this planet.

That evening, we attended the Evening Parade at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. I was introduced to several members of The United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps. After explaining to them that I had marched in The Drum & Bugle Corps and had been instructed as a civilian by the late Colonel Truman W.

Crawford, who commanded The Drum & Bugle Corps from 1973 to 1998, I was given the royal tour of the Barracks and Crawford Hall. The temperature on the parade ground that night was 106. I do not take heat well, but watching those men and women in their dress uniforms performing like one—not a flinch, not a missed beat, nothing but perfection—I could only watch through eyes that were not watered by sweat alone.

The next morning on the way to the airport, we made a stop at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. My Veterans Administration counselor has often suggested to me that I should see “The Wall” and try to put some of those things any combat veteran carries to rest.

My son later wrote me: “I think you going to The Wall was a long overdue journey. ... To this day, when I see a ‘Nam vet, I stop what I’m doing and shake their hand and say, ‘Thank you for your service and sacrifice.’ ... The Wall to me ... is a monument to not only those whose names are on The Wall, but to those still living. [It is] an apology for a nation that has learned from its history and will not make the same mistake again. ...

“You have always told me when you went to ‘Nam you hoped that I would never have to do the things you have done or see the things you have seen. I truly hope that going [to The Wall] and seeing the reverence that you men are held in shows you and proves to you that I won’t. Not all injuries are suffered on a battlefield, and because of the lessons learned by our society during the Vietnam era, I will not have to go through the things you did. I hope that this journey you have taken eventually convinces you that the mission has been accomplished. At the end of it all, Dad, I hope this trip gives you peace.”

Former Sgt Edward R. Heyward
Pell Lake, Wis.

Hey, There’s Dad as a Shooter In *Leatherneck*!

Imagine my shock when I saw that picture of the 1946 Marine shooting team [“Sound Off,” February]. My dad, Master

Sergeant Walter A. Reynolds, is in that picture. He is in the top row, the fifth man from the left.

I remember him talking about Walter Walsh in later years. I wrote to him [Walsh] and got a response. He remembered my father very well.

My father was a seagoing Marine and plankowner of USS *Vincennes* (CA-44) at 27 years old, a World War II combat veteran of Okinawa and a China Marine from 1945 to 1946. He was a gunnery sergeant when the picture was taken.

He went on to earn “Distinguished” honors with the pistol in 1952. He also won a gold medal for the five-man team. As a side note, my dad qualified high serviceman in California for the 1952 Olympics and was not asked to go. Why, I will never know.

LCpl Larry A. Reynolds
USMCR, 1960-68
Cedar City, Utah

His Mother House-Sat For the Ortiz Family

I have many fond memories of my time in the Corps, such as meeting Generals P.X. Kelley and Alfred M. Gray Jr., the 28th and 29th Commandants of the Marine Corps, as well as meeting Joe Rosenthal and getting his autograph on a picture of the flag raising over Mount Suribachi. But one of my fondest memories happened in Prescott, Ariz.

My unit was on a training exercise near Yuma; we were told we’d get three to four days of liberty. My grandmother lived in Prescott, so I brought my dress blues in anticipation of being able to visit her. I even built a cardboard container so my cover wouldn’t get crushed in my seabag.

When we got liberty, I rented a car and drove to Prescott in my blues so my grandmother could show me off to her canasta friends. She was retired, but occasionally was a house sitter for people. On the way to lunch, we stopped at a house she was watching. I went in with her and stood in the living room while she watered plants, etc. Then I asked her, “Is this the Ortiz family’s house?”



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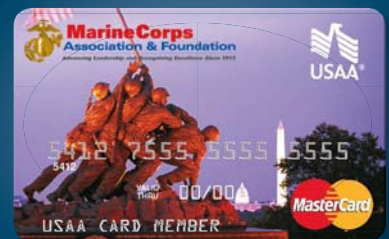
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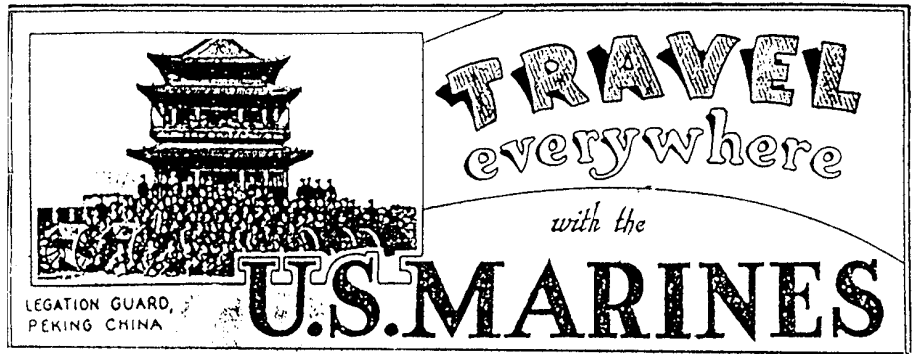


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She looked at me and asked how I would know that. I told her the picture on the mantle was of a famous Marine, Colonel Peter Ortiz. I told her everything I knew about him. It was amazing to share the experience with her.

Since the recent announcement in *Leatherneck* of the publication of a book on Peter Ortiz's life ["Ortiz: To Live a Man's Life]," I've been able to relive that exciting experience and share it with my son, Seth, who currently is serving in the Corps.

Thank you for a great magazine and a renewed awesome memory.

Sgt Shawn Lash
USMC, 1984-93
Burlington, Colo.

Everywhere, U.S. Marines

I recently read the article, "Why Do Young Americans Become Marines?" in the December 2012 issue. I recalled that many years ago, as I approached the Marine Corps Recruiting Office in Seattle, the Navy recruiter advertised, "Join the Navy and See the World." The young Marine recruiting sergeant assured me that, although the Marine Corps did not actually advertise how much their Marines would travel, they, too, could count on seeing a considerable part of the world.

Perhaps the closest the Marine Corps has come to copying the Navy recruiting motto was displayed on a sign [top] by Marine Legation Guard Peking, China, prior to World War II.

In looking back over my 30 years of active duty, the Seattle recruiting sergeant most certainly was correct. As a Marine, my feet touched the soil of 35 countries and territories: Panama, Barbados, Cuba, Haiti, Puerto Rico, Territory of Hawaii, Morocco, Newfoundland, St. John Island, England, Germany, Austria, Cyprus, Greece, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, Italy, Switzerland, France, New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Vella Lavella, Bougainville, Territory of Alaska, Guam, Saipan, Iwo Jima, Japan, Eniwetok, South Korea, Vietnam, Okinawa and the United States.

Obviously, the Seattle recruiter knew what he was talking about.

Col Dave E. Severance, USMC (Ret)
La Jolla, Calif.

• Most of us joined because we wanted to see the world with a class outfit. Col Severance, in addition to being a longtime friend of Leatherneck, a first-class Marine and world warrior, is the duty expert on Iwo Jima and the Marines who fought there.—Sound Off Ed.

Carl's Tavern in Vista, Calif., closed in July 2007. Carl's was the location where most of the bar scenes from the movie "Heartbreak Ridge," with Clint Eastwood, were filmed.

Carl's was the venue for many Marine Corps-related events from Marine Corps Birthday celebrations, to promotions and retirements, and on and on.

After the tavern closed, we "lost souls" were looking for a new watering hole and eventually settled for the American Legion in Vista. The commander of the Legion asked me if I knew the last owner of Carl's, and I did.

I went over to her house and collected several pieces of memorabilia she had saved from Carl's. We made a "Carl's Corner" in the Legion. Please let Marines who visited Carl's know that a tad bit of Carl's still exists in the American Legion in Vista.

Tom Morton
Vista, Calif.

• Consider it done.—Sound Off Ed.

Which Is Senior of These Two Awards?

When in doubt, go to the best source. My question is, Does the Air Medal trump the Combat Action Ribbon?

Ben Elwartowski
USMC, 1969-71
Shelby Township, Mich.

• Yes, it does in precedence. The Air Medal is presented for heroic actions or meritorious service while participating in aerial flight, under flight orders, and is junior to the Meritorious Service Medal

Tradition &



Marine Corps Pilot 1943-1945
World War II



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Publishers Press wishes to congratulate the Marine Corps Association on its 100 years of service to the United States Marine Corps. Publishers Press is proud to be the print partner for the Marine Corps Association for *Leatherneck* and the *Marine Corps Gazette*.

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Pictured: Frank E. Simon, Marine Corps Pilot and former Publishers Printing Company President succeeded by his sons following his death.

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nese Nationalist Government for issue to all military and civilian personnel who assisted the Chinese in their fight against Japan during World War II. Acceptance of this medal was authorized in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 80-314, which authorized the acceptance of foreign awards and decorations during WW II for the period of Dec. 7, 1941, through July 24, 1948. Members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served in mainland China, Burma, Vietnam and Thailand for at least 30 days between Dec. 8, 1941, and Sept. 2, 1945, rate the medal.

This medal is not addressed in the current Secretary of the Navy Instruction 1650.1H, "Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual," but research on the Internet indicates that in precedence, it is worn behind all foreign decorations. Also, if you believe you rate the medal, contact the Coordination Council for North American Affairs, Republic of China, 4201 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20016; tel. (202) 895-1800.—Sound Off Ed.

Does Everybody in the Corps Shoot Expert?

All Marines I meet, and all Marines in photos I've seen everywhere on all occasions, wear the rifle Expert badge. They can't all be Expert riflemen!

Obviously, there is no way to prevent the wearing of a badge if it is so highly regarded. So, I recommend it be renamed "Qualified Rifleman" and do away with the Sharpshooter and Marksman badges, and for the most important reason—to keep our Marines honest.

The few I've questioned tell me, "All Marines wear it. Why not me?"

Former Sgt Joseph T. Mysak
Roselle, N.J.

• I did a check in the November 2012 issue that contains our supplement "Senior Leaders of Our Corps," which has photos of the senior officers and staff noncommissioned officers. There were a number not wearing Expert rifle and pistol badges, and it hasn't seemed to really hurt them. They have their pictures in Leatherneck, don't they?

I think most Marines are honest and wear what they rate. That's also why they have squad leaders. If they really are embarrassed at wearing less than an Expert badge, they can concentrate on a good sight picture, alignment and trigger squeeze while snapping in on the range. Their scores will go up.—Sound Off Ed.

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and senior to the Joint Service Commendation Medal. The Combat Action Ribbon is awarded for participation in ground or surface combat. It is below the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and above the Navy Presidential Unit Citation in precedence.

Thanks for going to the best source.—
Sound Off Ed.

It Was the China War Memorial Medal!

I recently wrote [January "Sound Off"] about the China Marines being told they were eligible for the China War Medal. I erred in what I called it. It is the China War Memorial Medal and was issued by the Chinese government, which I received.

John T. Stamelos
St. Peters, Mo.

• This medal is named the Medal in Commemoration of Victory in the Resistance Against Aggression, but it is more commonly known as the China War Memorial Medal. It was established by the Republic of China in 1944 and first issued in October of 1946.

The medal was authorized by the Chi-



**Are They Pull-ups or Chin-ups?
It Really Doesn't Matter to the Corps**

I know this is a rehashing of an old argument about chin-ups or pull-ups, but I have to take issue with page 29 in the February issue. A female Marine is performing what my generation has always called chin-ups, yet the story states she is practicing pull-ups. When I went through boot camp, in the not-so "Old Corps," of 1966, every boot had to accomplish 25 pull-ups, fingers outboard, before graduating. As I recall, three or four men could not master this and were sent to the Physical Conditioning Platoon and did not graduate with us.

Pull-ups require more upper body strength than chin-ups and, therefore, are much more difficult to perform. Most Marines could do twice as many chin-ups as pull-ups. My question is, Why are *Leatherneck* and the Corps calling chin-ups, pull-ups?

Cpl Al Quick
C/1/9, RVN, 1966-67
Jasper, Ore.

• *You are right. She is doing a chin-up instead of a pull-up. In today's Marine Corps, you can do either one just as long as you get your chin over the bar and come down to a dead hang.—Sound Off Ed.*

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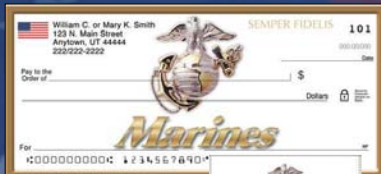
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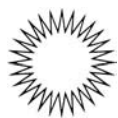
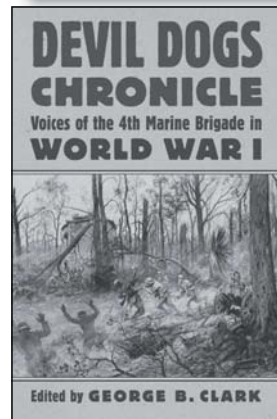
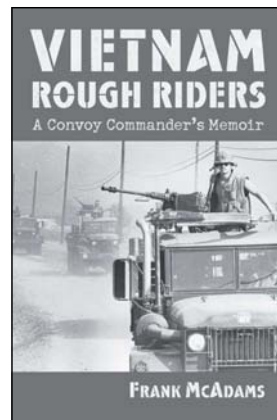
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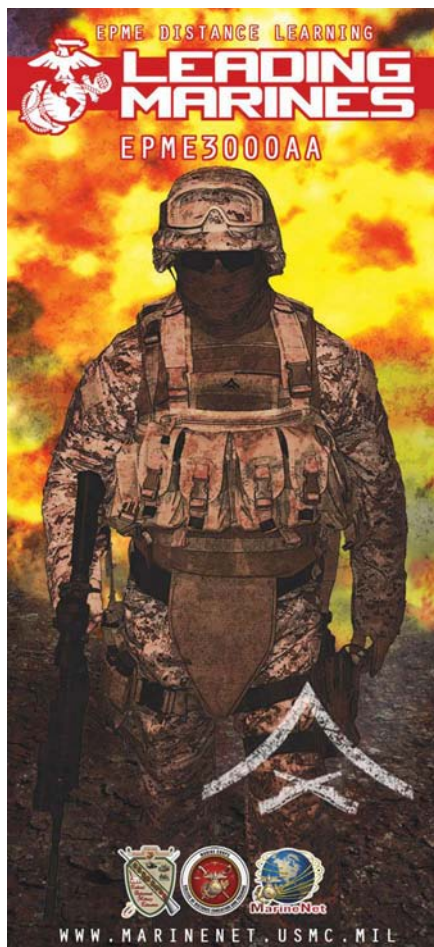
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Does MARSOC Rate Special Treatment In *Leatherneck*?

I couldn't help but notice that over the past months, both *Leatherneck's* "In Memoriam" and "In the Highest Tradition" columns were heavily "populated" by U.S. Marine Forces Special Operations Command. Don't these heroes deserve to be "recognized" in more detail?

Most MARSOC Marines killed in action are shown sacrificing their lives in areas of Afghanistan not usually identified by Marine presence (unlike Helmand province).

Most of us who served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam want to know more of our current breed of Special Operations Marines and their heroism—much like the accounts of our Raiders and Paramarines of WW II.

Andrew P. Genninger
Fallbrook, Calif.

• *When it comes to Operation Enduring Freedom casualties, Leatherneck prints the information released by the Department of Defense. That is all we have at the time. If you read "In the Highest Tradition," you will notice that we usually have expanded stories of Marines who have been presented the Navy Cross, Silver Star and Bronze Stars with combat "V." We don't favor any one unit. Again,*

we print what we receive or can find online.

Do MARSOC Marines rate something special? No more than any other Marine in combat. We also have done a number of feature stories about the Marines in MARSOC.—Sound Off Ed.

Smokey Bears and Blues: It Just Does Not Look Right

In the past few months, I have seen several photos of drill instructors wearing campaign hats with their dress blue uniforms. This just does not look right. Is this authorized by the Marine Corps? You would not wear a barracks cap with a white cover with service uniform "greens," would you? No, it would not look correct.

If Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps wants to allow drill instructors the honor of wearing their campaign hat with their blues, then Headquarters should authorize one in blue that matches the rest of the uniform.

Sgt Jim Grimes
USMC, 1969-72
Wathena, Kan.

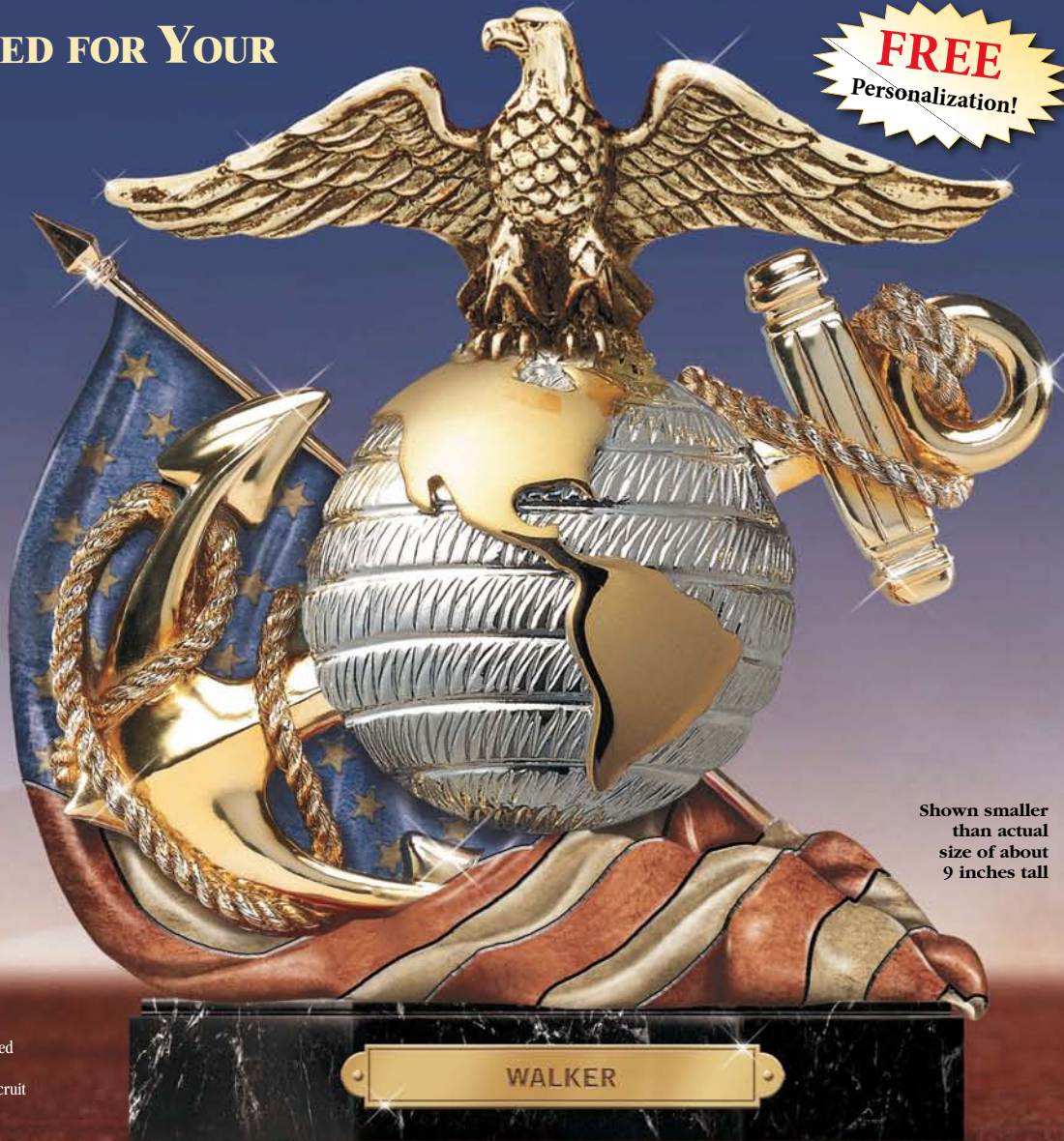
• *If it weren't authorized, those drill instructors would not be wearing their campaign hats. I must confess that when*

[continued on page 68]

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■ THE MARIANAS Long-Range Raid Training Executed by 31st MEU on Guam

Breaking the night silence, three helicopters shoot over the horizon and, touching down for mere seconds, offload dozens of combat gear-laden Marines in complete darkness.

Home-based in Okinawa, Japan, leathernecks with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's Maritime Raid Force (MRF), the unit's special operations element, executed the semiannual Realistic Urban Training

Exercise (RUTEX) in Hagatna, Guam, Jan. 8-10.

Spread between Anderson Air Force Base and Hagatna, multiple operations made up the framework of the long-range raid scenario intended to diversify the raid force's training.

"Guam gives us an amazing training opportunity to work in a new, unique environment," said Colonel Brian McGowan, officer in charge of the Special Operations Training Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "They're seeing real patterns of

life and dealing with distractions they would not deal with at a training base or camp in Okinawa, adding a high degree of complexity to the operation."

From parachute insertion to urban sniper hides, the training exercise puts the MRF's capabilities to the test, taking the Marines out of familiar training and giving them a plethora of variables to manage. But all the complexities of RUTEX culminate in the final 30 minutes, during the actual execution of the raid.

Conducted at the empty wastewater



CPL JONATHAN G. WRIGHT



CPL JONATHAN G. WRIGHT

Above left: Leathernecks with Force Reconnaissance Platoon, Maritime Raid Force, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit prepare to breach a door at a wastewater treatment plant during a simulated raid at Hagatna, Guam, Jan. 9. The training was part of the semiannual Realistic Urban Training Exercise.

Above right: The Force Recon Plt, Maritime Raid Force lands in a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter as the raid training begins.



Maj Joshua T. Fraser explains the capabilities of the MV-22B Osprey to members of the Philippine Air Force, Jan. 23, at Antonio Bautista Air Base in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Republic of the Philippines. Three Ospreys conducted low-altitude flight training, marking the Corps' first Osprey training in the Philippines.

treatment plant in Hagatna, the sniper teams “neutralized” an “enemy” sentry, allowing the entrance of the raid’s Force Reconnaissance Platoon via UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters of the Navy’s Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25. The Marines quickly secured a perimeter around the target structures, breached the door with an explosive charge and successfully neutralized the situation.

With the objective cleared, the recon platoon withdrew on the Blackhawk helicopters. In less than an hour, the small force executed a precision strike on an urban target.

“You don’t see all the complex pieces going into it, including the multiple [reconnaissance and surveillance] positions and the sniper overwatch,” said Captain Stephen Bender, special missions branch assistant officer in charge for Special Operations Training Group. “Additionally, the execution of a long-range raid requires aerial refueling, communications, aviation assets, et cetera, all coming together for a successful exercise on foreign soil.”

The first evolution of RUTEX in 2013 provided two distinctly unique training opportunities for the MRF. This exercise was the first time in years where the MRF platoons conducted low-level, static line parachute insertions into an urban area. Also, the sniper fire on the raid location provided the opportunity to practice pre-

cision fire in a populated urban environment at night from more than 400 meters.

RUTEX is a part of the predeployment training for the 31st MEU’s upcoming Spring Patrol. The 31st MEU is the only continuously forward-deployed MEU and is the Marine Corps’ force in readiness in the Asia-Pacific region.

Cpl Jonathan G. Wright
Combat Correspondent, 31st MEU

■ PALAWAN, THE PHILIPPINES MV-22 Ospreys Conduct Training In the Philippines

Three MV-22B Osprey aircraft with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, Marine Aircraft Group 36, First Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, based out of Okinawa, Japan, arrived in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, the Philippines, on Jan. 22 to conduct bilateral training with elements of the Philippine Air Force.

“The flights we are conducting are important for our pilots and crews to maintain proficiency. The routes here provide a great venue for low-altitude training,” said Major Joshua T. Fraser, squadron operations officer.

The low-altitude flight training took place on routes approved by the government of the Philippines that have been used previously in flight training exercises. Philippine Air Force personnel accom-

panied the U.S. Marine contingent, providing ground control and other interoperability training.

“The Marines are flying by the same rules and regulations the Philippine Air Force abides by and utilizing similar routes to ones flown by our aircraft,” said Technical Sergeant Edwin Agang, operations chief for 570th Composite Tactical Wing, Philippine Air Force.

The U.S. Marines and Philippine airmen also shared expertise on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. The Marines gave a presentation on the capabilities of the Osprey to the Philippine Air Force, and both countries participated in a cargo loading exercise on the aircraft.

“We appreciate the Marines coming here to train with us and are glad to host and support them at our base,” said Agang.

1stLt Taylor Clarke
PAO, Marine Corps Installations Pacific

■ USS GERMANTOWN OFF OKINAWA 31st MEU AAVs in Ship-to-Shore Raid

The Marines and corpsmen sat shoulder to shoulder inside their amphibious assault vehicles as the sounds of engines and vehicle tracks on the metal deck echoed off the inside hull of the ship.

Leathernecks with Company A, Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn, Fifth Marine Regiment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit conducted a mechanized raid from am-

Marines with Co A, BLT 1/5, 31st MEU stage their amphibious assault vehicles before mechanized raid training on Okinawa, Jan. 24. The MEU is conducting predeployment training for its Spring Patrol 2013. (Photo by LCpl Katelyn Hunter)



phibious dock ship USS *Germantown* (LSD-42) to a Central Training Area location near Landing Zone Cardinal, Jan. 24.

While the 31st MEU's "Mech" Company has been training with amphibious assault vehicles since arriving in Okinawa, Japan, in December 2012, this was its first ship-to-shore projection of forces.

"When sitting inside these AAVs, we are completely closed off with no way to know what is going on outside," said Lance Corporal Daniel J. Chalmers, a fire team leader with Co A. "All we can hear are the engines turning on, then we lurch forward and we're moving. Slipping off the back of a ship while inside an AAV almost feels like being on a roller coaster."

The Marines were able to gain the experience of integrating with the Navy at sea while continuing to hone their infantry skills.

"These Marines know where they need to be once we exit the AAV, but that transition takes time to perfect," said Corporal Erik R. Melton, a Co A squad leader. "Continuing to perfect our skills not only helps for our upcoming training exercises alongside Asia-Pacific allies, but helps us prepare for a real-life scenario."

The day's scenario was to stop a terrorist organization. The notional enemy was a group of drug and stolen weapons' traffickers that had become a threat to the surrounding area.



CPL JONATHAN G. WRIGHT

A Marine sweeps the area for improvised explosive devices during mechanized raid training Jan. 24. The raid began from USS *Germantown* (LSD-42), located off the coast of Okinawa.

The company was given the mission of eliminating the enemy force through fire and maneuver, a familiar task for the infantry Marines.

"It is this kind of realistic training that reinforces the MEU's overall skills and capabilities, enabling the unit to be the Marine Corps' force in readiness for this region," according to Gunnery Sergeant James A. Cornwell, the foreign area staff noncommissioned officer.

After the area was secured, the Marines reboarded their AAVs and withdrew to USS *Germantown*. The raid completed another stage of the BLT's predeployment training for the 31st MEU's Spring Patrol 2013.

LCpl Codey Underwood
Combat Correspondent, 31st MEU

■ PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA Sailors, Marines Depart for Medical Mission to Cambodia

Sailors and Marines with 3d Medical Battalion departed Okinawa, Japan, for Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Jan. 17, to conduct Cambodia Medical Exercise 13-1.

They will work alongside Royal Cambodian Armed Forces medical personnel at the Phnom Penh Preah Ket Meleah Hospital to increase Cambodian and U.S. medical capability, capacity and interoperability. The U.S. and Cambodian armed forces have conducted medical

exercises together since 2007.

“We will observe our medical counterparts, so we can understand how they utilize equipment and handle the daily challenges they face,” said Navy Lieutenant Commander Lawrence Decker, the officer in charge of the exercise and the subject-matter expert in emergency medicine with the battalion, part of Combat Logistics Regiment 35, Third Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Exercises, training and exchanges such as Cambodia MEDEX 13-1 are valuable opportunities for all involved, according to Chief Hospital Corpsman Chris Guckeyson, the operations officer with the battalion.

“A benefit of this is not only increased interoperability between the two nations, but increased medical capability, which fosters greater stability in the region,” said Guckeyson. “It also helps the subject-matter experts because the cultural differences provide an opportunity to see their medical priorities as opposed to ours.”

During last year’s Cambodia MEDEX, both Cambodian and U.S. military medical teams benefitted.

“[The most important thing I saw was] the desire the Cambodian physicians showed to improve their medical care. It was extremely heartening to see that,” said LCDR Decker.

“This year, we will continue developing those personal relations, so in the future, we are able to coordinate better and improve our [interoperability].”

LCpl Alyssa Hoffacker
Combat Correspondent, III MEF

■ DJIBOUTI Leatherneck Combat Controllers Provide Crucial Service for Marine Air

A 12-by-6-mile former lake bed, sprinkled with dry vegetation and compact sand, may seem to be of little value; however, leathernecks from a Marine mobile air traffic control team see those barren flats as an opportunity to create a runway for aircraft as large as a Marine KC-130 Hercules turbo-prop cargo/refueler.

This six-man team from the Marine Air Traffic Control Mobile Team, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364 (Reinforced), 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit conducted training in the dry lake bed Jan. 3-4 to hone its skills for establishing field-expedient runways.

The mission for the MMT, or “pathfinders,” as they’re colloquially referred to, is to establish an assault landing zone (runway) and provide air traffic control to multiple aircraft, as well as command and control during the entire refuel and resupply mission. Once the aircraft has



Above: LCpl Daniel Aguayo, Marine Air Traffic Control Mobile Team (MMT), HMM-364 (Rein), 15th MEU, watches an AH-1 Super Cobra kick up dust as the team establishes an aircraft landing area during training in Djibouti, Jan. 4.

Below: After bringing in a KC-130J for refueling operations, the MMT landed squadron CH-46E Sea Knights for refueling.



touched down, the team takes on the additional role of fire support and security until the aircraft lifts off again.

Less than five minutes after stepping out of a CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter, the team’s two communicators established contact with the Landing Force Operations Center (LFOC) in amphibious assault ship USS *Peleliu* (LHA-5). Fluorescent-orange marker panels already were designated and placed at the beginning of the runway.

“If we’re setting up a 3,000-by-60-foot runway for a C-130, our goal is to have [communications] up and have the entire runway laid out within 30 minutes,” said Staff Sergeant Timothy Pinney, staff non-commissioned officer in charge, MMT. “We need to move as quickly as possible to get the aircraft on the ground, conduct the refuel or resupply and get them back

in the air, so the Marines can continue their mission.”

While the communicators are establishing a connection with the LFOC, the controllers begin establishing the path, or runway, said Corporal Rick Coon, air traffic controller (ATC). “We have one Marine as the base near the orange panels that mark the beginning of the runway. Then, one Marine runs out 3,000 feet and is the reference point. The base will use the reference point to direct the additional Marines, who will mark left and right limits every 500 feet for the runway.”

All distances starting from the base are measured by using the tried-and-true method of a pace count, which is most reliable, said Coon. His team ends up within a foot from the 500-foot mark and within 10 feet of the 3,000-foot mark.

“We conduct [physical training] in full combat gear on the flight deck to help keep our pace count consistent. We’ll run for a little bit to tire out, then measure out the distances we need to hit, and work on our count to ensure our average pace remains the same,” said SSgt Pinney. “We have range finders and scopes, but we usually use pace count because it’s the most reliable.”

While the runway is being established, Pinney communicates with the pilots of all the aircraft waiting to land. He acts as a mobile air traffic control tower, responsible for controlling the airspace. He also keeps aircrews updated regarding wind speeds, landing times and anything on the ground that could affect the landing.

“This job gives me a huge adrenaline rush,” said Pinney. “When I’m controlling airspace and landing times for multiple aircraft, it’s an amazing feeling.”

The perfect situation is plenty of daylight and a full team. However, because of the expeditionary nature of the Marine air-ground task force, that might not always be the case, so the MMT is capable of establishing an assault landing zone

during hours of darkness.

“We either use [night vision goggles] and infrared lights or overt lights to light the path. When we set up infrared lighting, someone driving by wouldn’t be able to detect anything, but the pilots see it lit up like the JFK [airport]. If night vision is not available, we’ll light the path with standard airport lighting techniques,” said Pinney.

While the table of organization for the MMT is six Marines, it is not uncommon for there to be fewer. Therefore, Pinney’s team is always cross-training to ensure every Marine can perform every job.

Only about 5 percent of Marines in the air traffic control military occupational specialty hold the additional qualification of MMT, said Pinney. Marines must complete the follow-on six-week course from Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., to become a qualified combat ATC. While at MAWTS-1, the Marines receive advanced training in different radio systems and airfield/helicopter landing zone techniques and how to conduct assault landing zone surveys.

The MMT provides a crucial task for the 15th MEU commander, Colonel Scott Campbell.

“Having the MMT at his disposal doubles, if not triples, the distance he is able to place Marines in a forward environment,” said Pinney. “Being able to refuel aircraft or rearm an infantry company in remote locations is what makes the Marine air-ground task force an invaluable and extremely successful force.”

GySgt Jennifer Antoine
Combat Correspondent, 15th MEU

■ THE GULF OF THAILAND The 32nd Cobra Gold Begins in Thailand

Every branch of the U.S. military will join militaries from throughout the Asia-Pacific region to participate in Exercise Cobra Gold 2013, Feb. 11-21, in the Southeast Asian Kingdom of Thailand.

This is the 32nd iteration in the Cobra Gold series of recurring multinational and multiservice exercises hosted annually by the Thais and developed by the Royal Thai and U.S. militaries.

“Thailand and the United States have been treaty allies since 1833, and our long-

KAJAKI, AFGHANISTAN



CPL MARK GARCIA

TAKING FIRE—Marine advisors with the Afghan National Army run to cover while receiving enemy fire during Operation New Hope, in Kajaki, Afghanistan, Jan. 16. During the three-day operation, Afghan forces cleared weapons caches, improvised explosive devices and enemy fighting positions.

standing alliance is built on shared values and is a key example of America's commitment to the Asia-Pacific region," said Brigadier General Richard L. Simcock, the U.S. Pacific Command-designated executive agent senior representative for this year's Cobra Gold.

The exercise is the largest multinational exercise in the Asia-Pacific region with approximately 13,000 participants from seven full participating nations and many other observer nations.

"Cobra Gold is an excellent opportunity to develop effective solutions to common challenges, advance military-to-military relationships, and build upon international partner relationships while exercising the diverse capabilities of U.S. Pacific Command forces," said BGen Simcock, who is the deputy commander of U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific.

The exercise will consist of a field training exercise and humanitarian and civic assistance projects. Participating nations are to include the Kingdom of Thailand, United States, Singapore, Japan, Republic of Korea, Indonesia and Malaysia.

The staff exercise will combine military personnel in a multinational force planning team that will develop an operations plan to be executed during a command post exercise. During the field training exercise, forces will conduct training including flight operations, amphibious training, and various training events designed to enhance small-unit tactics and the ability to operate as part of a multinational team. The humanitarian and civic assistance projects will include construction projects, various community health engagements and medical assistance programs.

PAO, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific

■ HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN MALS-31 "Stingers" Support Operation Enduring Freedom

A detachment of leathernecks with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 31, Marine Aircraft Group 31, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C., also known as the "Stingers," deployed Jan. 11 to Helmand province in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Approximately 40 Marines with MALS-31 were sent to augment MALS-40, MAG-40, Second Marine Aircraft Wing to provide logistics support to forward-deployed squadrons. This included intermediate level maintenance as well as supply and ordnance support.

"Without Marine aviation logistics squadrons, it would be impossible for us to conduct sustained expeditionary air operations," said Brigadier General Gary L. Thomas, commander of 2d MAW (Forward) in Afghanistan.



Leathernecks of the 26th MEU haul their gear as they board USS *Kearsarge* (LHD-3) at Naval Station Norfolk, Jan. 21. The MEU and Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) 4 are conducting PHIBRON-MEU integration training in preparation for their Composite Training Unit Exercise, the final phase of a six-month predeployment training program. (Photo by Cpl Michael S. Lockett)

MALS-40 is based out of Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., and is composed of Marines from different MALS throughout the 2d MAW. The squadron will increase in size to more than 300 Marines in Afghanistan.

"Many of the Marines have been to Afghanistan before," said Master Sergeant Hubert Gayle, senior enlisted advisor of MALS-31 aviation supply. "We are very prepared."

The detachment of leathernecks with MALS-31 is on a seven-month deployment. According to Lieutenant Colonel William Gray, Commanding Officer, MALS-31, all the Marines of the detachment are volunteers. "This is a very important mission," said Gray. "Marine Corps aviation would not be possible without MALS Marines."

LCpl John Wilkes
PAO, MCAS Beaufort, S.C.

■ THE MID-ATLANTIC OCEAN Return to the Sea: 26th MEU Conducts Final Predeployment Exercise

The 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit set sail from Norfolk, Va., Jan. 22, with more than 2,000 Marines embarked aboard the amphibious ships USS *Kearsarge* (LHD-3), USS *San Antonio* (LPD-17) and USS *Carter Hall* (LSD-50). The 26th MEU, with its reinforcements—Battalion Landing Team 3d Bn, Second Marine Regiment; Combat Logistics Bn 26; and Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 266 (Reinforced)—will spend February at sea. Together with their ar-

tillery, vehicles, aircraft and other assets, this unit represents one of the most flexible expressions of American political will in the world today.

Equally capable of combat operations and humanitarian operations—as it recently demonstrated in response to Hurricane Sandy's destruction—the unit will mount out and set sail east on its deployment upon completion of this exercise.

Along with Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) 4, during this exercise the unit will conduct its PHIBRON-MEU integration training where the MEU will get the aircraft and the Marines responsible for their operation and maintenance qualified on procedures for operating from an amphibious assault ship.

The second part of the exercise, named Composite Training Unit Exercise, will include training operations across the full range of missions it may be called upon to perform during its deployment. Representatives from the Marine Corps and Navy will evaluate the MEU's ability to run the gamut of operations that may be required.

One of the key points of the MEU is its ability to handle nearly any mission across the spectrum of peace and war. From humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations to mechanized assaults and precision strikes by assault fighters, the unit is capable of doing just about anything.

Cpl Michael S. Lockett
Combat Correspondent, 26th MEU





SGT JOSEPH R. CHENEILLY

A Marine rifle squad with Co F, 2d Bn, Sixth Marine Regiment moves into a building during a raid on a compound in central Iraq, April 8, 2003.

The Strategic Corporal Leadership in the Three-Block War

By Gen Charles C. Krulak, 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps

Operation Absolute Agility

0611: The African sun had just risen above the hills surrounding the sprawling city and sent its already dazzling rays streaming into the dusty alleyway. Corporal Hernandez felt the sun on his face and knew that today would, again, be sweltering. He was a squad leader in 2d Platoon, “Lima” Company and had, along with his men, spent a sleepless night on the perimeter. For the past week his platoon had provided security to the International Relief Organization (IRO) workers who manned one of three food distribution points in the American Sector of Tugala—the war-torn capital of Orange—a Central African nation wracked by civil unrest and famine.

The situation in Orange had transfixed the world for nearly two years. Bloody tribal fighting had led first to the utter collapse of the government and economy

and, ultimately, to widespread famine. International efforts to quell the violence and support the teetering government had failed, and the country had plunged into chaos. The United States had finally been compelled to intervene.

A forward deployed Marine expeditionary unit (Special Operations Capable) was ordered to assist the efforts of the ineffective Regional Multi-National Force (RMNF) and the host of international humanitarian assistance organizations that struggled to alleviate the suffering. The MEU’s arrival had stabilized the situation and allowed the precious relief supplies to finally reach the people who needed them most.

The food distribution point (FDP) manned by 2d Plt serviced more than 5,000 people daily. The Marines had, at first, been shocked at the extent of the suffering, by the constant stream of malnourished men and women, and by the

distended bellies and drawn faces of the children. The flow of food and medical supplies had, however, had a dramatic impact. The grim daily death tolls had slowly begun to decrease, and the city had begun to recover some sense of normalcy.

Within a month the lives of the Marines had assumed a sort of dull routine. Cpl Hernandez removed his helmet and rested his head against the mud wall of the house in which his squad was billeted and waited for his meal, ready to eat (MRE) to finish heating, satisfied that he and his fellow Marines were making a difference.

0633: The dust and rumble of a half dozen 5-tons pulling into the market square caught the attention of Cpl Hernandez. Escorted by Marines, the convoy brought with it the food and medical supplies that meant life or death to the inhabitants of this devastated neighborhood. With it also came word of life beyond the confines of

this small corner of Orange and useful intelligence concerning the disposition of the opposing factions that wrestled for its control.

Today, the convoy commander had disturbing news for the platoon commander, Second Lieutenant Franklin. Members of the OWETA faction, led by the renegade warlord Nedeed, had been observed congregating near the river that divided the capital in half and marked the boundary separating the turf of OWETA from that of its principal rival. Nedeed had long criticized the presence of the RMNF and had frequently targeted its personnel for attack. While he had strenuously denounced the presence of U.S. forces, he had, so far, refrained from targeting American personnel.

As starvation became less a concern, however, tensions had begun to rise, and there was growing fear that open hostilities would break out again and that attack of RMNF and MEU personnel was increasingly likely.

Lt Franklin passed the report to his company commander and then gathered his squad leaders together to review the developing situation. First Squad was ordered to move about 400 meters north and man a roadblock at Checkpoint (CP) Charlie. Cpl Hernandez returned to his position, reluctantly disposed of his uneaten MRE and prepared his Marines to move out.

The movement to the road intersection at CP Charlie was uneventful and took less than 10 minutes. The squad had manned the post before and was familiar with the routine. Pre-staged barricades were quickly moved into place to secure the street to vehicular traffic, and a triple strand of concertina wire was strung in order to control pedestrian movement. Cpl Sley and his fire team moved 100 meters north and established an observation post (OP) on the roof of a two-story building that afforded excellent fields of view.

By 0700, the squad was in position. At that hour, the city was still quiet, and except for the intel report concerning OWETA activity, there was no evidence that this day would be any different from the previous. The Marines of 1st Sqd settled in for another long hot day of tedious duty.

0903: By 9 a.m., the normal large crowd, mostly women and children with baskets in hand, had gathered to await passage through the checkpoint. The Marines' orders were clear: They were to deny access to anyone carrying a weapon and to be alert for any indications of potential trouble. Their Rules of Engagement (ROE) were unambiguous: Anyone observed



CPL ANTHONY R. BLANCO

Sgt Ben Conner, Battalion Landing Team 2/1, 15th MEU, greets a young Iraqi boy, who came to say hello during a Marine combat patrol on April 18, 2003.

with an automatic weapon was considered hostile, as was anyone who intentionally threatened Marine personnel.

The MEU commander had made this policy clear in meetings with each of the warlords in the early days of the deployment. His directness had paid dividends, and, to date, no MEU personnel had been wounded by small-arms fire. The factions had kept a low profile in the American

high proportion of young adult males. He sensed an ominous change in the atmosphere. Less than a mile away, he could see the vehicles of Nedeed's gang gathered at the far side of the bridge spanning the river that separated the OWETA and Mubasa factions. He passed his suspicions on to his squad leader, "Something big is about to happen." The day promised to be a break from the routine.

0921: Cpl Hernandez promptly relayed Sley's report and concerns to his platoon commander and learned from Lt Franklin that Nedeed's chief rival, Mubasa, was moving west toward CP Charlie. Mubasa's intentions seemed clear; his route would bring him directly to CP Charlie and an ultimate collision with Nedeed. First Squad's position astride the two main supply routes placed them squarely between the rival clans.

Lt Franklin directed Hernandez to extend the roadblock to cover the road entering the intersection from the west and indicated that he and Sergeant Baker's 2d Sqd were en route to reinforce. Cpl Hernandez could feel the tension grow. The crowd had become more agitated, aware that Mubasa's men were near and concerned that the vital food distribution

First Squad's position astride the two main supply routes placed them squarely between the rival clans.

sector and had not interfered with those convoys accompanied by Marines. Such was not the case, however, in adjacent sectors where RMNF personnel had frequently been the target of ambush and sniper fire. The Marines had stayed on their toes.

0915: Cpl Sley reported from his position on the rooftop that the crowd was especially large and included an unusually



SGT KEVIN R. REED

Above: Leathernecks of "Charlie" Co, 1st Bn, 5th Marines move through the streets of northern Baghdad en route to secure Saddam Hussein's presidential palace April 10, 2003.

Right: Marines in Golf Co, BLT 2/2, 24th MEU fix bayonets prior to entering a compound during a patrol in Qalat Sukar, Iraq, in April 2003.

might be disrupted. The young men had begun to chant anti-U.S. slogans and to throw rocks at the startled Marines.

Cpl Hernandez felt the situation slipping out of control and decided to close the road completely. With great difficulty, the barriers were shifted and the concertina was drawn back across the narrow access point. The crowd erupted in protest and pressed forward.

0931: Overhead, the whirring blades of a low-flying IRO UH-1 were heard, but failed to distract the crowd. Their curses and chants, however, were drowned out for an instant by the sound and shock wave of an explosion. The helo had apparently been hit by ground fire, possibly a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG), and had burst into flames and corkscrewed to the ground several blocks east of the OP.

Cpl Sley had observed the crash from his vantage atop the building and saw, to his relief, that at least two survivors had struggled from the flaming wreckage. His relief, however, was short-lived. In



CPL JEFF SISIO

the distance, he could see Nedeed's men rushing across the bridge. Sley urgently requested permission to immediately move to the assistance of the downed helo crew.

0935: While Cpl Hernandez considered the feasibility of a rescue attempt, the situation took another serious turn; three vehicles loaded with Mubasa's men and followed closely by an INN film crew arrived on the scene. Brandishing automatic

weapons and RPGs, they forced their vehicles through the crowd until the bumper of the lead truck rested against the barricade.

With their arrival, the already agitated crowd abandoned all restraint. The occasional rock had now become a constant pelting of well-aimed missiles. One had hit Lance Corporal Johnson in the face. The resulting wound, although not serious, bled profusely and added to the rising

alarm. Somehow the sight of the bright red blood streaming down the face of the young Marine fed the crowd's excitement and heightened the panic growing within the squad. What had started out as another routine day of humanitarian assistance was rapidly becoming something else entirely. A Molotov cocktail crashed into the position injuring no one, but contributed further to the confusion.

The Marines of 1st Sqd looked from man to man and then stared questioningly at Cpl Hernandez. He reassuringly returned the gaze of each man, knowing better than any of them that the fate of the squad, of the wounded IRO personnel and perhaps of the entire multinational mission hung in the balance. In the span of less than three hours he had watched a humanitarian assistance mission turn terribly wrong and move ever closer to outright disaster.

Cpl Hernandez was face to face with the grave challenges of the three-block war, and his actions, in the next few minutes, would determine the outcome of the mission and have potentially strategic implications.

The Three-Block War

The fictional mission described above—Operation Absolute Agility—is similar to many that have been conducted around the world in recent years and represents the likely battlefield of the 21st century. It also represents, in graphic detail, the enormous responsibilities and pressures which will be placed on our young Marine leaders.

The rapid diffusion of technology, the growth of a multitude of transnational factors and the consequences of increasing globalization and economic interdependence have combined to create national security challenges remarkable for their complexity. By 2020, 85 percent of the world's inhabitants will be crowded into coastal cities—cities generally lacking the infrastructure required to support their burgeoning populations. Under these conditions, long-simmering ethnic, nationalist and economic tensions will explode and increase the potential of crises requiring U.S. intervention.

Compounding the challenges posed by this growing global instability will be the emergence of an increasingly complex and lethal battlefield. The widespread availability of sophisticated weapons and equipment systems will “level the playing field” and negate our traditional technological superiority. The lines separating the levels of war, and distinguishing combatant from “non-combatant,” will blur, and adversaries, confounded by our “conventional” su-

periority, will resort to asymmetrical means to redress the imbalance. Further complicating the situation will be the ever-present media, whose presence will mean that all future conflicts will be acted out before an international audience.

Modern crisis responses are exceedingly complex endeavors. In Bosnia, Haiti and Somalia the unique challenges of military operations other than war (MOOTW) were combined with the disparate challenges of mid-intensity conflict. The Corps has

The inescapable lesson of Somalia and of other recent operations, whether humanitarian assistance, peacekeeping or traditional warfighting, is that their outcome may hinge on decisions made by small-unit leaders and by actions taken at the lowest level. The Corps is, by design, a relatively young force. Success or failure will rest, increasingly, with the rifleman and with his ability to make the right decision at the right time at the point of contact.



Ever the teacher, retired Gen Charles C. Krulak, the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps, speaks to Marines during a living history series for the Staff NCO Academy, Quantico, Va., May 11, 2011. (Photo by Sgt Christopher Zahn)

described such conflicts—the three-block war—as contingencies in which Marines may be confronted by the entire spectrum of tactical challenges in the span of a few hours and within the space of three adjacent city blocks.

The tragic experience of U.S. forces in

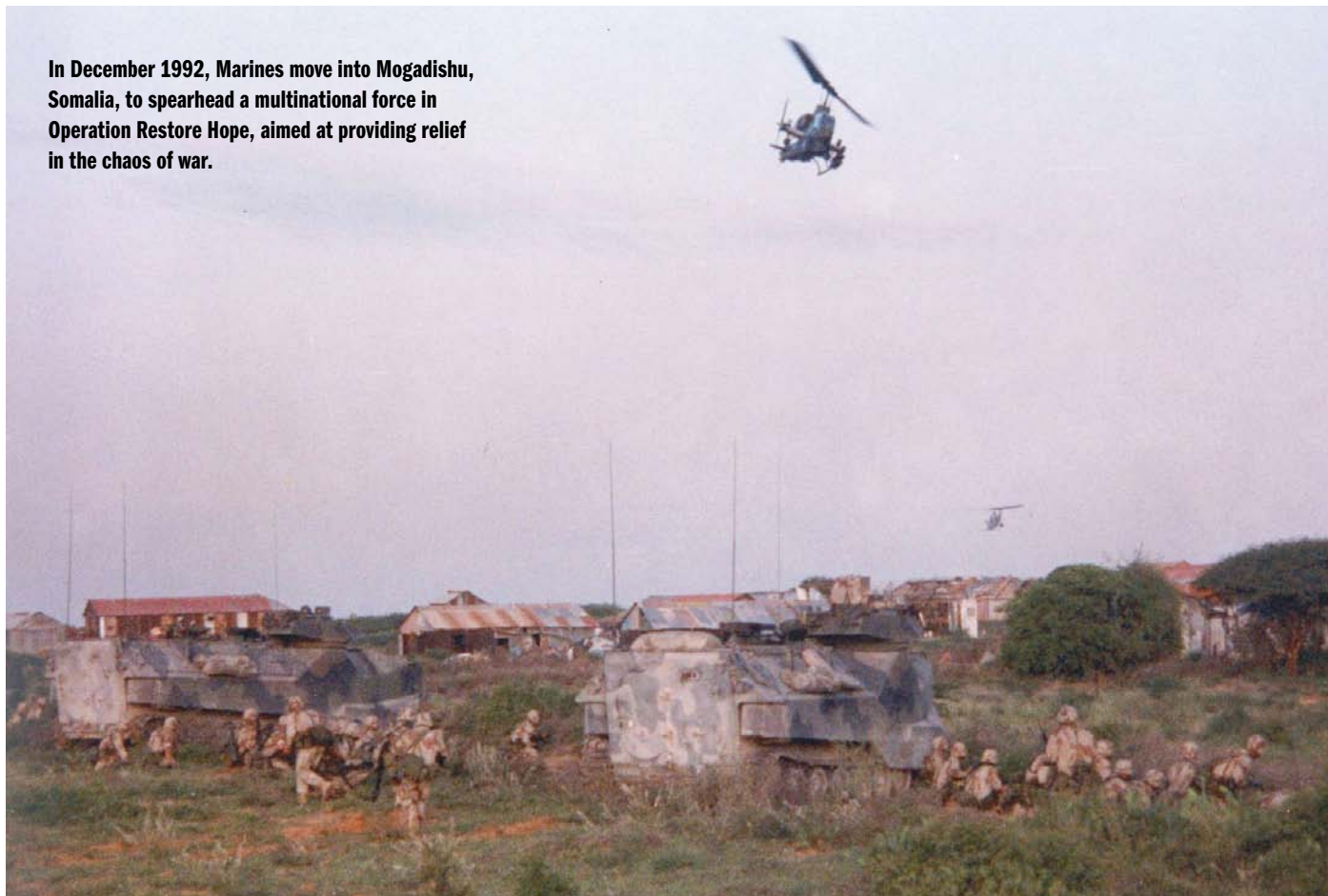
Today's Marines will often operate far “from the flagpole” without the direct supervision of senior leadership.

Somalia during Operation Restore Hope illustrates well the volatile nature of these contemporary operations. Author Mark Bowden's superb account of the battle of Mogadishu, “Blackhawk Down,” is a riveting, cautionary tale and grim reminder of the unpredictability of so-called operations other than war. It is essential reading for all Marines.

As with Cpl Hernandez at CP Charlie, today's Marines will often operate far “from the flagpole” without the direct supervision of senior leadership. And, like Cpl Hernandez, they will be asked to deal with a bewildering array of challenges and threats. In order to succeed under such demanding conditions they will require unwavering maturity, judgment and strength of character.

Most importantly, these missions will require them to confidently make well-reasoned and independent decisions under extreme stress—decisions that will likely be subject to the harsh scrutiny of both the media and the court of public opinion. In many cases, the individual Marine will be the most conspicuous symbol of American foreign policy and will potentially influence not only the immediate tactical situation, but the operational and strategic levels as well. His actions, therefore, will directly impact the outcome of the larger operation, and he will become, as the title of this article suggests—the Strategic Corporal.

In December 1992, Marines move into Mogadishu, Somalia, to spearhead a multinational force in Operation Restore Hope, aimed at providing relief in the chaos of war.



COURTESY OF MSGT ROB COLLINGSWORTH, USMC (RET)

The Strategic Corporal

Regrettably, the end of the Cold War heralded not the hoped-for era of peace, but rather a troubling age characterized by global disorder, pervasive crisis and the constant threat of chaos. Since 1990, the Marine Corps has responded to crises at a rate equal to three times that of the Cold War—on average, once every five weeks. On any given day, up to 29,000 Marines are forward deployed around the world. In far-flung places like Kenya, Indonesia and Albania, they have stood face-to-face with the perplexing and hostile challenges of the chaotic post-Cold War world for which the “rules” have not yet been written.

The three-block war is not simply a fanciful metaphor for future conflicts—it is a reality. Like Cpl Hernandez, today’s Marines have already encountered its great challenges, and they have been asked to exercise an exceptional degree of maturity, restraint and judgment.

Marines, of course, have always shone most brightly when the stakes were highest. The noncommissioned officers (NCOs) who led the bloody assaults on the German machine-gun positions at Belleau Wood intuitively understood the importance of their role. The Marines of 2d Battalion, 28th Marines, who seized fire-swept Mount

Suribachi, needed no one to emphasize the necessity of initiative. The Marines of the Chosin Reservoir, of Hue City and of countless other battles through the years did not wait to be reminded of their individual responsibilities. They behaved as Marines always have and as we expect today’s Marines and those of the future to behave—with courage, with aggressiveness and with resolve.

The future battlefields on which Marines fight will be increasingly hostile,

The active sustainment of character in every Marine is a fundamental institutional competency—and for good reason.

lethal and chaotic. Our success will hinge, as it always has, on the leadership of our junior Marines. We must ensure that they are prepared to lead.

How do we prepare Marines for the complex, high-stakes, asymmetrical battlefield of the three-block war? How do we develop junior leaders prepared to deal decisively with the sort of real-world challenges confronting Cpl Hernandez?

The first step of the process is unchanged. Bold, capable and intelligent men and women of character are drawn to the Corps and are recast in the crucible of recruit training, where time-honored methods instill deep within them the Corps’ enduring ethos. Honor, courage and commitment become more than mere words. Those precious virtues, in fact, become the defining aspect of each Marine. This emphasis on character remains the bedrock upon which everything else is built. The active sustainment of character in every Marine is a fundamental institutional competency—and for good reason.

As often as not, the really tough issues confronting Marines will be moral quandaries, and they must have the wherewithal to handle them appropriately. While an inherent appreciation for our core values is essential, it alone will not ensure an individual’s success in battle or in the myriad potential contingencies short of combat. Much, much more is required to fully prepare a Marine for the rigors of tomorrow’s battlefield.

An institutional commitment to lifelong professional development is the second step on the road to building the Strategic Corporal. The realignment of the recruit training and Marine combat training pro-

grams of instruction reveal our reinvigorated focus on individual training. Those programs remain the most important steps in the methodical process of developing capable Marines.

Our formal schools, unit training and education programs, and individual efforts at professional education build on the solid foundation laid at recruit training and sustain the growth of technical and tactical proficiency and mental and physical toughness. The common thread uniting all training activities is an emphasis on the growth of integrity, courage, initiative, decisiveness, mental agility and personal accountability. These qualities and attributes are fundamental and must be aggressively cultivated within all Marines from the first day of their enlistment to the last.

Leadership, of course, remains the hard currency of the Corps, and its development and sustainment is the third and final step in the creation of the Strategic Corporal. For 223 years, on battlefields strewn across the globe, Marines have set the highest standard of combat leadership. We are inspired by their example and are confident that today's Marines and those of tomorrow will rise to the same great heights. The clear lesson of our past is that success in combat, and in the barracks for that matter, rests with our most junior leaders.

Over the years, however, a perception has grown that the authority of our NCOs has been eroded. Some believe that we have slowly stripped from them the latitude, the discretion and the authority necessary to do their job. That perception must be stamped out. The remaining vestiges of the "zero defects mentality" must be exchanged for an environment in which all Marines are afforded the "freedom to fail" and, with it, the opportunity to succeed. Micromanagement must become a thing of the past, and supervision—that double-edged sword—must be complemented by proactive mentoring.

Most importantly, we must aggressively empower our NCOs, hold them strictly accountable for their actions and allow the leadership potential within each of them to flourish. This philosophy, reflected in a recent *Navy Times* interview as "Power Down," is central to our efforts to sustain the transformation that begins with the first meeting with a Marine recruiter. Every opportunity must be seized to contribute to the growth of character and leadership within every Marine. We must remember that simple fact, and also remember that leaders are judged, ultimately, by the quality of the leadership reflected in their subordinates. We also must remember that the Strategic Corporal will be, above all else ... a leader of Marines.



SSGT ROBERT KNOLL

Chief Hospital Corpsman David Jones, 15th MEU, holds a two-hour-old Iraqi baby. She was born in BLT 2/1's battalion aid station outside An Nasiriyah, Iraq, in early April 2003.

Conclusion

And what of Cpl Hernandez? While his predicament is certainly challenging, it is not implausible. What did he do? First, he quickly reviewed what he knew. He was certain that Lt Franklin and 2d Sqd would arrive within a matter of minutes. He knew that the crash site was located within the adjacent RMNF unit's sector and that it manned checkpoints astride Nedeed's route to the downed helo. He knew that any exchange of gunfire with Mubasa's gunmen would likely lead to civilian casualties and jeopardize the success of the humanitarian mission.

Second, he considered what he did not know. He was uncertain of either Nedeed's or Mubasa's intentions or of the feasibility of a rescue attempt. Based on these considerations and myriad other tangible and intangible factors, he completed a rapid assessment of the situation—and acted. Cpl Sley was directed to maintain his position atop the building and continue to monitor Nedeed's progress and the status of the casualties.

Hernandez then switched frequencies and contacted the Marine liaison with the adjacent RMNF unit and learned that they had already dispatched medical personnel to the helo crash site, but were unaware of Nedeed's movement and would now, because of Hernandez's warning, reinforce the appropriate checkpoints.

By the time that transmission was completed, Lt Franklin had arrived with the additional squad. With them came a neighborhood leader who had previously acted as an interpreter and mediator. Mubasa's men, apparently uncomfortable with the

shift in odds, began to slowly withdraw. The mediator, a recognizable and respected figure in the community, was handed a bullhorn and addressed the crowd.

Within minutes the situation was diffused: Mubasa's men had departed, the crowd was calmed and RMNF personnel had reached the crash site. For a few tense minutes, though, the fate of both 1st Sqd and the overall mission had hung in the balance and on the actions of a young Marine leader.

As would be expected, our Strategic Corporal—firmly grounded in our ethos, thoroughly schooled and trained, outfitted with the finest equipment obtainable, infinitely agile and, above all else, a leader in the tradition of the Marines of old ... made the right decision.

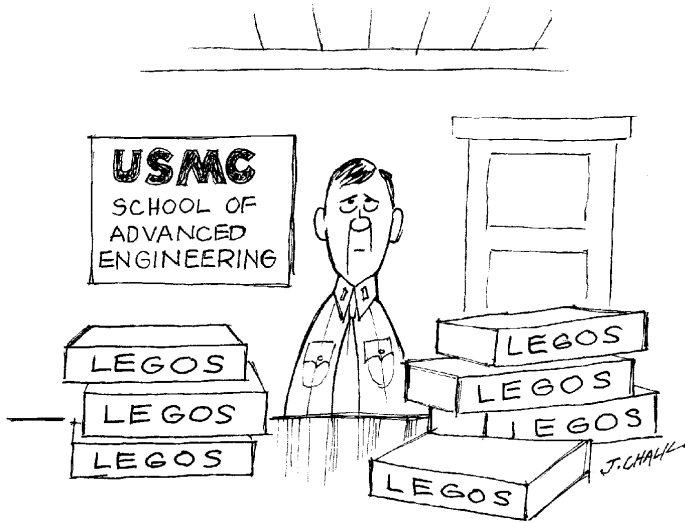
Editor's note: To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Marine Corps Association's founding by then-LtCol John A. Lejeune and a group of officers at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on 25 April 1913, we will be reprinting significant articles from the Leatherneck archives in each 2013 issue.

This is the first of the Leatherneck articles written by Gen Krulak that our staff has selected for re-publishing because of their enduring operational value.

If you want to read more from our archives, they are digitized and searchable online via our website: www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck.



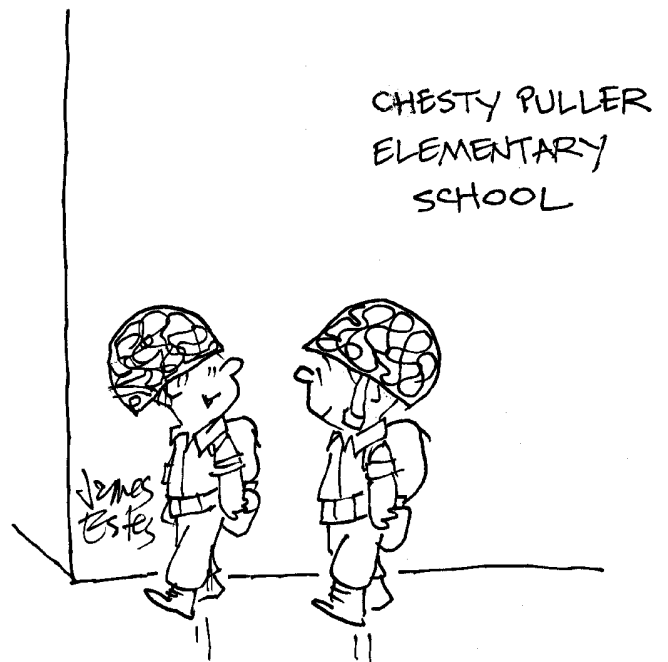
Leatherneck Laffs



"Welcome aboard, Marine. Your new name is 'S Plus 21.'"



"Where you throw is where you go."



"I never thought I'd like school uniforms, but I love these."

BOOT CAMP

S.J. Stout



ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT
A TOE INJURY?



SO MAKE IT ONE
FOR MY BABY AND
ONE MORE FOR
THE TOAD!

J. CHALK



"My inner balance is out of sync with my outer gravity."

BRE
EZE

Renowned University of Georgia Coach Has Roots in the Marine Corps



CWO-4 RANDY GADDO, USMC (RET)

Vince Dooley displays two of his Marine Corps bulldogs amidst his collection of about 275 bulldog figurines he has acquired over the years. “I had my grandchildren count them,” he said.

By CWO-4 Randy Gaddo, USMC (Ret)

Vince Dooley is probably best known as the University of Georgia coach who compiled one of the most successful college football coaching records ever; what isn't as widely known is that his coaching success has roots in the United States Marine Corps.

In fact, he got his first experience as a football coach in the Marine Corps. And, he attributes a significant portion of his coaching and leadership style and success to lessons learned during his two years as an active-duty Marine and eight years in the Marine Corps Reserve.

“I was commissioned a Marine Corps second lieutenant in the morning and graduated from college that afternoon,” said the Auburn University graduate, who earned a football scholarship to attend the university from 1950 to 1954, where he was an all-star football and basketball player and team captain.

As a member of the Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NROTC) program at Auburn, at the end of his sophomore year, he was given the choice between a Navy or Marine Corps commission—he decided on the Marine Corps.

“I liked the history of the Marine Corps and the emphasis on pride and leadership. I felt more at home, and sports tied in better [to] being a Marine,” he said during a recent interview at Georgia's Kennesaw State College, where he was consulting as the school plans to start a football program. At a youthful and fit 80, he still keeps a hard-charging schedule, including daily workouts that might wear out an average 50-year-old.

The tie between the Corps and sports was strengthened for Dooley in July 2012 when he was inducted into the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame during a ceremony at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. As part of the trip

to Quantico, he was a special guest for the Evening Parade at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C.

“That was a point of pride for me,” he said about his induction. “It gave me an opportunity to restimulate my love and interest in the Marine Corps.”

“There has always been a heralded place for sports in the Marine Corps,” stated the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James F. Amos, in the letter to Dooley announcing his selection to the Sports Hall of Fame. “Whether it was through the talents and exploits of renowned athletes like you, or the simple participation of countless young Marines in installation intramural programs, Marines have tested themselves in sports competition. I am proud that an athlete of your caliber is also a Marine,” wrote Gen Amos.

Coach Dooley was unaware that he was being considered for the distinction.

“I got a call out of the blue,” he said, impressed that other notables such as Lee Trevino (champion golfer) and Ted Williams (pro baseball player and manager) previously had been inducted.

He said the occasion enabled him to introduce his wife, Barbara, to what the Marine Corps is all about. They were married in 1960 after he had completed active duty and was winding down his Reserve time in the Corps. “She absolutely loved it. She was very moved by the parade,” he said of the experience in Washington.

Dooley first experienced Marine Corps life between his junior and senior years at Auburn when he went to six weeks of summer Officer Candidates School at Quantico as part of the NROTC requirements.

“That was an interesting experience,” he said, shaking his head and chuckling. “I remember that President [Dwight D.] Eisenhower was scheduled to review the troops there, and the word came down that he was supposed to be there one afternoon at 2 o'clock. So, as the word passed along the chain of com-

mand, by the time it got down to the last officer, we were out there about 11 o'clock in the morning. It was a very hot day and, fortunately, I was in pretty good shape, being an athlete, but there were a few of those college students that didn't quite make it."

Second Lieutenant Dooley was slated to leave immediately after college graduation for two years of active duty in the Corps, but he had an opportunity to play in the College All-Star Game in Chicago, "which was really big in those days," he said. "I applied for a deferment and was granted that request so I was able to play. I didn't have to report to Quantico for the 4th Basic School Course until September."

Even as he honed his Marine Corps skills at The Basic School, he continued nurturing his love of football. And while he awaited his next Marine Corps assignment, he played football at Quantico. At the time, the Marine Corps football program was quite robust and highly regarded nationally. The program started in 1919 at Quantico and was fueled by top-notch athletes and a winning record. The program eventually succumbed to other priorities and disappeared in the 1970s.

"We played the universities of Cincinnati and Detroit, and we played teams at other bases," Dooley recalled of his playing days. "Then General Pollock, a great general and an athletic proponent who was at Parris Island, wanted me to come there to play as a result of my football exploits," he said. General Edwin A. Pollock (1899-1982), a Navy Cross winner, was the commanding general of Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., from 1954 to 1956.

"Unfortunately, I tore my knee up, again, playing at Quantico," Dooley recalled with a rueful grin, his sharp blue eyes reflecting the disappointment. He previously had injured his knee playing football in college, an injury that resulted in a knee operation. "I wasn't able to play, so I coached at Parris Island for a year—my first experience as a football coach," he said. "I enjoyed the experience, and it stimulated my interest in coaching."

He enjoyed it so much that when it came time to leave active duty, he chose to pursue coach-



COURTESY OF MARINE CORPS SPORTS HALL OF FAME

LtGen Richard P. Mills, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, inducted Vince Dooley into the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame, Class of 2012, at The Clubs at Quantico, July 27, 2012.

ing. He could have used his business management degree and gone into banking back in his hometown of Mobile, Ala., or he could have been the coach at his old high school, Mobile's McGill Catholic High School.

"The other opportunity, which was a great opportunity, was to go back to Auburn where I'd played and become the assistant coach under head coach Ralph Jordan, who had been my coach in college," he said. "Had it not been for that good offer of going back as an assistant coach in college at a very young age, I would have stayed in the

Marine Corps, but that was an offer I just couldn't pass up." He was only 23 when he made that decision.

But he managed to get the best of both worlds. "The whole time I was at Auburn I stayed in the [Reserve] because I enjoyed it," said Dooley, who left the Reserve as a captain. "We had a satellite platoon of the 38th Rifle Company out of Montgomery. I conducted all the drills at Auburn, so we didn't have to go to Montgomery for four years. Then a new company commander took over and wanted us to come to Montgomery for weekend drills, so we did that for my last four years."

In his platoon there was one Marine he vividly remembers.

"One of the squad leaders in the platoon I had was a young man named Carl Mundy," he recalled. Gen Carl E. Mundy Jr. was 30th Commandant of the Marine Corps from 1991 until his retirement in 1995 after 38 years of service. He had enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve at 18 and was a student at Auburn going through the Platoon Leaders Class program when Coach Dooley led him in his platoon.



CWO-4 RANDY GADDIS, USMC (RET)

One of Vince Dooley's Marine Corps "dawgs" is an appropriate desk nameplate from his active-duty days.

“He was as solid as they come, a good man with the right stuff,” Dooley recalled of Gen Mundy’s time in his platoon. “After he became Commandant, I read an article about him in which he said I was his first commanding officer, but at the time I didn’t remember his name,” he reflected. “I had to go back and research to finally pin it down. So I made contact with him, and he invited me to come up to the Marine Corps Ball in Washington. We went out to a morning ceremony at the Iwo Jima Memorial [Marine Corps War Memorial] and that evening went to the Ball. I sat at the table with him and the Secretary of the Navy—it was quite an experience.”

Dooley said he would have continued as a reservist, but when he accepted the position as head coach at the University of Georgia, at age 31 in 1964, he was at another fork in the road.

“There was no way I could take off one weekend a month to do the drills,” he declared. “I couldn’t say, ‘Sorry, guys, I can’t coach this weekend, I’m going to the Marine Corps.’ So I had to give up the Marine Corps [Reserve].”

He went on to be UGA’s head coach from 1964 to 1988 and athletic director from 1979 to 2004. In his 25 years as

coach, he compiled a 201-77-10 record—among only a handful of coaches to win more than 200 games. His teams won six Southeastern Conference titles and the 1980 National Championship, earning him recognition as college football’s Coach of the Year. He said he often drew on his Marine Corps experience in coaching, especially the principles of discipline, pride and leadership.

His home in Athens, Ga., is filled with the many awards and accolades he has received for coaching and other pursuits, including some from the Corps, but Coach Dooley noted that he has tried over the years to do things that keep him in close touch with Marines.

He tells of an experience with another Marine who was well on his way to legendary status

about the time Dooley was starting his Marine Corps experience in 1954—General Raymond G. Davis, who earned a Navy Cross in World War II, a Medal of Honor in Korea and was the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps when he retired in 1972.

In 2003, a retired Marine friend at Dooley’s church told him about retired Gen Davis, a Fitzgerald, Ga., native. Gen Davis lived in nearby Conyers, and the friend suggested that Gen Davis was

someone Dooley would want to meet and have lunch with.

“I said by all means; sometimes there are things in life you put off and later regret, but this was one thing I didn’t put off—and I was so happy I didn’t, because he died two weeks after we had lunch together,” Dooley said, his voice trailing off as he contemplated the memory of meeting the American hero. “We had a wonderful 2½ hours talking Marine, telling stories about fellow Marines we’d known, because, well, you know, that’s what Marines do.”

Living in Athens, Ga., Dooley is fairly close to the site of his first football coaching experience, MCRD Parris Island, and has been back on several occasions.

In 1966, the sports information director at UGA wanted to write an article about Dooley’s Marine Corps experiences. So Dooley and his son, Daniel, then 5 years old, went to Parris Island not only for photo ops, but to visit the man Dooley said inspired him in life and coaching, Gen Edwin A. Pollock.

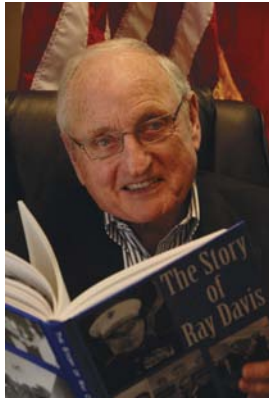
“I have long admired him and, looking back, recognize that his influence has been a help to me in my coaching career,” he said in the magazine article that resulted from his visit. “We flew back to Parris Island and met with General Pollock, who had retired there,” he said. “We had a great visit with him. He took us out to the new obstacle course and to some of the other things done at Parris Island since I’d been there.”

Years later, after he’d become athletic director at UGA in 1979, Dooley was speaking at an event near Parris Island and decided to take a sentimental journey back to the base to reminisce. “I was able to just get on the base and do sort of a melancholy trip all by myself,” he recalled. By then, the causeway entry road to Parris Island had been dedicated in honor and memory of Gen Pollock with a bronze bust and plaque.

But perhaps Dooley was drawn by the spirit of the Corps, because on that trip he made a discovery that bridged the gap between the Marine Corps and college sports.

“I went to the parade ground,” he remembered, reliving his days as the parade adjutant who had a key role in the weekly parades.

While he was at the parade deck reliving the memory, he said he saw something he’d never seen before.



CWO-4 RANDY GADDO, USMC (RET)

After his interview with *Leatherneck*, Vince Dooley peruses a signed copy of a book about Gen Raymond G. Davis.



CWO-4 RANDY GADDO, USMC (RET)

Vince Dooley proudly shows off his award and the CMC certificate he received upon his induction into the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame.



Many of the training principles and disciplines of the Marine Corps can be utilized to great advantage in organizing and developing a football program. And no one knows it

better than Bulldog Head Coach Vince Dooley—former Marine Captain and coach of the base football team at Parris Island, South Carolina. Coach Dooley returned for a visit to Parris Island this summer with his five-year-old son, Daniel.

Here he relates that visit and nostalgically recalls his Marine days and the man who has been an inspiration in his life and coaching career.

Continued

COACH DOOLEY: USMC

A Parris Island Homecoming



COURTESY OF VINCE DOOLEY

4 UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Vince Dooley sights in an M14 rifle from the prone position during a visit to Parris Island in 1966; this photo and an accompanying article about Dooley's time in the Marine Corps appeared in a 1966 UGA in-house publication.

“There were bronze statues of a male and female drill instructor and right next to them was a plaque with the Drill Instructor’s Creed,” he recalled. The leadership principles set forth in the creed impressed him so much that he decided it would translate well to his coaching staff at UGA. He believed that the relationship between a drill instructor and recruit was strikingly similar to that between a coach and student player. He wrote down the creed and used it as a basis, with adjustments, for a coach’s pledge.

The United States Marine Corps Drill Instructor Creed reads: “These recruits are entrusted to my care. I will train them to the best of my ability. I will develop them into smartly disciplined, physically fit, basically trained Marines, thoroughly indoctrinated in love of Corps and Country. I will demand of them, and demonstrate by my own example, the highest standards of personal conduct, morality and professional skill.”

Using this as his guide, he developed the “Georgia Coach’s Pledge,” which begins, “These student-athletes are entrusted to my care” and goes on to mirror the belief system embodied by Marine Corps drill instructors.

“It’s not that I forced it on them,” he emphasized with a wave of his hand and shrug of his shoulders. “It’s just that when you look at this pledge, you have to be for it; you just can’t be against it,” he proclaimed. “I adapted the DI Creed to become the Coach’s Pledge, which is still at UGA today; it sets forth the commitment of those coaches to their athletes as to how they would train them.”

With all the high-powered leadership training and experience he received in the Corps and at UGA, he still credits a nun in grammar school, Sister Patricia from Indiana, with giving him his first lesson in leadership. She also taught him to play basketball and make a jump shot.

He had led a group of boys over a locked gate that was blocking their way to a playing field and crashed the gate down in the process.

When Sister Patricia confronted him, “She was good,” he remembered. “I told her I liked the idea of being a leader, but she pointed out that there was a difference between positive and negative leadership, and I had been a negative leader that day. That made an impression on me then and has always stuck with me.”

This positive attitude parallels his belief that, when asked what the most important aspect of life and ethics, integrity and leadership is, he answers, “The Golden Rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you. That has been said many different ways by many different people, but it transcends everything, and if we all lived by it, we’d have a better world.”

So perhaps it is not coincidental that Vince Dooley has spent much of his adult life affiliated with two organizations claiming English bulldogs as their official mascots.

The University of Georgia has Uga and the Marine Corps has Chesty. Both mascots represent tenacity and determination to win—also hallmarks of Dooley and his adopted alma maters—the University of Georgia and the United States Marine Corps.

Editor’s note: The author, CWO-4 Randy Gaddo, USMC (Ret), was a combat correspondent as an enlisted Marine and later a public affairs officer. He retired from active duty in 1996 and now is a contributing editor for Leatherneck.



Cpl Osman Chaudhry, a percussionist with the 2d MAW Band, MCAS Cherry Point, N.C., explains the Marine Corps' Musician Enlistment Option Program to band students at Prescott High School in Prescott, Ariz., during December 2012. Chaudhry enlisted under that program.



A Phoenix Marine Musician's Determination Defines His Discipline

Story and photos by Cpl Tyler J. Bolken

A Phoenix native's route to becoming a Marine Corps bandsman began at an early age. Corporal Osman F. Chaudhry, a percussionist with the Second Marine Aircraft Wing Band, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., first tapped out a beat with his drumsticks at 4 years old, followed by riffs on the piano and flares on the clarinet.

Music naturally fostered an underlying discipline for this Marine, disguising an ambitious, yet carefree passion for this skill. A foundation was being built by what was his hobby, something at which he excelled and enjoyed.

It was an outlet, a comfort, Chaudhry said. But lacking was a desire to drive him beyond what became an accepted musical boundary.

"I never started taking music seriously until about the tenth grade," recalled Chaudhry, who said he was an under-achieving member of the band at Sandra

Day O'Connor High School in north Phoenix.

It was there that something clicked. "I started playing three or more hours a night," said Chaudhry. "The standard was high and I wanted to go above it."

This determination led Chaudhry to higher aspirations, one of which was

There is nothing more rewarding or humbling than to be able to be an ambassador for what the Marine Corps represents.

becoming a United States Marine.

"The history, the traditions, the discipline, the honor, courage and commitment," he said. "It explains itself."

Little did Chaudhry know that he would have the opportunity to be part of one of the Corps' proudest bearers of its rich history and magnificent traditions.

"I was pretty uneducated about the Marine Corps band before I enlisted," he said.

The United States Marine Band was formed in 1798, originally made up of only drummers and fifers who marched with the Continental Marines into combat during the Revolutionary War. Now Marine Corps bands span the globe, highlighted by the "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in Washington, D.C.

Chaudhry's decision was made, but his goal to become both a warrior and musician in the Marine Corps didn't go unchallenged. He auditioned through the Marine Corps' Musician Enlistment Option Program (MEOP), an enlistment option program that qualifies an applicant for a military occupational specialty as a musician based on all facets of music.

"It was one of the toughest on-the-spot performances I ... had to do," said Chaudhry. In fact, the audition was so difficult that he didn't pass the first time he auditioned.

Six Marine Corps musician placement directors conduct live MEOP auditions throughout the country each year. The audition is graded on three sections: scales (10 percent of the overall score), solo (40 percent of the overall score) and sight-reading (50 percent of the overall score).

“Scales and sight-reading are commonly the most difficult aspect of the audition for applicants,” said Captain Jeffrey Arroyo, the MEOP program coordinator for Arizona. “Minor scales are generally not taught at the high-school level.”

“That was what got me,” said Chaudhry. But instead of being deterred, his self-confidence grew and he continued practicing with assistance from his school band teachers. A few months later, in July 2009, he found himself with a scheduled ship date to the yellow footprints at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego as a future Marine musician.

“An exponential amount of doors have been opened to me,” said Chaudhry, who has since traveled from continent to continent, playing for the likes of kings, queens, heads of state, veterans and Medal of Honor awardees.

More recently, Chaudhry’s travels took him home to the Grand Canyon State where he visited Phoenix-area high-school band members to try to be a spark of inspiration for them like the one he had as a high-school student in the tenth grade.

During a visit to Prescott High School, just north of Phoenix, Chaudhry spoke with a band made up of all drummers.

“It’s what we drummers like to call percussion discussion,” he jokingly said. “Speaking with high-school students who



Cpl Chaudhry, a native of Phoenix and a member of the 2d MAW Band, goes over percussion skills with a band student during a visit to Arizona’s Prescott High School, Dec. 18, 2012.

are in the same shoes I was in four short years ago is a nostalgic feeling.”

Cpl Chaudhry added that there is nothing more rewarding or humbling than to be able to be an ambassador for what the Marine Corps represents.

He dreams of someday being a musician on Broadway in New York, but in the immediate future has his eyes set on becoming a Marine Corps officer.

“On the musical side, I’ve made great connections with musical directors on the outside, in addition to great friends from members of bands from around the world,”

he said. “But nothing can replace the feeling of being a Marine, and being a Marine musician has instilled preparation and leadership in me both musically and professionally.”

Editor’s note: Cpl Bolken is a marketing and public affairs NCO at Marine Corps Recruiting Station Phoenix. A native of Boise, Idaho, he is the 2010 Department of Defense Thomas Jefferson Award winner for best documentary.



Dan Bradstreet, left, the director of instrumental music at Prescott High School, asks Cpl Chaudhry about his experiences as a Marine musician.

We—the Marines

Edited by Clare A. Guerrero



SFC JOHNN MORAVAC, USA

Gen James N. Mattis, commander of U.S. Central Command, passes the colors of the NATO command and U.S. Forces Afghanistan to Gen Joseph F. Dunford Jr. during the change-of-command ceremony for the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan, Feb. 10. Gen John R. Allen, center, former ISAF commander, was praised for his leadership as a coalition builder.

Gen Dunford Assumes ISAF Command In Kabul, Afghanistan

Senior Afghan, U.S. and NATO officials congratulated General John R. Allen for a job well done as commander of the International Security Assistance Force and praised Gen Joseph F. Dunford Jr. as the strategic leader needed for the next phase of operations during a change of command ceremony that took place in Kabul, Afghanistan, Feb. 10.

Gen Allen turned over the NATO command and U.S. Forces Afghanistan to Gen Dunford at the ceremony, which was attended by Gen James N. Mattis, Commander, U.S. Central Command; German Army GEN Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander, Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum; and U.S. Army GEN Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

GEN Dempsey praised Gen Allen as a coalition builder. “He is as fine an officer as I’ve ever known,” Gen Dempsey said. “He has led with a quick mind, calloused hands and a servant’s spirit.”

Gen Dunford is perfect to follow Gen Allen as the new commander, GEN Demp-

sey said, calling him a leader who can draw on more than 35 years of excellence at every level in the military.

Afghan Defense Minister Bismullah Khan thanked Gen Allen for his leadership and told him to “be proud” of all he has done for Afghanistan to build and train Afghan security forces and reduce civilian casualties. “You are leaving behind memories we Afghans will always remember in our hearts,” the defense minister said through a translator.

With 50 nations represented in the co-

alition, including 66,000 American military personnel, Gen Allen said he is confident in victory. He remembered the more than 560 ISAF personnel who were killed and the more than 5,500 who were wounded during his 19 months in command.

“Today is not about change, it’s about continuity,” Gen Dunford said. The new commander kept his remarks short, but promised to keep up the momentum. Gen Dunford will have his work cut out for him as he continues training Afghan forces while executing the movement of supplies and personnel out of the country ahead of the drawdown. And all this must be done in a way that allows a yet-to-be-determined post-NATO force to be ready to begin operations Jan. 1, 2015.

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

Last of Newly Manufactured Humvees Arrive at MCLB Albany, Ga.

Tactical vehicle manufacturer AM General shipped what is likely the Marine Corps’ last group of newly manufactured high-mobility, multipurpose, wheeled vehicles (HMMWVs) in January. These M1152A1 and M1152A1B2FK5 model HMMWVs, commonly referred to as “humvees,” were shipped from AM General’s military assembly plant in Mishawaka, Ind., to Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Ga. The delivery represents a significant milestone in the life of the Marine Corps’ primary light tactical vehicle that has served Marines for nearly 30 years.

The HMMWV entered the Marine Corps’ inventory in 1984 to serve as the



COURTESY OF PROGRAM MANAGER, LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLES

The M1152A1B2FK5 HMMWV is one of the latest models in a long line of HMMWVs used by the Marine Corps since 1984 and was part of the final group of newly manufactured HMMWVs that was delivered to the Marine Corps in January. This delivery represents a significant milestone in the life of the light tactical vehicle, which has served Marines for nearly 30 years.

replacement for the venerable M151 series jeep. Since that time, AM General, the sole manufacturer of HMMWVs, has delivered approximately 44,200 of them, grouped into 33 different models, to the Marine Corps.

Since its initial fielding, the HMMWV has proven to be a highly capable and versatile vehicle platform. With multiple variants, to include ambulances, cargo/troop carriers, crew-served weapons carriers, anti-armor carriers, and command and control platforms, the vehicle is a jack-of-all-trades. It has been involved in nearly every Marine Corps operation and exercise during the past three decades, from Operation Just Cause in late 1989 to Desert Storm and Desert Shield in the early 1990s and, most recently, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Over that time, the HMMWV has been adapted to meet changing warfighter requirements. The Marine Corps' current fleet of about 22,500 HMMWVs is a mix of 3rd and 4th generation vehicles that include 14 different models grouped into five different mission variants.

By the end of 2016, the Marine Corps' inventory of HMMWVs will be reduced to about 18,400 vehicles, and in early 2018 a portion of the fleet will begin to be replaced by the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle. However, the JLTV will replace only about 30 percent of the Marine Corps' HMMWVs, which means 13,000 of them will need to be sustained until at least 2030.

To provide those services, the Marine Corps will continue to put the vehicles through depot-level maintenance rebuilds at MCLB Albany and MCLB Barstow, Calif. The Marine Corps' program manager for light tactical vehicles also is exploring material solution concepts to improve the automotive performance capabilities of currently fielded HMMWVs, with the initial effort focusing on the fully armored variants of the HMMWV fleet.

Maintaining and enhancing the Marine Corps' fleet of HMMWVs well into the 21st century will ensure the Marine Corps has a light tactical vehicle capable of supporting Marines in current and future operating environments. As the Marine Corps' last new production HMMWVs are integrated into the fleet, they join a line of vehicles that have well and faithfully supported Marines across the globe for 29 years, and will continue to do so for years to come.

Maj Shawn Miller
HMMWV Project Officer
Program Manager,
Light Tactical Vehicles
Program Executive Officer,
Land Systems Marine Corps, Quantico, Va.



SGT KEVIN WAYWARD

IN THE AIR, ON LAND AND SEA ... AND ICE—Marines from Recruiting Station Lansing, Recruiting Sub-Stations Grand Rapids North and South, Mich., participate in the opening ceremony for the Grand Rapids Pond Hockey Classic, Jan. 25. The Marines braved sub-zero wind-chill temperatures to present the colors on the frozen surface of Reeds Lake in Grand Rapids.

“Untouchables” Practice Downed Aircraft Recovery

■ Leathernecks with Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 272 conducted aircraft recovery training at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., in January. A UH-1 Huey positioned in the tree line of a landing zone simulated an aircraft emergency landing after receiving a “hit” from a rocket-propelled grenade Jan. 24.

The Marines received a scenario where a Huey was “shot down,” said First Lieutenant Andrew Mathes, aircraft recovery mission commander and the MWSS-272 officer in charge of the recovery.

In a coordinated effort, Reconnaissance Marines with Second Marine Division secured the area and rescued the pilots, returning them to base. Then Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn, Sixth Marine Regiment provided security while MWSS-272 Marines brought in the equipment to complete the aircraft recovery, said Mathes.

The Marines arrived at the landing zone at 6 p.m. in a convoy of several prepared vehicles. Geared up with flak jackets, Kevlar helmets and M16A4s and M4s, they set up a security zone and began to search the area for the downed aircraft. They started by sweeping the ground in front of the convoy with a metal detector to search for possible improvised explosive devices and any traps set up to prevent the recovery attempt.

As the leathernecks continued their search through the tree line, they located the aircraft lying on its side. The Marines immediately took action, inspecting the Huey for damage and confirming locations to attach ropes and chains for hauling it away.

Before moving the aircraft, the Marines had to get the aircraft in an upright position. After discussing several ways to complete the task, Mathes decided it was best to use a forklift due to the environment and position of the aircraft.

Recruits with Co C, 1st RTB receive the command to “attack the circle” and practice “snapping in” during Grass Week at Edson Range, MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., Jan. 24. Recruits spend hours “snapping in” to develop confidence and familiarize themselves with the different shooting positions Marines use.



LCPL PEDRO CARDENAS

Before the aircraft could be moved, bulk fuel Marines quickly emptied the Huey of more than 200 gallons of fuel.

With the aid of the forklift, the Marines then eased the aircraft out of the trees. The Huey was placed on a trailer and transported back to base.

“The mission went really smooth,” said Sergeant Brice Kuehn, the mission’s salvage commander and MWSS-272 materiel chief for airfield operations. “We do not work together as much as we should, but a mission like this shows that we can come together and get the mission accomplished.”

LCpl Manuel Estrada
PAO, MCAS New River, N.C.

Marine Corps Marksmanship Begins at Recruit Training

Like many who have gone before them, recruits with Platoon 1049, Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, began their second phase of recruit training at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., in January.

The recruits move from San Diego to the range at Camp Pendleton to learn the fundamentals of marksmanship and how to properly fire the M16A4 service rifle. During the first week of marksmanship training, known as “Grass Week,” recruits are taught the basics and are monitored by Marines known as primary marksmanship instructors (PMIs).

“Recruits are taught by PMIs the basic fundamentals of marksmanship such as natural point of aim, slow-steady squeeze of the trigger and the placement of the rifle on their shoulder pocket during Grass Week,” said Sergeant Michael A. Carroll, a Plt 1049 drill instructor. “If recruits apply those fundamentals shot after shot, there is no way that they won’t hit the target. It’s all about the basics.”

Once PMIs complete the classroom instruction, recruits receive the command “attack the circle” and move to a semi-circular area to “snap in.” The snapping-in time allows them to practice to reinforce the basics. In the middle of the semicircle is a white drum with different-sized targets painted on it. The targets are of various sizes to simulate what they look like at distances of 200, 300 and 500 yards, the exact distances from which recruits will be shooting.

Recruits spend several hours “snapping in,” which allows them to gain confidence in the different shooting positions—standing, prone, kneeling and sitting.

“This week is a test of their discipline. It takes a lot of discipline to stay in those different [shooting] positions. I see a lot of them [enduring] through the pain,” said Carroll.

When Grass Week is over, recruits move on to Firing Week to apply the fundamental marksmanship principles they learned and to qualify in order to move forward with training. Recruits must prepare physically and mentally for Firing Week.

“I’ve been spending a lot of time doing leg stretches and practicing the sitting position. I’m not flexible, so repetition was key,” said recruit Tyon L. Downing, Plt 1049, Co C, 1st RTB.



LCPL MANUEL ESTRADA

Leathernecks with MWSS-272 conduct a UH-1 Huey aircraft recovery operation after a simulated loss in enemy territory during training at MCB Camp Lejeune, Jan. 24. The Marines were provided only 24-hours’ notice to plan, execute and complete the mission.

The recruits are given several days to hone their skills before firing for an official score.

Although qualifying with the rifle is important for recruits in order to continue with training, every Marine is required to requalify annually to ensure they are combat-ready, reinforcing “every Marine a rifleman.”

“A Marine is a rifleman first. The key is patience; if you don’t take the time to take well-aimed shots, you won’t be a good shooter,” said Downing.

To others, qualifying at the range becomes somewhat of a ritual that has to be performed the exact same way every time in order to be mentally prepared, according to Sgt Mark A. Peters, the senior drill instructor for Plt 3229, Co K, 3d RTB.

“It’s about consistency throughout the week. Everything needs to be consistent from what the recruits eat to what they wear in order to boost their confidence,” said Peters. “It’s about the fundamentals and mechanics, but it’s mostly about getting them in the right mindset. Consistency gets you in the right mindset.”

Lessons learned during the fifth and sixth weeks of recruit training are used throughout a Marine’s career. With the in-

struction and coaching, recruits are set up for success to move forward in becoming United States Marines.

“This is the first test of a recruit visualizing what we do as Marines,” said Peters. “This is their first testament of being a Marine and a rifleman.”

LCpl Pedro Cardenas
PAO, MCRD San Diego

Quick Shots Around the Corps

Female Marine PFT Training Program Posted Online

■ Sergeant Rebekka S. Heite, Public Affairs Office, Marine Forces Reserve, reports that Training and Education Command, Quantico, Va., has developed a website to help female Marines meet the new pull-up requirements set forth in All Marine Corps Activities Message (ALMAR) 046/12.

The website, <https://fitness.usmc.mil/FPFT>, will be updated regularly with different fitness programs and new resources as they become available.

Currently, there are three programs: a six-week initial program, a six-week advanced program and a four-week sustainment program.

Also on the horizon is a USMC fitness website that will include programs for individual Marines and for unit physical training.

New Rules for Receiving Combat Action Ribbon

■ Corporal Ali Azimi, Public Affairs Office, Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., reports that a revision to the requirements to receive the Combat Action Ribbon (CAR) now allows those exposed to improvised explosive devices to qualify for the CAR, as defined in Marine Administrative Message 038/13.

Any Marine who is exposed to or is directly active in disabling, rendering safe or destroying IEDs, mines or scatterable munitions, with or without enemy presence, is now eligible for a CAR.

This revision is retroactive to 2001, qualifying anyone who meets the criteria since then to receive the award.

Marines can receive the CAR only once per operation, even if engaged with the enemy or munitions multiple times.

For more information, refer to MARADMIN 038/13.



Crazy Caption Contest

Winner

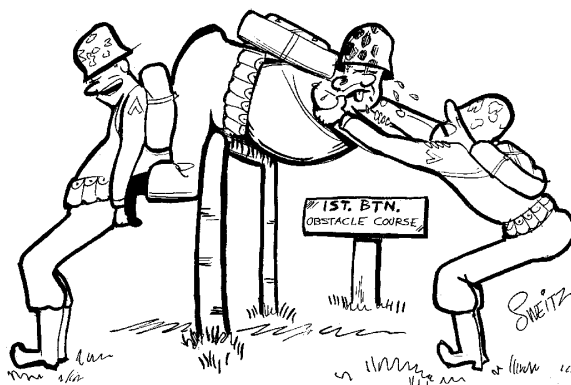


LCpl BENJAMIN HARRIS

“Got it. Kill engine, then add oil.”

Submitted by
John Eloff
Sun City West, Ariz.

This Month's Cartoon



(Caption) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ ZIP _____

Dream up your own Crazy Caption. *Leatherneck* will pay \$25 or give a one-year MCA membership for the craziest one received. It's easy. Think up a caption for the cartoon at the right and either mail or e-mail it to us. Send your submission to *Leatherneck Magazine*, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134, or e-mail it, referencing the number at the bottom right, to leatherneck@mca-marines.org. The winning entry will be published in two months.

Terrorism's First Strike

U.S. Embassy Beirut, 18 April 1983



STATE MAGAZINE, JUNE 1983

French Marines were first to reach the site.

By Dick Camp

The New York Times 19 April 1983 banner headline screamed, U.S. BEIRUT EMBASSY BOMBED; 33 REPORTED KILLED, 80 HURT; PRO-IRAN SECT ADMITS ACTION.

Prologue

The “holy warrior” climbed into the cab of the stolen delivery van and put it in gear. An accomplice raised the metal gate, and the driver pulled from the garage onto the narrow street that led to the Corniche, the main thoroughfare that runs along the Mediterranean. The van turned off the thoroughfare onto a cross street. As it reached the end, the van turned left against traffic and turned into

the driveway toward the massive seven-story, salmon-pink U.S. Embassy.

The driver gunned the accelerator and sped past the Lebanese guard post toward the embassy’s glass and steel portico at the front of the building. When the speeding vehicle was within feet of the building, the suicide bomber activated the detonator. Two thousand pounds of TNT exploded in a murderous shock wave that scaled the front of the building, bringing down its midsection as if it were no more than a house of cards. Support pillars disintegrated, walls collapsed, flying metal cut a tree in half, and heat from the blast melted nearby traffic lights.

Sixty-three people were killed in the blast, including 17 Americans, and more than 100 were injured. Among the victims

were eight members of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), including chief Middle East analyst Robert C. Ames and station chief Kenneth Haas.

Colonel Conwill R. "Casey" Casey, the senior U.S. European Command liaison officer, stated: "The suicide bomber knew exactly where the CIA office was located. He drove that doggone truck right underneath the agency office and got every member of the agency except two that were out of the building."

Retired Marine Lieutenant Colonel Bill Cowan said in an ABC "Nightline" program interview, "The CIA station chief and a number of people who worked for him were killed ... so for the most part, the CIA operations in Beirut were essentially terminated at that point."

Blood and Terror

Col Casey and his assistant, LtCol Michael G. "Mick" Coe, had just returned from the weekly intelligence meeting and were sitting in the Marine Security Guard Detachment mess hall on the embassy's third floor having lunch when the bomb detonated. "The glass windows behind me shattered, and I was blown 20 feet across the floor and ended up under a coffee table 'cut all to pieces' from the shattered glass," Casey recalled. "The mess hall was thick with smoke and dust ... and tear gas that made breathing difficult." LtCol Coe was uninjured. "I sent Mick [Coe] down to set up communications in our hotel."

Before he left the ruins, Coe assisted in freeing the embassy's public affairs officer who was pinned in the wreckage. He succeeded by "crawling with his face to the floor to avert the gas." Casey did not know it at the time, but he was bleeding internally from a ruptured blood vessel. "I worked for seven days until I got so weak that I finally went to see a corpsman. He sent me out to the USS *Guadalcanal* [LPH-7] where I received seven pints of blood."

Corporal Ronnie Tumolo, a Marine security guard, also was in the mess hall with several other Marines. "Mr. Tony [Lebanese cook] brought me over the menu and turned to walk away when there was this enormous explosion. Shards of glass, metal and plaster swept over me and the other Marines." About that time, Cpl Charles Pearson radioed, "We've been hit big time. React! React!" This was an emergency code word for the Marines of the detachment to grab their gear and weapons and meet at a central point.

As Tumolo made his way to his room, "there were people pouring out their offices ... those that were still intact ... bleeding from deep cuts on their faces and hands." At one point he spotted a roll of



COURTESY OF COL CONWILL R. "CASEY" CASEY, USMC (RET)

Col Conwill R. Casey's U.S. European Command liaison office, above, was hit hard by the terrorist's blast, as was the Marine security guards' chow area, right. Col Casey was sitting in the MSG mess with his back to the window when the blast occurred.

Opposite page: At 1:05 p.m., 18 April 1983, a lone terrorist drove an explosives-laden vehicle into a Lebanese security office in front of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and detonated it, destroying the embassy, killing 63 people and wounding more than 100. (State Magazine, June 1983)



COURTESY OF COL CONWILL R. "CASEY" CASEY, USMC (RET)

paper towels. "I picked it up and started unrolling and placing it on the cuts as a compress." He eventually reached his room, but couldn't open the door. "I kicked the door handle, and the door flew open ... and all I could see was Mediterranean! Everything in my room was gone; all I could see was smoke and flames. It was unbelievable; I had never seen anything like it before in my life."

Cpl Brian Korn was in his room. "[I] was blown out of my bed and ended up in my wall locker, disoriented and trying to clear my head," he said. "I finally got it together and got up, put on my utilities,

boots and helmet and made my way to the weapons vault to get my rifle. Then Pearson and I made our way to the ambassador's suite to make sure that he was safe and to assist him in exiting the building."

Ambassador Robert S. Dillon was standing in his office at the time of the blast. "I had a telephone in one hand and a T-shirt in the other, getting ready to go out for my afternoon jog," he recalled. "All of a sudden there was an explosion, and my office collapsed. I couldn't move." His legs were pinned underneath a pile of masonry, and it took the deputy chief of

mission and another staffer to free them, “using the staff of the American flag to pry the rubble off me,” Dillon explained. He escaped with only minor cuts and bruises.

Cpl James Massengill was in the Marine quarters on the sixth floor when “suddenly the Plexiglas windows shattered. I reflexively threw up my arms to protect my face and was cut on my arms, a little bit on my face and my bare feet.” It took him a few moments to collect himself, and then he grabbed his reaction gear—flak jacket, helmet, rifle, first-aid kit, gas mask and radio—and started calling Post One, manned by Cpl Robert V. McMaugh.

“Post One, Post One, we’ve been hit,” he radioed. “There was only silence,” Massengill explained, “and that was unusual because Post One would act as the command post, directing all the Marines to positions in the embassy.” What Massengill didn’t know at the time was that McMaugh had been killed in the blast. Korn and Sergeant Charles A. Light dug through a bunch of rubble and found him in the bulletproof glass booth in the embassy’s main lobby.

“We weren’t going to leave him there. Marines don’t leave their own,” the two explained sadly. An article in the 2 May 1983 *Newsweek* noted, “His fellow Marines draped their dead comrade in an American flag and carried him away on a stretcher.”

Sgt Light was in his office about 40 feet from Post One when the bomb went off. “The blast knocked me out and blew me through a cinder-block wall into the next office ... and then the cinder-block ceiling fell on top of me,” he recalled. “I woke up probably six or seven minutes after the blast. There was probably a million tons of debris floating in the air. I took a breath, and it coated my throat, and I thought I was choking to death.” He was finally able to get a breath of fresh air when a breeze blew through the shattered façade and cleared the dust and chemicals away.

The regional security officer’s armory had been blown up and all the “CSCN [tear gas] was burning,” Light explained, “and rounds were cooking off [exploding].” When Light finally was able to get to his feet, he discovered that his shoes had been blown off, and his feet were bleeding. He was in “serious pain” from particles of glass that penetrated his arm and across his face.

Additionally, “I had a serious problem

Two weeks after the terrorist attack, the U.S. European Command liaison office’s rental car, showing the effects of the blast, remains in front of the embassy. (Photo courtesy of Col Conwill R. “Casey” Casey, USMC (Ret))

with my neck, a crushed thumb, part of my hip was bleeding, and I was temporarily deafened.” His hearing gradually returned, and he “started hearing screams and moans and pleas for help, and [he] heard the Lebanese sirens and all that kind of business going on all at one time. It was absolute chaos. ... It was crazy.”



Sgt Luis Lopez, MSG Det Beirut, provides security immediately after the blast.

Rescue and Evacuation

Despite his injuries, Col Casey immediately reacted. “I wasn’t in shock,” he said. “I was still able to think.” He organized and coordinated the efforts to rescue people trapped in the wreckage. “We crawled through the rubble even though the building was pretty shaky.” Casey continued to render assistance until he was forced to seek medical treatment.

Corporals Korn and Pearson recalled: “[We] worked our way down the stairway to the first floor carrying people that were hurt down different stairwells, across

ladders and lowering them down into ambulances that had pulled around the back of the embassy. ... It was bad; there was blood everywhere. ... We ran across people you knew were dead; there was nothing you could do for them. ... It was hard to imagine unless you were there.”

Later Korn assisted in setting up a perimeter around the front of the embassy. “There was a bunch of the local people riding up to the embassy; some were trying to help, and some were actually trying to go into the embassy, and they were looting, stealing things or whatever,” he recalled. “I also went around policing up classified documents that were strewn around and helping people who were injured, looking for survivors in the wreckage and recovering bodies.”

Cpl Massengill recalled: “The injuries sustained by the people were very traumatic ... amputations, deep lacerations, gouges and people blinded by glass fragments ... injuries that I had never seen before. Obviously, these people were very, very upset. One of our jobs was to be a calming factor and to help them in any way you can.”

Cpl Tumolo and another Marine were assigned to go to the American University Beirut Hospital where most of the injured were taken. “We walked or ran, when it was possible, down the middle of Beirut carrying M16s and radios,” he recalled, “and nobody challenged us!” When they got to the hospital, “We saw several sealed caskets, and I can remember looking at them and seeing those American names and thinking, ‘My God, this is really bad.’ At that time, I hadn’t realized the impact of lost life.”

Early in the morning the detachment was finally able to go to a “safe haven” to get some rest. Tumolo recalled, “We were just mad as hell because we didn’t know what to do and what we were going to be





COURTESY OF COL CONWILL R. "CASEY" CASEY, USMC (RET)



STATE MAGAZINE, JUNE 1983

Above left: Looking up from the blast hole, the damage to the embassy is dramatic.

Above right: Immediately after the blast, a rescue party climbs up to reach the injured. Stabilizing the ladder at the top is then-LtCol Conwill R. "Casey" Casey, and halfway up the ladder in the white shirt is Sgt Charles A. Light, MSG Det, Beirut.

doing. ... It was a sick feeling of fear inside."

Cpl Massengill had a tough night. "Sleep, that's just not going to happen after something like that, the adrenaline is flowing, the excitement, the fear ... I don't think anybody got any sleep."

Korn remembered "sitting down and taking off [his] boots and [discovering] that [his] sock was full of blood." One of his toes had been partially torn off. "I just more or less cleaned it up the best that I could." But he did not seek medical attention.

Tumolo also was wounded with "lots of cuts and embedded glass in [his] back and skull. The corpsman treated [him] with antibiotic cream and bandaged the wounds."

At dawn the next day, the Marine De-

tachment went back to the ruins. "It became obvious that whoever was alive had been removed from the rubble," Korn recalled. "Recovering bodies at this stage was difficult emotionally because the majority of the people you knew ... had families that were waiting for some news. ... 'Where's my father? Where's my son? Where's my wife? Where's my father?'"

Cpl Tumolo related one of the defining moments of his Beirut experience. "It was a beautiful warm sunny day when we found the embassy flagpole under the rubble. We attached a flag to the top of the pole and raised it ... seven or eight of us, just like Iwo Jima ... and to me that was, next to the birth of my first child, probably the proudest moment of my life, and that was really the symbol of what we were doing in Beirut."

Aftereffects

Immediately after the blast, Hezbollah (Party of God), a pro-Iranian group calling itself the Islamic Jihad (Holy War) Organization, took responsibility for the bombing. Hezbollah's one-time security chief, Imad Mughniyeh, was identified as the mastermind of the attack, as well as several subsequent attacks on American and French interests in Lebanon, including the 23 Oct. 1983 bombing of the Marine Barracks, which killed 241 Marines. In February 2008, Mughniyeh was killed by a car bomb in Syria, reportedly by the Kidon Division of the Mossad, Israel's intelligence agency.

Within minutes of the embassy explosion, French paratroopers and medical teams from the multinational peacekeeping force arrived and cordoned off the area.



COURTESY OF COL CONWILLER. "CASEY" CASEY, USMC (RET)

The bomb crater in the concrete floor of the underground parking garage and the destruction evident in the reinforced concrete pillar demonstrate that the terrorists knew how to prepare and use large explosive charges—an ability that would be demonstrated over and over in the future.

They soon were joined by units of the International Red Cross and Lebanese civil defense volunteers. A reaction company from the 22d Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) located at the International Airport arrived and set up close security around the demolished building and joined in combing through the wreckage.

The MAU commander, Col James M. Meade, assumed overall command of both French and American military. He was incensed over the bombing. “There was no way an unidentified vehicle with an Arab driver should have been allowed [near] the embassy,” he said. “The embassy was not adequately protected.” Even before the bombing, Meade had received intelligence reports that warned of Islamic revolutionaries planning to attack American interests. “We were looking at a sect that is highly pro-Iranian,” he said. “It

wants everybody out of Lebanon—all foreigners.”

Ambassador Robert B. Oakley, a former U.S. State Department coordinator for counterterrorism during the 1980s, said that the bombing was “primarily Iranians; the Syrians were sort of a secondary player. ... The Iranians wanted to drive us out of Lebanon.”

Bob Woodward, assistant managing editor of *The Washington Post*, stated on a “Frontline” interview: “The Iranians and Syrians were clearly behind it. There were names; evidence was quite compelling of meetings, bank transfers, how the explosives were assembled and so forth. ... Even ‘Cap’ Weinberger [Casper W., Secretary of Defense] said publicly, ‘Yes, Iran and Syria is behind this, but the tough guys in the White House would not retaliate because the evidence was not such

that you could go on television and prove it ... and the hope was it would go away. ... Essentially we turned tail and ran and left Lebanon.’ ”

LtCol Cowan was a member of a small covert team dispatched to Lebanon to gather intelligence immediately after the bombing. “We sent back a report to the Secretary of Defense with several recommendations ... [but] nothing was done ... until after the bombing of the Marine compound.”

On the “Nightline” program mentioned earlier, he said, “Every time somebody has struck at us, we’ve threatened, we’ve stood up, we’ve pounded our chests, we’ve blown fire out of our mouths, smoke out of our ears, and then within a couple of weeks, we’ve sat back down and gone back to business as usual.”

Postscript

Six months later, the same Iranian-backed forces struck again: this time at the Barracks housing the 24th MAU near the Beirut airport. At 0622 on Sunday morning, 23 Oct. 1983, a white Mercedes dump truck filled with some 12,000 pounds of dynamite wrapped around gas cylinders crashed through several barriers and smashed into the lobby of the battalion-landing-team headquarters and exploded. The resulting blast killed 241 military personnel, primarily Marines, and injured more than 100 in what the Federal Bureau of Investigation later determined was the largest non-nuclear blast they ever had investigated.

Retired Col Timothy J. Geraghty, Commanding Officer, 24th MAU, stated, “The attack, which Iran and Syria supported, financed and planned and Shiite proxies executed, achieved their primary objective. ... The multinational force was withdrawn from Lebanon, forcing a change in U.S. national policy.”

Editor’s note: This month marks the 30th anniversary of the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. It is important that this not be lost to history. The lack of an aggressive response in April set the stage for the larger attack in October.

Dick Camp, a retired Marine colonel, is the former director of operations for the National Museum of the Marine Corps, former deputy director and director (acting) of Marine Corps History, and a prolific author. His latest e-book, “The Killing Ground: A Novel of Marines in the Vietnam War,” is available online at Amazon.com, and he has two nonfiction books coming out, one in April, “Shadow Warriors,” and the other in July, “Assault From the Sky.”



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The Marine Corps Association: 100 Years Of Service

By Arthur P. Brill Jr.

“Scarlet and gold” oozes out of every nook and cranny of Bartlett Hall. Sporting a cherished post office box of “1775,” most of the 108 full- and part-timers at the Marine Corps Association’s quaint headquarters at Quantico, Va., aren’t Marines. Yet, they are as much Marine as anyone who has stood on the “yellow footprints” at boot camp or completed The Basic School.

“I love my work here,” said Sherry Linhares, a six-year MCA civilian marketing coordinator and a perky “can do” member of the team. “I love Marines. They are part of my life.”

The Marine Corps will celebrate numerous 100-year anniversaries of its units, installations and battles in the 21st century. Commemorating its 100 years of service this month, the MCA has been around longer than most service organizations. It has more service stripes than every major Marine base, including Quantico, and all of the Corps’ air and ground combat units.

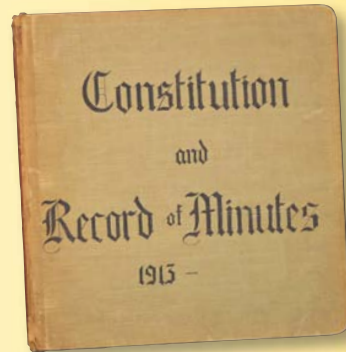
“We have a great gang here who work hard to help Marines,” said retired Marine Major General Edward G. Usher III, current MCA president and CEO. “Many of our key people double-hat in crucial jobs. We have strong players, but no bench.”

Marines formed the MCA in 1913 before the Corps had recruit depots, tin hats, tanks and dive bombers. The nation had barely 10,000 Marines. It was a time when field-hatted Marines sailed in large Navy ships, shot well, marched often and landed in small boats to skirmish in strange places. Back then, who could have imagined 182,200 Marines or fights like Belleau Wood, Wake Island, Iwo Jima, Chosin, Con Thien and Fallujah?

MajGen Usher’s grandfather was an infantry Marine during the early 1900s. As a wandering youth in Cleveland, Private Edward G. Usher enlisted in 1902, trained at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., fought in the Philippine Insurrection, sailed in the battleship *Kentucky*, participated in campaigns in China and was discharged in 1906. Buried at Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego, the businessman requested that his tombstone simply read: “Edward G. Usher, U.S. Marine.”

“Both my grandfather and father [a career Marine] loved the Marine Corps and were life members of the MCA,” said MajGen Usher. “The Association meant a lot to them, and here I am, running this organization, and we’ve added a Foundation to allow us to do even more to support Marines.”

Since 1913, the Marine Corps and its Association have grown up together. In fact, the Corps controlled and staffed the MCA for 60 years before the Pentagon



While a lieutenant colonel, LtGen John A. Lejeune, the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps (right), was a member of the executive committee forming the Marine Corps Association in 1913 and drafting its constitution and bylaws, which remain the cornerstone for MCA&F operations.



EDWARD G. USHER COLLECTION, MCA



Right: MajGen Edward G. Usher III, MCA&F president and CEO, far right, along with sculptor and artist, Marine veteran Mark Austin Byrd, presents the newly established MCA&F-sponsored 1stLt Baldomero Lopez Honor Graduate Award for TBS honor graduates to the TBS commander, Col Dale Alford, in 2012. MajGen Usher, a third-generation Marine, traces his Marine Corps roots to his grandfather, Edward G. Usher (opposite page), fourth from the right, back row, in this photograph of leathernecks in Co E, 2d Bn, 1st Marine Brigade in Zambales, Philippines, circa 1902.

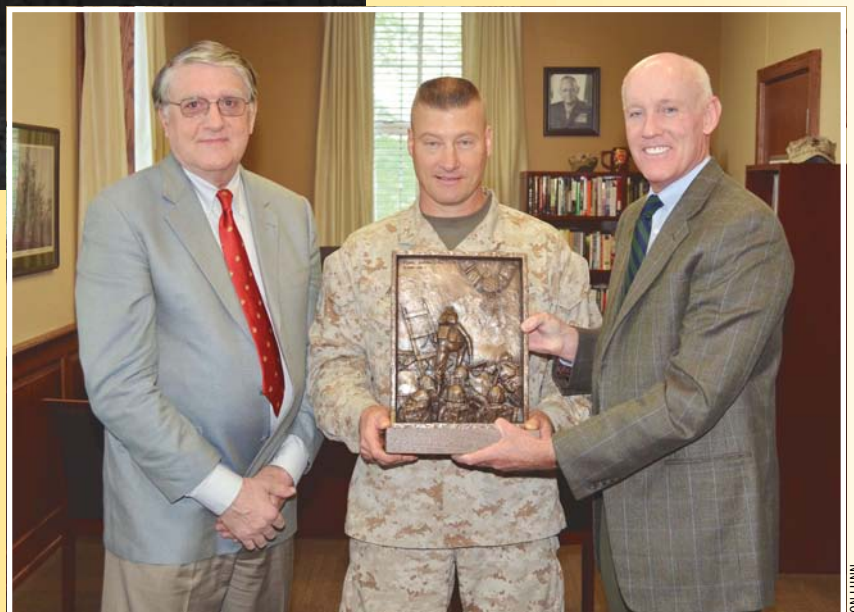
“For a century now, the MCA has stayed true to Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune’s [13th Commandant’s] vision.”
*—Gen James F. Amos
 Commandant of the
 Marine Corps*

required that MCA become a private entity in the 1970s. Governing board meetings were held in the Marine Commandant’s office for years, and he was the senior member. Some Commandants even wanted the names of nonmember officers and those delinquent in their membership dues. Those days are long gone.

“For a century now, the MCA has stayed true to Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune’s [13th Commandant’s] vision of providing a forum for Marines of every rank to exchange ideas, preserve our heritage and develop professionally,” said General James F. Amos, the 35th and current Commandant. “The hard work of the MCA staff materially contributes to our mission and the advancement of the Corps’ objectives.”

When Lieutenant Colonel Lejeune commanded the Marine Barracks in Brooklyn, N.Y., from 1911 to 1914, he left his family to make expeditions to Panama, Veracruz, Mexico and Cuba. On Feb. 20, 1913, he sailed with the 2d Provisional Marine Brigade for Guantanamo Bay (Gitmo), a frequent jumping-off spot for Caribbean hot spots. Two years before, the officers of a similar Marine brigade at Gitmo voted and contributed \$5,000 to form the Marine

USMC



RON LUNN

For many years, the MCA honorary president was the serving Commandant of the Marine Corps. In this photograph from the MCA archives, filed as "MCA business," Gen Alfred M. Gray Jr., 29th CMC, chairs a 1989 meeting. To his right is then-BGen Harry W. Jenkins Jr., who now is a retired major general and chairman of the board, MCA&F. (MCA Archives photo)



Corps Association, but the action was not formalized.

On April 25, 1913, Lejeune was named head of a three-man executive committee, and the MCA was born. The goal was the professional advancement of Marines and the preservation of the Corps' history and traditions. Those simple but vital goals remain to this day.

Despite mostly imagined threats to the Marine Corps' existence in 1913, the MCA's founders gave it an internal mission of developing Marines. Unlike many service associations, the MCA does not have a political role and never has lobbied Congress.

"It's my role, with the support of our fine Marines at the Office of Legislative Affairs, to keep Congress informed of our activities, achievements and challenges. I think we have a great relationship with the folks on the Hill," said Gen Amos. "I see the MCA's role as supporting the professional development of our Corps through the *Gazette* and *Leatherneck*, professional military education (PME), the reading program and other such activities."

Bartlett Hall is slightly more than three miles from Quantico's main gate. Nestled barely inside the base, the three-story red-brick building sits next to Quantico town, within easy walking distance of Little Hall, the Marine Corps University and other familiar landmarks.



MajGen Ed Usher, president and CEO of the MCA&F, presents a memento to Gen James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps, the guest speaker at the MCA&F-hosted Marine Corps Ground Dinner, Dec. 8, 2011, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Va.

"If General Lejeune could see today's operation, he'd be amazed," said retired MajGen Harry W. Jenkins, who heads the MCA's Board of Governors. "We are taking care of the troops, and since we added the Foundation in 2009, we can do even more to help the troops."

LeeAnn Mitchell is the Foundation's events planner. She coordinates 14 major events a year; many are awards dinners. The MCA&F brings in and hosts Marine honorees and their families at the awards dinners. They are popular, well-attended and growing. More than 400 people attend each dinner, and Gen and Mrs. Amos are frequent guests. Active-duty Marines attend free. Mitchell also recruits and

courts the Marine-friendly corporate sponsors who help foot the bill. MCA&F staffers cheerfully do the grunt work.

"These dinners are the Marine Corps' dinners, not ours. LeeAnn is their uncompensated event planner," said Tom Esslinger, the MCA chief operating officer. A successful career lawyer, Esslinger served in Vietnam as a Marine infantry officer and joined the staff in 2008. "One general officer told me, 'If it wasn't for you guys paying for these dinners, we'd hand these awards out at lunchtime in the mess hall.'"

Shouldn't the Marine Corps do these things? Yes, it probably should, but laws prohibit the use of appropriated money for

Hewlett Packard laptops are ready for delivery to wounded Marines in 2011. From left: Barbara Lewandrowski, Wounded Warrior Regiment; LeeAnn Mitchell, Director, Events and Corporate Sponsorships, MCA&F, who coordinated the laptop donation; Col John L. Mayer, Commanding Officer, WWR; and Greg Lockett, Hewlett Packard.



certain things. The MCA and its Foundation fills this important gap. It always has been that way.

For example, in 1915, the Corps' inspector general recommended that the MCA purchase flowers for Marines buried at Arlington National Cemetery. In 1918, the Association bought bronze plaques to place on Navy destroyers named after Marines.

The MCA Foundation was in its infancy when MajGen Usher took over in 2010. It now sponsors programs that help active-duty Marines and attracts the funds to pay for them. In 2012, the Foundation provided 300 unit libraries (mostly books from the Commandant's Professional Reading List) and more than 8,000 awards to Marines in its significantly expanded Marine Excellence Awards Program.

"The money we take in goes into our programs to support Marines. If a Marine commander comes to me, and I start saying no, we've got a problem," said MajGen Usher.

"We're also not competing with other Marine organizations. I don't want to take money away from the Scholarship Foundation or our world-class museum," said MajGen Usher. "We're all dedicated to support an institution that we love.

"Nonprofit doesn't mean we can operate in a deficit. We have to make payroll, recover our costs and provide money for our programs," said MajGen Usher. "In addition to being the Corps' professional association, we conduct a successful retail operation. It helps us generate revenue to

"We are taking care of the troops, and since we added the Foundation in 2009, we can do even more to help the troops."

—MajGen Harry W. Jenkins, USMC (Ret)

meet our program needs." MCA membership today is about 77,000, mostly active, retired and veteran Marines but with some members from other U.S. Armed Forces. The Association's charter rules out some individuals who would join to support the Corps. With the creation of the Foundation, nonveteran Marine parents and "friends" of the Marine Corps now can get on board as members of the Foundation, helping ensure a strong MCA&F.

The policy is paying off. The Corps' "friends" are joining and becoming leading customers in the MCA's e-commerce trade via the Internet. People place orders with the MCA's online store and call center in Bartlett Hall. When MajGen Usher completes a planned website improvement effort, it will be even easier to make a purchase, join the Association and Foundation and access Marine-related content.

"In retail, we'll have a mini-Amazon.com," predicted MajGen Jenkins. "We're positioning ourselves to better help the troops for the rest of this century."

The MCA&F presently has a successful Group Benefits (insurance) program and offers financial planning, banking services and other insurance products through an affinity partnership with USAA. These offerings are a steady source of assurance for Marines who want to ensure their families' well-being should something happen.

When the well-known source of Marine uniforms and equipment, *The MARINE Shop*, became available after the death of



The first Corporal's Course, Class 316-13, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma Enlisted Academies, graduated Feb. 8, 2013, with awards provided by the MCA&F. From left: Cpl Isamar Seabol, 3rd Honor Grad; Cpl Christopher Saucedo, Gung-Ho Award; Cpl Stefani Blackstone, Honor Grad; and Cpl Edwin Rodriguez, 2nd Honor Grad.

The Hulbert Award for the Marine Gunner of the Year, named after the first Marine Gunner, Henry L. Hulbert, was crafted by former *Leatherneck* artist and veteran Marine John Chalk. The initial trophy, presented to TBS in 2008 for display by the MCA&F CEO, MajGen Les Palm, USMC (Ret), left, is held by CWO-5 David R. Dunfee, who coordinated the development of the award for the Deputy Commandant, Plans, Policies and Operations, LtGen Richard F. Natonski, right.



its founder, retired Major Harry Elms, the MCA, led by its CEO, MajGen Les Palm, stepped in and purchased it in 2007. The popular retail uniform store on the corner of Broadway and Potomac in Quantico town was renovated and now makes it even easier for Marines to wear the best-fitted uniforms.

The MCA also opened a very popular retail store at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., built a new annex to its headquarters in Quantico and initiated a series of professional dinners, including awards dinners, and launched the Marine Corps Association Foundation during MajGen Palm's tenure as CEO.

The MARINE Shop appeals to all grades, and with The Basic School located at Quantico, many Marine second lieutenants become career-long customers. *The MARINE Shop's* expert tailors visit the U.S. Naval Academy, Officer Candidates School and several Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps units.

In 1972, when the Department of Defense closed out the option of assigning active-duty personnel to military-related associations, the Marine Corps Association shifted from an organization staffed largely by active-duty Marines to a civilian work force, but the focus on supporting Marines continued to gain momentum.

Gen Louis H. Wilson, the future 26th Commandant, was the MCA's last active-duty leader. He ordered a management study, and retired Marine Colonel Bevan G. Cass became the MCA's first executive

director. The tireless, square-jawed, crew-cut executive had to make the Association profitable in order to continue needed programs supporting the Corps.

"No longer subsidized, the MCA became a pay-as-you-go operation," recalled retired Marine LtCol Robert W. Smith, the *Gazette* editor in the late 1970s. "The MCA focused on the business side, and 'Bev' Cass was the initial driver."



Master tailor Nhean Keo is one of many world-class tailors who assist Marines at the MCA&F's *The MARINE Shop* in downtown Quantico, Va.

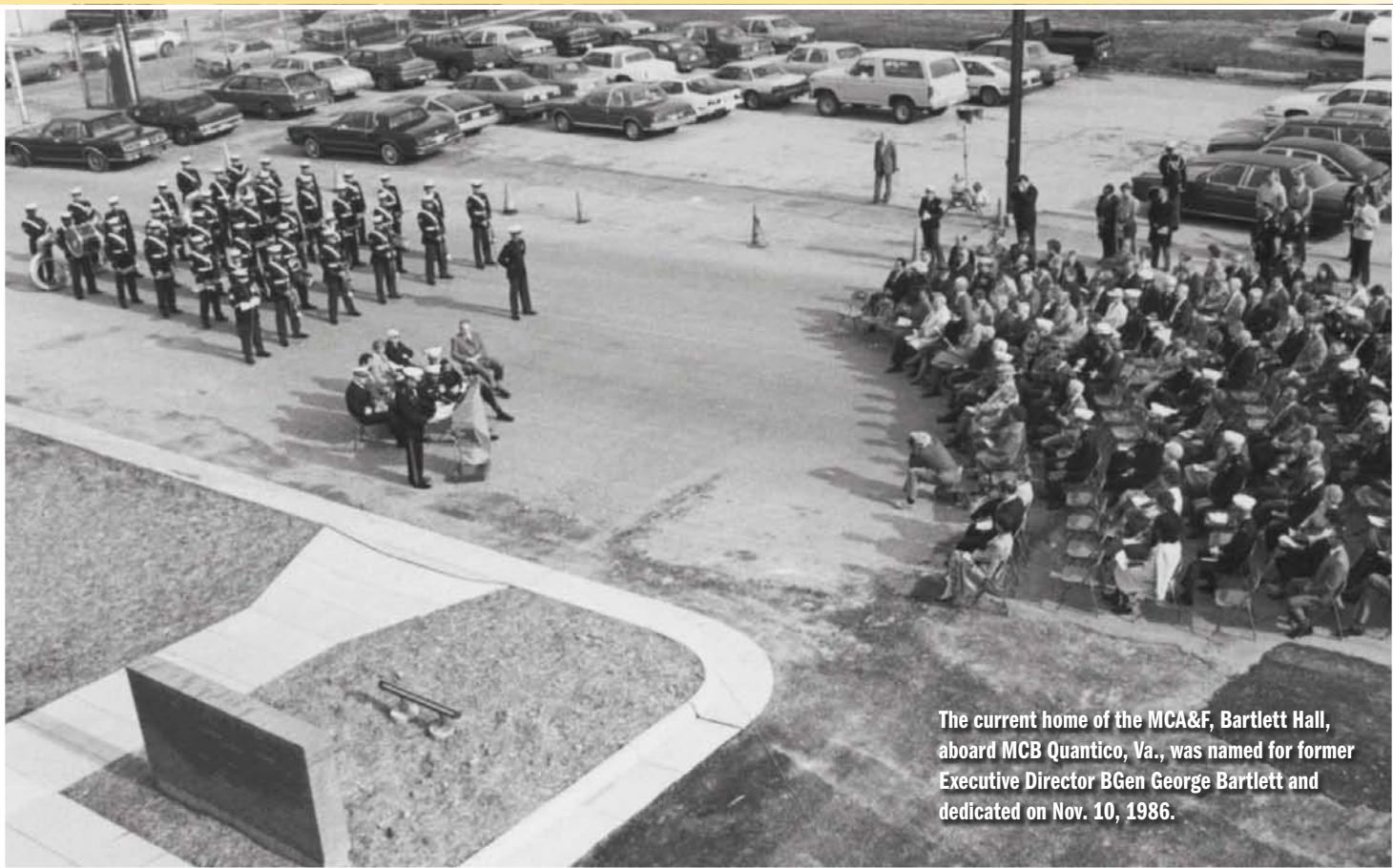
Cass improved the MCA Bookstore, procured a printing press and shipped Marine Birthday Ball supplies to Marine units. Operating from an old temporary building near Quantico's Butler Stadium, he set the business tone for his successors.

"Many people believed that the cost of running the MCA with civilians would be so high that we couldn't survive. I didn't believe it then, and I've been proven right," said Gen Wilson when he retired in 1979. "The Association was worth saving to continue its work."

The Association and the *Marine Corps Gazette* have been almost synonymous since the Association's founding. *Leatherneck* magazine took another course to today. In 1917, two enlisted Marines received permission from Brigadier General Lejeune, the Quantico commander, to publish a paper for Marines. In time, it became *Leatherneck* magazine.

"While the *Gazette* is our professional journal, General Lejeune wanted *Leatherneck* to tell the Marine Corps' story," said retired Marine Col Walt Ford, current MCA publisher and editor of *Leatherneck* since 1999. "General Lejeune placed *Leatherneck* under the Marine Corps Institute, and both moved to Washington after he became Commandant."

Leatherneck grew to a colorful 64-page monthly in 1926 with photos, jokes, cartoons, poetry and reports from the field. Its popularity continues to this day. In World War II, the magazine's notoriety elevated it to a monthly circulation of 300,000. The *Leatherneck* Association was incorporated in 1943 when it added



The current home of the MCA&F, Bartlett Hall, aboard MCB Quantico, Va., was named for former Executive Director BGen George Bartlett and dedicated on Nov. 10, 1986.

RON LUNN

the professionally enriching, red-covered “Guidebook for Marines” to its offerings.

During the Vietnam War, circulation was at 200,000 monthly. The *Leatherneck* staff, numbering more than 100 in Washington, received a Meritorious Unit Commendation for its service during the period. The *Leatherneck* Association moved its offices from Henderson Hall, Arlington, Va., to Quantico in 1975, but, with the loss of its Marine active-duty staff, more dramatic change was needed.

“General Wilson appointed me to study the possibility of merging both associations in 1975 when I was a young brigadier heading the Development Center at Quantico,” recalled retired Gen Paul X. Kelley, 28th Commandant. “It was like being in the middle of two armed camps.”

The Kelley committee discovered that both associations had their own book service, magazine, insurance plan and awards program. Although more people read *Leatherneck* and the “Guidebook for Marines,” and its insurance program was popular, the *Leatherneck* Association, by merging with the Marine Corps Association, could obviously support the Corps more effectively.

“We recommended the *Leatherneck* Association be merged into the MCA in 1976,” said Gen Kelley. “We did the right thing. I’m truly pleased with what our Association is doing today.”

When retired BGen George L. Bartlett took over in 1979, the MCA headquarters was located in what is now Butler Hall (Building 1019), not far from Quantico’s railroad station. But this headquarters couldn’t house all of the MCA’s activities.

“Our insurance people worked out of the [top floor of the] Quantico bank, and we had six to eight storage areas scattered

**With operations taking off,
it was time to consolidate
operations under one roof—
it was time to build
a permanent home.**

around,” recalled BGen Bartlett, still a go-getter at 89. “We had almost nothing in the bank, nothing in our checking account and we couldn’t afford to pay rent even if we had to.”

Operating from his hip pocket, he made things happen. He opened communications with the State Department, shipping Birthday Ball supplies to Marine embassy detachments around the world. The MCA stepped in to run the Marine Corps Marathon for eight years. Then a series of mail campaigns were launched to promote the MCA and its professional magazines to

active-duty and other Marine communities. The MCA’s printing press located in Quantico town seldom stopped rolling.

With operations taking off, it was time to consolidate operations under one roof—it was time to build a permanent home.

The Kelley committee recommended that the MCA headquarters be constructed at Quantico. BGen Bartlett handled the detailed negotiations and closely supervised the building project. The building, appropriately named Bartlett Hall, was dedicated in 1986 on the Corps’ 211th Birthday.

“I’m personally thrilled, but halls should be named after heroes,” BGen Bartlett said. “We signed a 25-year lease. It was a good deal for the Corps and the Association.”

The MCA staff, now able to easily conduct staff coordination, became an even more effective team. Initially, the merger was not popular with the *Leatherneck* staff. Things improved immediately when BGen Bartlett’s talented MCA deputy, retired Marine Col William V. H. White, became *Leatherneck*’s editor.

“I did more for the Marine Corps in that Association than I ever did as a general officer on active duty. I’m proud to be a part of it,” BGen Bartlett said.

LtGen Anthony “Tony” Lukeman took over in 1989. (His son, BGen James W. Lukeman, currently commands the Second Marine Division at Camp Lejeune.)



LtGen Lukeman computerized the MCA and kept the business side going, but he took pride in reading every word before both magazines were published.

“I was thrilled to be in the company of writers. There is nothing more important than informing Marines,” said the soft-spoken retired Marine.

When he departed in 1998, the *Gazette* staff presented LtGen Lukeman with a bronze plaque of his final *Gazette* editorial. “In appreciation for the 115 issues that you so diligently proofread. We thought it only appropriate to return the favor—we could find no errors in this editorial.”

“The two magazines were the most important part of my job,” LtGen Lukeman recalled. “You could be 22 or 90 years old, they bound the generations of Marines. That’s what makes us a special breed.”

Today, *Leatherneck* and the *Marine Corps Gazette* are still the most popular MCA member benefit. “Probably the majority of our members join to get the magazine[s],” said Esslinger, “but they join for other reasons as well.”

The *Marine Corps Gazette* has been the professional journal of Marines since 1916. Col Lejeune wrote the first article. Starting as a quarterly and becoming a permanent monthly in the mid-1940s, Marines have exchanged ideas in *Gazette* before every major Marine Corps advancement—amphibious operations,

Above: LtGen Richard P. Mills, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, is surrounded by ammo tech students during the MCA&F-sponsored 2012 Ammunition Technician of the Year awards dinner, May 23, 2012, at the Springfield Hilton, Springfield, Va. (Photo by Ron Lunn)

Below: The MCA director, LtGen Anthony Lukeman, USMC (Ret), center, congratulates Capt Frank McKenzie, left, on winning the annual MCA-sponsored MajGen Harold W. Chase Essay Contest award in 1989, and Capt Jon Hoffman on his second-place Chase award win that same year.



helicopters, maritime prepositioning, etc. “We have an ethos of innovation, and the Marine Corps actively seeks input from Marines,” said retired Marine Col John Keenan, the professional journal’s editor.

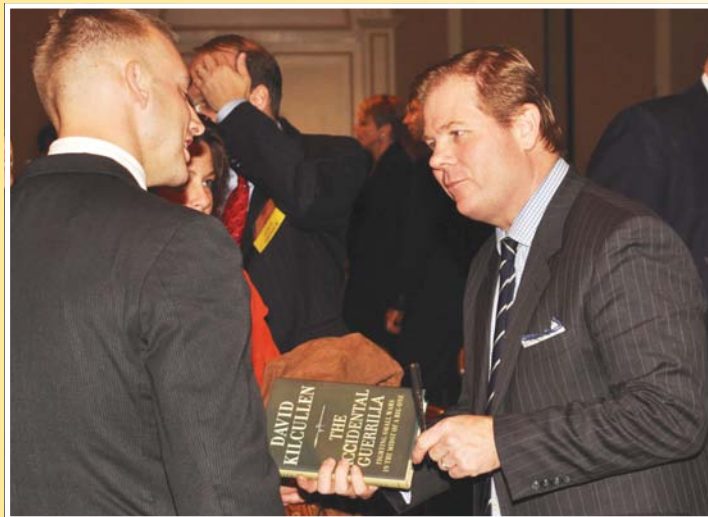
Shortly after Gen James T. Conway became the 34th Commandant, he visited Keenan’s office. After emphasizing

Gazette’s importance, Gen Conway left Keenan with this thought, “If I agree with one-half of the articles and disagree with the other half, you have it exactly right.”

Keenan reads all submissions and personally accepts or rejects most articles. When in doubt, he sends articles to the *Gazette* editorial board member with subject-matter expertise. The full 14-

Below left: BGen George Bartlett, executive director of the MCA, 1979-88, and Col William V. H. "Bill" White, assistant director of the MCA, 1976-85, and editor, *Leatherneck* magazine, 1985-99, helped move the MCA into a sound financial position after the merger of the MCA and the *Leatherneck* Association in 1976.

Below right: David Kilcullen, the former Chief Strategist in the Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Special Adviser for Counterinsurgency for Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, speaks with a Marine during an MCA&F-sponsored book-signing event in October 2010.



person board votes on sensitive items and all writing contest submissions.

“The Foundation is elevating our writing awards program to encourage Marines to write,” said MajGen Usher. “We’re dusting off some of the older awards and adding new ones. Winners will now receive cash and a special plaque. Some of those majors, captains and staff NCOs are on to something. We want to get some dialogue going and recognize their efforts.”

Keenan is trying to debunk the myth that *Gazette* is an officers’ magazine. The *Gazette*’s diverse active-duty audience begins at the lowest enlisted grade, grows at the NCO level and goes up to the Commandant. Enlisted Marines won several writing contests in recent years, and many had their articles published.

“We can do better this year! I challenge all Marines to ‘stretch their brains’ and submit professional articles for publication,” said Sergeant Major Micheal P. Barrett, 17th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and a *Gazette* subscriber for three decades. “The articles are relevant, current and enhance cognitive fitness. Marines need to exercise their brains constantly. The *Gazette* helps me stretch mine, and it’s part of my monthly PME.”

One new MCA&F award is the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Writing Award that honors the top *Gazette* article written by an enlisted Marine. SgtMaj Barrett said that with each promotion, Marines spend more time writing, and they must learn to write clearly and persuasively.

“Our Marines need to practice and develop writing skills through daily use. This award recognizes enlisted Marines for that commitment,” he said.

Only a few young Marines read printed newspapers, and most receive their news from smartphones or tablets. The MCA is preparing for this evolution in readership. Digital editions of both *Gazette* and *Leatherneck* are available monthly for online readers, and plans are underway

“The two magazines were the most important part of my job. You could be 22 or 90 years old, they bound the generations of Marines.”
— LtGen Anthony “Tony” Lukeman, USMC (Ret)

to make the digital content even more user-friendly for smartphone and tablet users. The focus will be on providing content attractive to members and other readers and in the format preferred.

“Our younger readers want to read online. Other readers prefer the current paper version, and some will do both. Our challenge is to accommodate everyone,” said Keenan.

Right now, about 14,000 members elected to forego the print editions, reading the digital editions online. The online-only readership will grow in the years ahead, and the magazines are making preparations to meet changing preferences.

“We’re committed to print these magazines monthly. Each will continue to have quality content and the feel of a first-class magazine,” said MajGen Usher. “At some

point, there probably will be a shift from predominantly paper to digital. It will be driven by what our readers want.”

The Marine Corps and its professional Association were joined at the hip for the past 100 years. Since the MCA went private, the two have marched side by side, each having the other’s back. That journey should never end. With a recent 17-year lease, the MCA headquarters will remain at Quantico at least through mid-2026. The MCA has the freedom to support Marines in many ways today, and its new Foundation gives it potential to do even more.

What a century! But, the best is yet to come.

“The MCA supports us in many ways each year, and I’m very grateful for everything they do to make our Corps a better warfighting organization,” said Gen Amos. “The staff at MCA should feel pretty good about themselves as they reflect on their 100th anniversary.”

*Editor’s note: Retired Marine LtCol Arthur P. Brill Jr. has written more than 70 feature articles about Marines for *Leatherneck* and defense publications. He commanded a rifle company in Vietnam and later was the Corps’ press spokesman. He also was the media spokesman in key positions for the Carter and Reagan administrations.*



Leatherneck—On the Web

See more photos of the Marine Corps Association and our centennial video at www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/MCAcentennial

More Than an Artifact

Corps' History Comes to Life Aboard MCRD San Diego

By Sgt Cristina N. Porras

Marines take pride in the legacy that has been built since the Corps' birth in 1775. When young men or women embark on the journey to become the few and proud, they become completely immersed in the Marine Corps culture and inherit the history and legends for which the organization is known and revered. Aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, that history is honored, preserved and brought to life at the Command Museum.

In 1987, the MCRD Command Museum officially opened its doors. The two-story building highlights the Corps from the 19th to 21st centuries as well as the Marines' presence in Southern California. It consists of several rooms, each with a focus on different periods of Marine Corps history. From World War I to the most recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, exhibits featuring unique artifacts from those periods tell the stories of Marines who were creating these chapters in the Corps' story.

The job of perpetuating Marine Corps history is no easy undertaking. It takes the dedication of men and women who understand that pride in history and tradition are an integral part of the Corps' culture. Since 1988, the MCRD Museum Historical Society (MHS) has helped keep the Command Museum alive with a dedicated staff of veterans and community volunteers. They understand the need to invest in promoting the Corps' legacy.

"The Marine Corps has always been recognized as a special organization. Every service pulls men and women from the same pot. But what sets us apart is once we transform them into Marines, they have our history instilled in them," said retired Colonel Lynn A. Stuart, MHS executive director. "If you see four servicemembers [from different branches] walking down the street, who's going to be able to tell you their history? It would be the Marine—he knows his history, he knows where his traditions originated, and he knows who his heroes are."

The MHS raises funds to supplement needs and projects that may be beyond the Command Museum's budgetary constraints and provides volunteers to assist museum staff with various tasks. Another vital service provided by the MHS is aimed at influencing more than 16,000



Recruits with Co M, 3d RTB, MCRD San Diego, tour the Command Museum, Jan. 2. History and tradition are just a few lessons recruits learn aboard the depot, and the MCRD Command Museum brings those lessons to life. Every recruit is given the opportunity to visit the museum prior to graduating and earning the title "Marine."

young men who annually undergo the 13-week transformation from civilian to Marine aboard MCRD San Diego.

While recruits daily recite and learn tidbits of Marine Corps history and receive periods of instruction on the history of the organization, those facts come to life when they visit the Command Museum on Training Day 56.

"If recruits learn their history here, they learn about Iwo Jima, who John Basilone is; that history becomes part of them," explained retired First Sergeant Barbara McCurtis, director of the MCRD Command Museum.

Not only do recruits have the opportunity to browse through the many vehicles, weapons, uniforms and other artifacts, but they are accompanied by docents provided by the MHS. The docents are Marine veterans who volunteer their time to lead the soon-to-be Marines through the museum while sharing unique perspectives and stories from their time in the Corps. Docents give recruits a brief overview of the contents of each room and answer any questions recruits may ask.

"When you have a docent telling you about each exhibit, it becomes more than just a piece of equipment, more than a display," said McCurtis. "When you hear them talk about how they used that equipment during their career, it's no longer

just an artifact; he brings it to life with his stories."

Docents are carefully selected, screened and trained for the position, according to Stuart. They must be veteran Marines or Navy personnel who served with Marine units. New volunteers are trained and mentored by seasoned docents until they are ready to lead a group on their own.

"Most of our docents are combat vets from different conflicts the Marine Corps [has] been involved in," said Stuart. "Since our docents are Marines, they can better understand and relate to the recruits."

For featured conflicts since World War II, docents who participated in campaigns during each war are available to share their experiences. One docent, retired 1stSgt Arthur G. "Artie" Barbosa, is featured in one of the displays and is highlighted for heroism displayed during the Korean War that earned him the Navy Cross, the Department of the Navy's second-highest award for valor. Barbosa weekly recalls his story and shares his many experiences in the Corps as new waves of recruits listen in awe.

"Hearing a story like [Barbosa's] personalizes the experience. Stories like his stay with you," said McCurtis. "He was right where the recruits will be soon. To hear from his mouth, as he vividly recalls the actions he took against the enemy,

Retired Marine 1stSgt Arthur G. "Artie" Barbosa, who earned the Navy Cross during the Korean War, volunteers his time as an MCRD San Diego Museum Historical Society docent helping instill the "Spirit of Semper Fidelis" in new MCRD San Diego recruits.



SGT CRISTINA N. PORRAS



LCPL CRYSTAL DRIBERY

Left: The MCRD San Diego Command Museum originally was certified by the Marine Corps in 1987, and BGen Daniel D. Yoo, Commanding General, MCRD San Diego, received the Marine Corps museum recertification in 2012 from Lin Ezell, Director, National Museum of the Marine Corps.

makes you realize he hasn't left it behind. It makes it real to the recruits; they, too, will make decisions like his one day."

For the veterans working with the MCRD Museum Historical Society, the task of perpetuating Marine Corps history and passing it on to the next generation of Marines is a source of pride.

"I look forward to coming here every week to share my pride for the Corps with these young men," said former Captain Alex Mitkevich, one of MHS' 21 active docents. "I think by listening to the docents, the recruits understand why we're so proud, and, hopefully, it helps them

further appreciate the Corps."

The visit to the museum is a critical part of the transformation from civilian to Marine, explained Sergeant Carlos Arguello, a drill instructor for Platoon 3270, Company M, 3d Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment.

"I think it makes things more realistic for the recruits to have people who were there, to share what they saw, their experiences in the Marine Corps and let them know how things have changed since then," said Arguello, a Stevens Point, Wis., native.

Not only is it important for recruits to absorb knowledge from the museum and

understand the heritage of the organization, but it is something from which all Marines can benefit. It's what sets the Corps apart from the other military branches and inspires Marines to achieve greatness as they continue to write new chapters in a 237-year-old book.

"Learning our history reminds us where we came from, why we do the things we do and helps us uphold our naval traditions," said Arguello. "Marines before us are the reason we do what we do, and this reminds us we have big shoes to fill."

Editor's note: To find out more about the MCRD Museum Historical Society and its mission, visit www.mcrdmuseumhistoricalsociety.org/.

Sgt Porras is a combat correspondent currently assigned to MCRD San Diego. She was previously stationed at U.S. Marine Forces Pacific, Camp Smith, Hawaii, and with an associate's degree in hand, she is pursuing her bachelor's in digital journalism through National University.





Marines under the command of Lt Steve Bockmiller practice gun drill using one of *Constellation's* replica 8-inch naval guns of the Civil War period.

USS *Constellation's* Marine Guard

Dedicated to Educating the Public on the Role Shipboard Marines Played During the Civil War

Story and photos by David H. Hugel

The Civil War was a time of growth and challenging assignments for the United States Marine Corps.

According to Dr. Allan R. Millett's comprehensive history of the United States Marine Corps, "Semper Fidelis: The History of the U.S. Marine Corps," the Corps grew from 63 officers and 1,340 enlisted Marines in 1855 to 78 officers and 3,177 enlisted men in 1865.

David Sullivan, in his four-volume work on Marines during the Civil War, notes that while one-third of those Marines were stationed at Marine Barracks at Navy yards in Boston; Brooklyn, N.Y.; Norfolk, Va.; Portsmouth, Va.; and Washington, D.C., two-thirds of them served on receiving ships and fleets scattered around the world, protecting America's interests.

One group of historical interpreters for a Civil War warship is dedicated to educating the public on the important, but little-known role that shipboard Marines played during the Civil War. Known as USS *Constellation's* Marine guard, these volunteers spend several weekends each summer, dressed in authentic reproductions of period uniforms, conducting demonstrations of the Marines' duties on that historic ship during the Civil War.

In describing the role of shipboard Marines during the Civil War in "Semper Fidelis," Dr. Millett writes: "The Marine Corps' position was that its purpose remained what it had always been: to furnish ships' guards for Navy vessels in order to enforce shipboard discipline, man guns, and join landing parties for very limited operations ashore. ... The shipboard Marines made their greatest con-

tribution as permanent crews on their vessels' great guns. Although Marines had manned portions of main batteries before the war, it became common practice during the Civil War for Navy captains, chronically short of sailors, to assign their ships' guards to one or two guns rather than have them muster on the quarterdeck as riflemen."

Today, USS *Constellation* is berthed permanently along Baltimore's revitalized waterfront, known as the Inner Harbor, in the midst of hotels, restaurants and popular tourist attractions. The sloop of war was built in 1854 at the Norfolk Navy Yard and commissioned the following year.

She soon entered service as part of the U.S. Navy's Mediterranean Squadron until 1859 when she became flagship for the Navy's African Squadron, where she played an active role in disrupting the

African slave trade. From 1859 to 1861, *Constellation* captured three slave ships, freeing several hundred Africans, before being reassigned to the Mediterranean, protecting Union merchant ships from Confederate commerce raiders.

Returning to the United States, *Constellation* pursued Rebel privateers and blockade runners, finishing the war as a receiving ship in Norfolk. Following the war, from 1871 until 1893, the ship served as a training ship for U.S. Naval Academy midshipmen. *Constellation* continued to provide valuable services for the Navy, including transporting relief supplies during the famine in Ireland and other missions, including serving briefly as a relief flagship for the Navy's Atlantic Fleet during World War II.

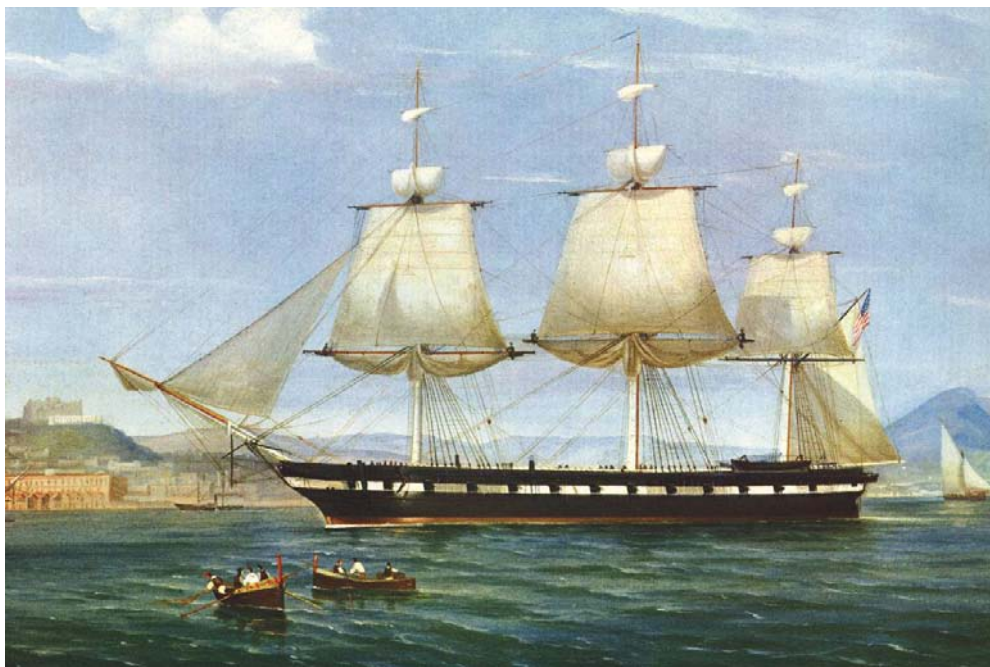
The ship was decommissioned in February 1955, nearly 100 years after the original commissioning. That same year, she was towed to Baltimore in a floating drydock for restoration by a private foundation. At the time, she was believed to be the original frigate USS *Constellation* and was restored to that ship's appearance.

Constellation became a popular tourist attraction and has remained so, but over time she deteriorated to a dangerous condition and was condemned as unsafe in 1996. As her fate was debated and funds were raised for her restoration, it was discovered that the ship was not the original *Constellation*, but a Civil War-era sloop of war. Based on that new information, the decision was made to restore the ship to her Civil War design and appearance. The restored ship returned to Baltimore's Inner Harbor in July 1999 and was opened again to visitors.

According to Larry Bopp, one of the *Constellation* Ship's Company founders who has served as its president since 1987, the group was established in 1981 to interpret the history of USS *Constellation*, which at that time everyone believed was the frigate dating back to the 1799-1800 period. Accordingly, Ship's Company sailors wore the uniforms and portrayed the drills and practices of that era. After the restoration that determined the ship's true lineage, the Ship's Company adopted uniforms and revised practices to reflect those of the sailors during the Civil War era. The Ship's Company likewise revised its mission: "to preserve and interpret the history and traditions of the U.S. Navy for the education of the public."

When Steve Bockmiller learned of *Constellation's* restoration and Larry Bopp's efforts to retool the Ship's Company to represent the Civil War period, he jumped at the opportunity to coordinate *Constellation's* Marine Corps activities in conjunction with the Ship's Company. Bock-

In this painting by Tomaso de Simone, USS *Constellation* rests in the harbor at Naples, Italy, in 1862. (Courtesy of Historic Ships in Baltimore)



miller was motivated by several objectives in founding the Marine Guard in 1997, but chief among them was "creating a culture of authenticity and excellence that would reflect honorably on the organization they would represent [the United States Marine Corps] and offering a program that was more educational than traditional re-enactment field units."

Meeting those objectives was not an easy task, according to Bockmiller. "Before we ever spent a dime on a single uniform, we took the time to research the

culture of the Marine of the Civil War period, including tracking down and studying the few original uniforms and authenticated artifacts that remain, the USMC Uniform Regulations of the period and detailed study of photographs of Marines of the period looking for details, nuances and differences from photo to photo. This included not only the standard-duty uniform, but also such things as the full-dress uniform, fatigue uniform and campaign gear."

All members of the Marine Guard are responsible for purchasing their uniforms, which must be custom made and are available only from a small group of skilled craftspeople. Because each uniform must be tailored individually, it takes about three months to have one made. They are more expensive than modern military uniforms, costing about \$900 for an enlisted undress uniform plus an additional \$400 for a used musket. Purchasing the frock coat, shoulder scales with fringe, shako hat and neck stock needed for a dress uniform adds another \$1,000 to the price tag.

Bockmiller developed a comprehensive manual for the *Constellation* Marine Guard, setting uniform standards and covering subjects about which they need to be knowledgeable in order to serve. The topics range from conduct, tradition and attitude to military discipline and courtesy. As with the uniforms, the manual is based on exhaustive research of historic documents and photographs of Marines who served during the Civil War. In his introduction to the manual, first published in 2000 and periodically updated, Bock-



USS *Constellation's* Marine Guard, led by Sgt Frank Hall, rush to the ship's bow with fixed bayonets in a demonstration of a drill to repel boarders, one of the important wartime duties of Marines.

USS *Constellation* is berthed at a Harbor Place pier in Baltimore's popular Inner Harbor.



Miller sets forth the expectations of those wishing to join the unit.

“Participation in the *Constellation* Marine Guard requires the following attributes:

- An attitude of enthusiasm
- A desire to be part of a uniform organization
- A dedication to authenticity over expediency
- A respect for the traditions and professionalism of the U.S.M.C.”

The training may not be as rigorous as what modern Marine recruits face in boot camp, but those applying to join *Constellation's* Marine Guard must meet high qualification standards. Upon acceptance, they receive instructions and practice the use of their Civil War-era muskets, including the manual of arms of that period, the appropriate use of bayonets and repelling hostile boarders. The ship's Marines also are trained to man, load and simulate firing the ship's 16 8-inch naval guns alongside their sailor counterparts.

Members of the Marine Guard come from a variety of backgrounds; some have prior military service while others do not. It is not unusual for many to drive more than an hour to attend musters and events.



Orderly Sgt Tom Williams, background, right, a retired gunnery sergeant and former drill instructor, demonstrates how to effectively use the bayonet to members of the *Constellation's* Marine Guard: Privates Tom Frezza, foreground, and Todd Johnson.

Because they lead busy lives (one of the volunteer Marines is a commercial airline pilot), not all of them can make every muster; accordingly, they are trained to fill in for each other. In addition to paying for their uniforms and required accessories, Marine Guards are responsible for their travel and other expenses.

No matter what position they hold as a member of the Marine Guard, they all share a love for what they do and the desire to do the best job possible to convey what life was like for shipboard Marines during the Civil War period.

Bockmiller, who had served as both administrative leader as well as the lieutenant in charge of the Marine Guard since the group's inception, relinquished administrative leadership of the unit to Bob Werner in January 2012. It was a smooth transition, as Werner, who had served as a member of the unit since 2009, assumed administrative responsibilities along with corporal stripes, the rank he now portrays at *Constellation* events. Bockmiller, while turning over administrative responsibilities to Werner, continues to serve as the Marine Guard's lieutenant.

A typical day for the Marine Guard begins with a morning muster on the stern area of the spar deck where Bopp, the ship's executive officer (XO), gives sailors and Marines an update on the world's military situation for a date during the Civil War period when *Constellation* would have been sailing in the Mediterranean Sea. The ship's XO and Marine lieutenant follow with a briefing on administrative matters and reviewing the day's schedule of events.

Following the muster, Marine guards are posted at the ship's bell and other strategic locations on board the ship, while the remaining Marines practice the manual of arms with their muskets, perform bayonet and gun drills and ready themselves for public demonstrations, to be held later in the day for visitors to the ship.

The Marine Guard has a busy schedule of events on board *Constellation* every year, holding demonstrations for the public the last Saturday of each month from April through October. Many members of *Constellation's* Marine Guard also participate in living history interpretive events of another organization: the United States Marine Corps Historical Company. Among other interpretive presentations, the USMC Historical Company stages significant events in which Marines served during the Civil War.

In recent years these have included the 2011 re-enactment of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run, an annual re-enactment of John Brown's 1859 capture at Harpers Ferry, Va. (now West Vir-



Above: USS *Constellation's* Marine Guard present arms as the national colors are raised by Ship's Company sailors. From the left: Sgt Frank Hall, Cpl (no stripes) Hank Happy, Pvt Thomas Barth, Pvt Robert Werner, Pvt Roy Nanovic and Music Joseph Kropfelder.

Right: Lt Steve Bockmiller, founder and commanding officer of the Marine Guard, addresses troops during a morning muster following announcements by LCDR Larry Bopp, left, *Constellation's* executive officer.

ginia), and other historic commemorations held in conjunction with the National Park Service.

"Historical interpreters are focused on their mission of providing interesting, entertaining and educational programs to inspire their audiences," said Werner, regarding the importance of *Constellation's* Marine Guard public programs.

"We can provide a very brief lesson in history and perhaps a better understanding of those who have gone before us, but it is more important for us to establish the relevance of those past events to American history. We can't teach our audiences the entire history of the United States Marine Corps in a single brief encounter, but we can inspire them, provoke them to want to learn more."

Author's note: Additional information on USS Constellation and her Marine Guard can be found at www.historicships.org, or by calling (410) 539-1797.

Editor's note: More information on the



United States Marine Corps Historical Company and its mission may be found at www.usmhc.org and in the November 2009 Leatherneck article, "The United States Marine Corps Historical Company: Celebrating the Corps."

David Hugel has been a longtime contributor to Leatherneck magazine. He enlisted in the Marine Corps following graduation from high school in 1960 and later served with the 1st MAF where he covered early Marine Corps operations in Vietnam while stationed in Da Nang as part of Shuffy.



If you have not seen an MCRD San Diego recruit graduation parade, do it! Your chest will swell with pride in America's Marines, and you will be totally surprised and wowed by the energy and creativity of Marine Band San Diego.



COURTESY OF MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO

Marine Band San Diego— Thrilling Thousands Across the Southwest

By Roxanne Baker

Lance Corporal Cristian Ortiz steps in time to the rat-a-tat-tat of percussion as she marches onto the parade deck armed with her trombone. Dozens of fresh-faced recruits line the parade deck as their families and friends eagerly watch from bleachers. Ortiz knows she must give her all because it's a day those recruits will never forget.

"I remember when I was in boot camp, and I would hear the band, and I would get so excited," Ortiz said. "Graduation is a celebration of all the hard work you've put in to become a Marine. When I'm out there, I want to do my best because it's a special day for these new Marines."

Ortiz is a member of Marine Band San Diego, a 50-person band that plays at each graduation and respective morning colors at Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) San Diego. The band plays the traditional

music of "Anchors Aweigh" and "The Marines' Hymn" during each ceremony. It's a time to welcome new brothers and sisters into the Corps with the fanfare of the sharpest musicians around, Ortiz said.

Not only does Marine Band San Diego have a disciplined demeanor during marches, but this unique band also knows how to jam. During each graduation, the members play at ease for the Dixieland-tune "That's a Plenty."

Enlisted conductor Gunnery Sergeant Gary Robison said it's a fun song that the audience enjoys and is a tribute to American heritage music.

"Jazz is solely an American style of music, and we pay tribute to that art form," Robison

said. "It's important to do the Dixieland selection because it's not expected and lightens up the audience. It shows we're not just Marines, but also human beings, and we can have fun."



USMC

GySgt
Gary Robison

The band has had a presence in San Diego since 1915 when it was the 4th Regiment Band. In 1921, the band currently stationed at the depot was formed. In 1948, MCRD San Diego officially was recognized as a base, and the band was given the title Marine Corps Recruit Depot Band. The band's title, however, was updated to Marine Band San Diego in recent years to resonate better with the greater Western region.

The band has seven different ensembles: concert band, marching band, brass quintet, woodwind quintet, jazz combo, contemporary music ensemble and party band.

Percussionist Staff Sergeant Jarrid Riggs said the band's history and mission are important to communicate.

"The band is an absolute important piece to the traditions of the Marine Corps," Riggs said. "These are the same ceremonies from hundreds of years ago, and it's a good reminder to instill in the new Marines and the civilians that tradition of military service is one of those focuses."



COURTESY OF MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO

The primary mission of Marine Band San Diego is to support the Recruit Training Regiment and other depot organizations. Additionally, the band performs a wide variety of music at military ceremonies and civilian events throughout San Diego County and the southwestern United States.



COURTESY OF MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO



COURTESY OF MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO

All Marine band members complete basic training, just like any other Marine. Men and women of Marine Band San Diego are trained Marine riflemen who serve as perimeter security guards and in machine-gun platoons in times of war or national emergency.

Marine Band San Diego also plays an essential role in recruiting the next generation of Marines. It is the premier band for the entire recruiting region west of the Mississippi River. Small ensembles of five to 10 musicians spend at least one week each month traveling the western United States to perform at high-school and college events. The ensembles can play a variety of music, including ceremonial, band, jazz and rock 'n' roll.

"It's important to push the Marine Corps image out there," Robison said. "It's a strong impact because most [Marine] bases are on the coast, and there are a lot of parts in the United States with no Marines. It's what they see on TV, and typically we're the only contact with Marines they have."

Robison commented that civilians sometimes see Marines as "robots," so the musicians make every effort during their recruiting tours to connect to individuals. They talk to educators and students throughout the performance about the history behind the music and to answer any questions the audience may have.

"We're more human than we look," Robison said.

The tours also are an important method to recruit musicians into the Marine Corps.

Many youngsters don't realize there is a wide range of occupations in the military, Robison said.

Individuals must audition to be a part of the band program. If accepted, they sign a contract specifically for the music program. They enlist and must successfully complete boot camp like all other Marines. After recruit graduation, they attend six months of training at the Armed Forces School of Music in Norfolk, Va., and are then assigned to their duty station. Every band has its own concert band, marching band, jazz band and jazz combo.

"What's not to love?" said Ortiz, who enlisted in 2011 and joined Marine Band San Diego in December 2012. "You have so many opportunities to play with really talented musicians. You see different people, and you learn from them, and you get motivated by their passion."

The Marine Corps is unique, SSgt Riggs said, because musicians stay in their specific field in the other branches, but Marine musicians deploy and complete regular training.

It was that aspect that attracted Riggs to choose the Marine Corps. He said he has a great respect for the other branches after attending the same music school, but the Marines held fast to their foundational

traits of pride and traditional Corps values.

"The Marines always looked the best and sounded the best and were the most disciplined," Riggs said. "Everything the Marine Corps exemplifies bleeds right into what we do as musicians. No matter what the job, a Marine is going to stand out."

Those Marines stand out at civilian events as well. Marine Band San Diego plays at a host of celebrations in the Southern California region to be the face of the Corps in the community. The band plays at the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, various professional sporting events such as San Diego Chargers and Padres home games, TV appearances such as the Veterans Day episode of "The Price Is Right," the Northern California Scottish Highland Games and annual summer and winter concerts. The band commits to more than 500 performances each year.

The schedule sometimes can be rigorous, Riggs said, but it's another opportunity to represent the Marine Corps.

"Everything we do as a Marine band has an impact on those who see us and hear us," the staff sergeant said. "To see the inspiration we're giving to the audience is something I wouldn't trade."

Editor's note: Roxanne Baker is the writer and media coordinator for MCA&F. A Marine wife, she is an experienced multimedia journalist with hundreds of published works.



Leatherneck—On the Web

See more photos and a video of Marine Band San Diego at www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/sandiegoband

In the Highest Tradition

Edited by R. R. Keene and Tina Pearce

ANGLICO Marine Earns Silver Star After Taking Charge Under Fire



The Silver Star was presented to Sergeant Miguelange G. Madrigal of 3d Air/Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, Force Headquarters Group, Marine Forces Reserve during a ceremony at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Jan. 31.

Lieutenant General Steven A. Hummer, the commander of MARFORRES and Marine Forces North, presented the medal. “We have some tremendous men and women in the Marine Corps, and this is just another demonstration of what I call our next great generation. To have these kinds of young Americans and young Marines doing what they do, it’s just an honor to serve with them day after day.”

As a radio chief for Supporting Arms Liaison Team G, 1st ANGLICO, Madrigal’s team and other Marine teams on patrol were attacked by insurgents Feb. 15, 2008. After fighting back the enemy attack that wounded a nearby Marine, Madrigal dashed onto the battlefield to snatch the downed man who had been shot in the thigh. Without regard for safety, Madrigal dragged his fellow leatherneck to a covered area and applied a tourniquet.

“The biggest thing that was going through my head was not to let this guy down, and to get him taken care of and patched up,” said Madrigal.

Sgt Madrigal then called in three successive close air support missions by a section of AH-1 Cobra helicopters.

Madrigal discovered that some of the insurgents still remained after he called in a casualty evacuation, then realized that the incoming medevac helicopter was being fired upon. Madrigal got on the radio and guided the aircraft away from the hot zone.

“He took charge—that leadership that we espouse in our [noncommissioned officers], and it’s a tremendous tribute to him and to the Marine Corps,” LtGen Hummer said. “We train our Marines incredibly well and to be a part of an elite unit. ANGLICO works in small teams, and everybody is highly trained. So when he found himself in a jam, he applied his



CPL MARCIN PLATEK

LtGen Steven A. Hummer, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve and Marine Forces North, presents the Silver Star to Sgt Miguelange G. Madrigal at MCRD San Diego on Jan. 31 for heroism while serving as a radio operator in Supporting Arms Liaison Team G, 1st ANGLICO in Afghanistan.

training ... and took charge.”

Madrigal credits his quick actions to Marine Corps training. During preparation for deployment, an emphasis is put on small teams and cross-training.

“It’s very humbling, and it almost seems undeserving as everybody else’s actions on the team would have been the same as mine,” said Madrigal, who now is a student and a civilian maintenance and safety coordinator.

Cpl Marcin Platek
PAO, MARFORRES

He Led 100 Combat Patrols; Two Earned Him the Bronze Star



Staff Sergeant Christopher Shranko, drill instructor, Company L, 3d Recruit Training Battalion, was awarded the Bronze Star with combat “V,” Nov. 29, 2012, at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

Shranko was cited for action while deployed to Afghanistan from April to October 2011. He deployed as the platoon sergeant for 1st Plt, Co A, 1st Bn, Fifth Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 8, Second Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward).

“The deployment was devastating. We lost a lot of guys,” said SSgt Shranko. “The enemy would catch on to our tactics and use them against us. We had to constantly adapt to the flexible environment.”

Shranko led his Marines and partnered Afghan forces on more than 100 combat patrols facing much adversity throughout the deployment. Two separate events, however, stand out.

On June 2, 2011, an enemy fire team engaged Shranko’s overwatch element with sustained bursts of small-arms fire. Without hesitation, he positioned himself in the open, exposed to heavy fire, to positively identify enemy positions and direct his Marines’ fire. He established fire superiority and coordinated reinforcements as well as surveillance assets that defeated the attack and forced the remaining insurgents to break contact.

Ten days later, while on a dismounted patrol, his lead sweeper struck an improvised explosive device. Shranko, less than 10 meters from the detonation, was blown off his feet and knocked momentarily unconscious.

Still suffering the effects of his injuries, he rushed to the blast site where he applied



LCP, BRIDGET M. KEANE

Above left: SSgt Christopher Shranko, drill instructor, Co L, 3d RTB, shakes hands with Col Michael Lee, the commanding officer of Recruit Training Regiment, during Shranko's award ceremony aboard MCRD San Diego, Nov. 29, 2012. Shranko was awarded a Bronze Star with combat "V" for his actions while deployed to Afghanistan in 2011.



CPL TIMOTHY CHILDERS

Above right: LtCol John Wiener, Commanding Officer, Combat Logistics Battalion 15, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, pins the Bronze Star with combat "V" on 1stSgt Bradley G. Simmons, Sergeant Major, CLB-15, 15th MEU, during an award ceremony aboard USS *Rushmore*, Jan. 25.

tourniquets to casualties' severed limbs and coordinated an air evacuation.

"I definitely feel honored to be getting this award," said Shranko. "Every Marine that I was out there with deserves one. I was just put in a position to do something that rated the award, but I have no doubt in my mind that they would've done the same."

Cpl Liz Gleason
PAO, MCRD San Diego

First Sergeant Busts Enemy Ambush, Receives Bronze Star



First Sergeant Bradley G. Simmons took his place in front of his Marines on the flight deck of the amphibious ship USS *Rushmore* (LSD-47), Jan. 25, and was awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V" for combat action in Sangin District, Afghanistan.

During the period cited in the award, Simmons was first sergeant of Company

B, 1st Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 8, Second Marine Division (Forward), II Marine Expeditionary Force.

On Aug. 7, 2011, 1stSgt Simmons led a quick reaction force to relieve a squad of Marines pinned down. Two Marines were killed during an ambush. The enemy delivered effective fire from multiple positions, and Simmons directed the vehicles under his command to flank the enemy.

Identifying the enemy's position, he dismounted his vehicle and, under fire, crossed an open road to direct the vehicle's fire upon the enemy.

He quickly organized and led a fire team to a nearby hill to cut off the insurgent retreat and allow close air support to destroy the enemy ambush.

"I must say that my personal contributions were just a whisper in the hell storm of fighting two summers past in Sangin," said Simmons. "Our successes should be attributed to the NCOs [non-commissioned officers] and Marines who put their lives in danger every day. I do not deserve any special recognition but will forever be privileged to have been a witness to such heroism. This ceremony is not for me, but for the award, the Bronze Star, and what it represents, and a tribute to those legions of warriors who have fought with valor."

During the deployment, Co B lost eight Marines and suffered 52 wounded. The unit was involved in 76 direct-fire engagements.

Simmons added: "It was an honor to serve these men and an honor to walk the ground with them. This award is a testament to them."

Cpl Timothy Childers
Combat Correspondent, 15th MEU

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Personal Combat Awards

The awards records in the Marine Corps' Award Processing System (APS) and Improved Awards Processing System were used to populate this list, which reflects personal combat awards from the start of the global war on terrorism presented to Marines and sailors serving with U.S. Marine Corps forces only. This list may not reflect certain personal combat awards processed outside of either system and/or approved by another branch of service. Any questions on the content should be submitted in writing to the Personal Awards Section at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Manpower Management Division, MMMA-2, 2008 Elliott Rd., Quantico, VA 22134.

The following awards were announced in January:



Bronze Star With Combat "V"

SSgt Christopher R. Lynch, 2d Marine Special Operations Battalion (MSOB), U.S. Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command (MARSOC)
GySgt Michael A. Musick Jr., 1st MSOB, MARSOC
MSgt Joshua A. Nelums, 1st MSOB, MARSOC
GySgt Scott W. Raun, 2d MSOB, MARSOC



Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal With Combat "V"

Sgt Jared L. Birmingham, 1st MSOB, MARSOC
SSgt Christopher W. Buckminster, MARSOC
GySgt Sean C. Castle, 2d MSOB, MARSOC
SSgt Clayton S. Dykes, 1st MSOB, MARSOC
SSgt James M. Foley Jr., 3d Bn, Fifth

Marine Regiment, First Marine Division
Sgt Brent M. Grover, 2d Reconnaissance Bn, 2dMarDiv
HM3 Joshua A. Hunter, 1/6, 2dMarDiv
SSgt Joseph F. Kolaszewski, 2d Recon Bn, 2dMarDiv
MSgt Vincent A. Marzi, 1st Recon Bn, 1stMarDiv
SSgt Bobby A. Moralez, 1st MSOB, MARSOC
1stLt Robert J. Paradis, 7th Marines, 1stMarDiv



Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal With Combat "V"

LCpl Mahmoud Ali, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16 (Forward), Marine Aircraft Group 16, Third Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward)
Sgt Fernando J. Camacho, Marine Wing Support Squadron 273, Marine Wing Support Group 27, 2d MAW
Sgt Albert Chapa Jr., 2d Air/Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, II Marine

Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group

Cpl Jared K. Charpentier, 3/7, 1stMarDiv
SSgt Timothy J. Cloutre, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469, MAG-39, 3d MAW
Sgt James L. Davis Jr., 1/6, 2dMarDiv
SSgt Gustavo Delgado, MALS-16 (Fwd), MAG-16, 3d MAW (Fwd)
LCpl Dylan J. Hickam, 1/6, 2dMarDiv
Cpl Michael A. Klapperich, MWSS-373, MWSSG-37, 3d MAW
Sgt Orlando D. Padron, 1st MSOB, MARSOC
Sgt Matthew T. Powell, 2d Recon Bn, 2dMarDiv
SSgt Eric J. Reis, 2d MSOB, MARSOC
Cpl William A. Seniw II, 7th Marines, 1stMarDiv
Sgt Justin W. Starleigh, MWSS-273, MWSSG-27, 2d MAW
LCpl Cody R. Wallace, MWSS-373, MWSSG-37, 3d MAW



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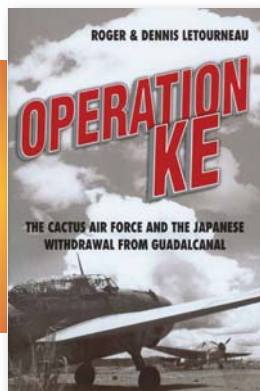
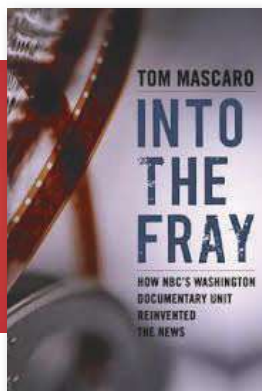
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Books Reviewed

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INTO THE FRAY: How NBC's Washington Documentary Unit Reinvented the News. By Tom Mascaro. Published by Potomac Books Inc. 432 pages. Stock #1597975575. \$26.96 MCA Members. \$29.95 Regular Price.

“‘Into the Fray’ vividly recounts the characters and experiences that helped create a unique, colorful documentary film crew based at the Washington bureau of NBC News. From the Kennedy era through the Reagan years, the journalists covered wars, rebellions, the Central Intelligence Agency, covert actions, the Pentagon, military preparedness, and world and American cultures.”

While the above excerpt from the book's foreword by Drew Pearson might not give goose bumps, don't be fooled. This is a darn good read!

For we Marines who grew up during this period and served in virtually every “clime and place” mentioned, the book explains many of the reasons why we were there risking life and limb. You will meet World War II Marine combat correspondent Stuart Schulberg, son of Los Angeles movie royalty, and Ted Yates, who cut his journalistic teeth at the *Camp Lejeune Globe* in the early 1950s.

Others will help establish the Washington unit as the pre-eminent producer of documentary news of the day. You'll meet Mike Wallace, who became a great friend of Yates and who would get his start in television. Chet Huntley and David Brinkley are shown in their early years.

Yates, however, becomes our star player.

He cut his journalism teeth as a teenager in Florida and then caught on in New York with the old Tex McQuery and Jinx Falkenberg radio show. With Korea looming, Yates fulfilled his two-year military obligation as a combat correspondent on the *Camp Lejeune Globe* newspaper staff. “Into the Fray” also dutifully informs readers how and why the Marine Corps combat correspondents program came into being in 1942 when the Corps first reached into the civilian newsrooms to obtain qualified reporter/correspondents to cover the Pacific war.

At the end of his hitch, Yates heads back to New York where his previous radio show beginnings pay off. Along the way he meets and becomes great friends with Wallace. Keep in mind, this is the early-to-mid-1950s and television is still that little one-eyed box in the corner of the living room. There are only 450 television stations, and only 64 percent of Americans own a television set.

Wallace is hired by the Dumont Television network to anchor the 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. news on Channel 5 in New York. The station hires Yates to be the news director and, after initial successes, Yates suggests to Wallace that instead of repeating the news on 11 p.m. cast, why not do an interview-type program? Thus, “Night Beat” is born, rocketing Wallace into interview fame and winning an Emmy for Yates who then moves over to NBC.

Many successes follow, establishing Yates as a serious student of documentary

television. Yet he still hungers for adventure and wonders if he could face the dangers of a combat correspondent. He would soon find out.

During the Santo Domingo crisis in April 1965, Yates and his NBC crew were soon in the midst of things. This would become a defining moment for Yates as a “combat correspondent.” He finally was able to employ his Marine training under fire.

The Belgian Congo would follow, and Yates and his writer-partner Bob Rogers would meet with legendary mercenary Major “Mad Mike” Hoare, skipper of the famed 5 Commando. What followed would result in Yates and his crew being in the wrong place at the wrong time and an erroneous report that he was being held for ransom.

Prior to and during Vietnam, Yates would be hailed as the ace of network documentary news. His team would produce “Vietnam: It's a Mad, Mad War.” Other great documentaries would involve Laos and Cambodia.

Yates again faced fire doing a “standup” broadcast in Jerusalem on June 5, 1967, the first day of the Six-Day War. This time his luck ran out. He was hit in the head and died following surgery the following day.

Tom Mascaro's style makes fact read like fiction. It's a book you will not want to put down.

Capt Jack Paxton, USMC (Ret)

Editor's note: Jack Paxton is a retired Mustang captain and executive director of the United States Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association.

OPERATION KE: The Cactus Air Force and the Japanese Withdrawal From Guadalcanal. By Roger and Dennis Letourneau. Published by Naval Institute Press. 416 pages. Stock #1591144469. \$38.66 MCA Members. \$42.95 Regular Price.

Marines, no matter what age or occupational specialty, are well-versed in the history of the colossal battle for the tiny Pacific island known in military history

as Guadalcanal. The six-month struggle for possession of the island was a close-run thing. For months the First Marine Division, supported by the “Cactus Air Force,” doggedly held the perimeter surrounding Henderson Field before the Americans turned to the offense. By the end of 1942, the Japanese had decided to withdraw the remnants of the once proud 17th Imperial Army.

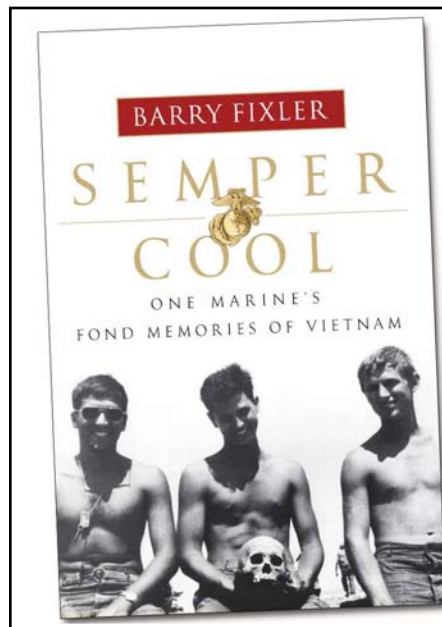
Roger and Dennis Letourneau’s book, “Operation KE,” focuses on this tense period, and the generally successful Japanese naval withdrawal of more than 10,000 starving and exhausted army troops. In a remarkable show of interest in the war, and concern for his troops, Emperor Hirohito recommended (read: ordered) the extraction of his remaining 17th Army soldiers from the island. So ordered, the Japanese high command leaped into action.

Throughout Operation KE, the American intelligence masterminds misread and misunderstood Japanese intentions. They assumed that these massive ship movements were intended to reinforce, not evacuate, the Japanese troops on the island.

In the opening days of Op KE, the Cactus Air Force was still flying the pre-war version of many airplanes. Marine fliers were in the process of mastering the few advantages their F4F Wildcats, SBD Dauntless dive bombers and TBF Avenger torpedo planes possessed to best the fast and nimble A6M2 Zeros. The Army Air Force pilots flew the earlier versions of the P-40 Warhawks, P-38 Lightnings and the vastly inferior P-39 Airacobras. The American bomber pilots flew the sturdy B-17s, B-26s and B-25 bombers. The stage was set for a classic duel for air supremacy high above the evacuation armada plying the azure-blue waters around the Solomon Islands chain.

Starting on Feb. 1, 1943, the Japanese evacuations began. The Tokyo Express, shipping out from their Rabaul base, sent destroyers and other support ships down “The Slot” to rescue Japanese army troops located on the northwest corner of the ‘Canal. Coastwatchers, along with reconnaissance aircraft, located and reported the ship movements as they arrived and departed. The fliers of the Cactus Air Force were dispatched to interdict, and destroy, the Japanese naval force. By Feb. 8, 1943, the third and last naval evacuation force transported most of the remaining Japanese soldiers from the “Island of Death.”

The authors have presented us with a uniquely balanced look into the strategies and tactics displayed by the Americans and the Japanese. The naval and air aspects of the battle are well-covered, and the authors’ research is exceptional. The air



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—Marc Leepson, *The VVA Veteran*

strikes, fighter sweeps and the associated base-suppression missions also are covered. With careful attention to the after-action reports of both the U.S. and Japanese aviators, the authors fill the pages with robust descriptions of many dogfights and critical naval service actions.

The book carefully analyzes pilots’ reported kills against actual losses. Accounts by Marine aviators, such as Medal of Honor winner Jefferson J. “Jeff” DeBlanc, are incorporated, and these are counterbalanced by the gripping accounts of many surviving Japanese airmen. The fight for the sky above the convoys and the immense difficulties of bombing and torpedoing the fast-moving Japanese naval targets are fully examined.

The included maps are adequate; however, the book would have been improved by the inclusion of a map of the larger operation noting the locations and proximities of the Japanese supporting secondary airfields, i.e., at Vila-Stanmore and Munda.

Overall, the book sharply focuses our attention on this little-known evacuation of Japanese troops in the closing days of the Guadalcanal campaign. In general, military evacuations are complex and difficult to execute. The Japanese naval forces managed to pull off a cunningly successful operation right under the watchful eyes and heroic efforts of our hard-pressed Army and Marine airmen and our naval forces. Many of the rescued soldiers lived to fight another day.

I recommend this much-needed addendum for your World War II Pacific library. In the last chapter, the Letourneaus report: “Operation KE was a watershed moment of the Pacific War; the end of the beginning and the beginning of the end.” For the sol-

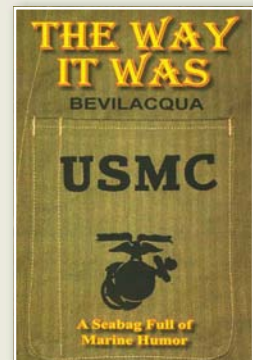
diers and sailors of the Emperor, it marked the start of the eclipse of their newly gained empire; additionally, Op KE marked the beginning of their bloody road toward total defeat.

Robert B. Loring

Editor’s note: “Red Bob” Loring, a Marine veteran and frequent Leatherneck reviewer, is a prolific reader of Marine-related books of every era. He is a deeply committed volunteer in East Pasco County, Fla., particularly in the Toys for Tots program.



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COURTESY OF MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC

The III MEF Band was selected as the Marine Corps 2012 Field Band of the Year and presented the award Jan 30.

III MEF Band Named 2012 Field Band of the Year

The III Marine Expeditionary Force Band at Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan, was selected as the Marine Corps 2012 Field Band of the Year by a panel of Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps judges, Dec. 18, 2012. Bands from all over the Marine Corps compete for the prestigious annual award.

“We have recognized what a great capability and talent we have with the III MEF Band for so long,” said Lieutenant General Kenneth J. Glueck Jr., Commanding General, III MEF, who presented the award to the band Jan. 30.

“What is most exciting about this award is that the rest of the Marine Corps has finally recognized exactly how good the band really is,” he added.

“We’re all very proud of what we ac-

complished,” said Lance Corporal David V. Kelley, a bandsman with the III MEF Band. “We’re very happy with the work we put in and the results that have come from it. It is an honor to receive this award.”

The recognition the band received can be tied to its work ethic and pride in what it does.

“We train hard, practice hard, and do the best we can,” said Staff Sergeant Austin R. Moore, training staff noncommissioned officer in charge and saxophone section leader. “If you always do your best, everything else will fall into place.”

Earning an award as competitive as Field Band of the Year takes more than talent; it takes well-rounded Marines.

Judges consider the band’s training records, fitness scores, martial-arts training as well as recorded and live performances, according to Chief Warrant Officer 2

Stephen B. Giove, the band officer in charge.

The band also has been heavily involved in the local and regional community. It has performed in several countries in the region, including the Republic of Korea, the Kingdom of Thailand and Guam.

“The band’s motto is ‘friendship through music,’” said Giove. “That is what we do.”

After taking a brief period of rest during holiday leave, the band returned to work in preparation for another season packed with performances.

“The challenge is to be as good or better than the [Field] Band of the Year,” said Giove. “There is no finish line.”

LCpl Pete Sanders

PAO, Marine Corps Installations Pacific

Editor’s note: LCpl Brianna Turner also contributed to this article.

New Female Cover on the Horizon

Years after General James T. Conway, 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, began an initiative to make changes to the female dress cover, that initiative may soon become a reality.

During the past few months, female Marines in recruiting units and field bands tested the proposed new female cover. Now that the testing phase has concluded, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen James F. Amos, will begin reviewing the data collected during the process.

So far, Marines have responded positively to the proposed cover.

"I like the new cover," said Staff Sergeant Terri L. Kopetzki, a clarinet instrumentalist with the Second Marine Aircraft Wing Band. "They [the covers] fit us, and they look better on us."

Kopetzki wears her dress cover frequently for performances and other engagements. Because she spends so much time wearing her cover, she notices subtle differences that might not be as noticeable to other Marines.

"The new cover is comfortable," said Kopetzki. She said it is easier to style her hair and place it where she likes it, versus wearing a low bun to accommodate the "V" shape at the bottom of the current "bucket" covers.

After testing the new cover, Kopetzki said it was a good idea to see what it was like wearing each of them.

"It allows us to see what they both look like on us and what reactions other Marines in the fleet have when they see us in them," she said.

Kopetzki, who recently was recognized as the Marine Corps' Staff Noncommissioned Officer Musician of the Year, said she hopes the new version of the female cover is approved.

Cpl Andrea Cleopatra Dickerson
PAO, MCAS Cherry Point, N.C.



CPL ANDREA CLEOPATRA DICKERSON

SSgt Terri L. Kopetzki, a clarinet instrumentalist with 2d MAW Band, spent several months test-wearing a revised version of the female dress cover as well as the male dress cover, as part of an initiative to change the female dress cover that was launched several years ago by Gen James T. Conway, 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps.



SGT DENHIERM BAEZ

CHESTY XIV CONTINUES TRADITION AT POST OF THE CORPS—This 9-week-old pedigree English bulldog sits on the red carpet in front of the Home of the Commandants during a visit to meet Mrs. Bonnie Amos, wife of Gen James F. Amos, at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., Feb. 14. After initial recruit training, the puppy is scheduled to be named "Chesty XIV" during a ceremony at the Barracks, March 29, and, after continued training, will assume the duties of the preceding mascot, Sgt Chesty XIII, later in the year.

Wounded Warrior Regiment to Hold Third Annual Marine Corps Trials

The U.S. Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment hosted the third annual Marine Corps Trials for wounded, ill and injured Marines at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 1-6. More than 300 active-duty, Reserve and veteran Marines, as well as military representatives from allied nations, competed in the seven-sport competition to include archery, shooting, wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, swimming, cycling and track and field.

The Marine Corps Trials are a part of the regiment's Warrior Athlete Reconditioning Program, which provides activities and opportunities for wounded, ill and

injured Marines to train as athletes, increasing their strength in order to either continue with military service or develop healthy habits for life outside the service. The trials also serve as an opportunity for the regiment to select Marines to participate on the All-Marine Warrior Games team.

The Warrior Games is a Paralympic-style competition for wounded, ill and injured military personnel. The 2013 All-Marine team will compete at the Warrior Games, May 11-17, in Colorado Springs, Colo., at the Olympic Training Center and the U.S. Air Force Academy. The Marine team will go head to head against the other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces to defend the first-place title.

The United States Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment provides and facilitates nonmedical care to combat and noncombat wounded, ill and injured Marines, sailors attached to or in direct support of Marine units, as well as their family members, in order to assist them as they return to duty or transition to civilian life. The Regimental Headquarters element, located in Quantico, Va., commands the operations of two Wounded Warrior battalions, one located at MCB Camp Pendleton and one at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., and multiple detachments in locations around the globe.

Aquita Brown
Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment



In Memoriam

Edited by R. R. Keene

“In Memoriam” is run on a space-available basis. Those wishing to submit items should include full name, age, location at time of death (city and state), last grade held, units served in, dates of service and, if possible, a local or national obituary. Allow at least four months for the notice to appear.

Operation Enduring Freedom: Marine Casualties, Jan. 1-31, 2013 There are no casualties to report for this month.

Robert Alleva, 87, in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. He served in the Pacific during World War II, in the occupation of Japan and during the Korean War.

He earned degrees from Brooklyn Polytechnic, a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and a master's in physics from Hofstra. He was employed as an aerospace engineer with Grumman Aircraft in Bethpage, N.Y., for more than 40 years. While at Grumman, he was instrumental in the development of the first lunar module and helped to land it on the moon in 1969.

Joseph T. Attanasio of Garden City Park, N.Y. He was a WW II veteran who fought at Iwo Jima. He was a retired lieutenant from the Fire Department of New York City and was an active member of the Knights of Columbus.

William C. Benton, 91, in Grapevine, Texas. He received his pilot's license through the Civilian Pilot Training Program and became a Civilian Army Primary Instructor from 1942 to 1943 at Jones Field in Bonham, Texas. He joined the Corps in May 1943 and was designated a naval aviator later that August.

He served in Japan as part of the occupation in 1945 and later served with VMO-1, -2 and -6; with Hq Squadron, MAG-11 as a helicopter pilot; and with Marine Fighter Squadron 225. He became commanding officer of VMF(AW)-513 and also worked on ordnance testing and development at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Calif., and in Washington, D.C.

He retired from the Corps in 1963 and worked for Rocketdyne near Waco, Texas, and North American Rockwell in Columbus, Ohio. He also worked as a safety engineer for Texas Employers Insurance in Dallas.

LtCol Dale N. Davis, 84, in Lubbock,

Texas. He served in the U.S. Merchant Marines during WW II. After a year, he returned home, graduated from high school and enlisted in the Corps in 1946. He served 22 years, retiring in 1968.

LtCol Davis went on to earn his master's degree and doctorate at Georgia State University, Atlanta, and taught in the College of Business at Berry College, Mt. Berry, Ga., and Kennesaw College in Kennesaw, Ga. He also taught at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, N.M., retiring in 1996.

He was honored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education by being selected as the 2004 New Mexico Professor of the Year.

Billy Joe Deaver, 74, of Flower Mound, Texas. He served in the Corps and later worked for GTE/Verizon, retiring in 1993 as service facilities manager.

Sgt Louise G. Harbin, 90, of Ocean-side, Calif. She attended Whitworth College, Spokane, Wash., where she received a bachelor's degree in business administration. She enlisted and served in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve from 1943 to 1945 and sustained an injury that resulted in her being honorably discharged while a sergeant. She continued to work for the Corps as a civilian employee in the Disbursing Office at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C.

She was married to the late SgtMaj Joe Harbin, USMC (Ret). She was a stay-at-home mother and military spouse for 50 years. She was a life member of the Women Marines Association and a life member of CA-7, Edith Macias Vann Chapter of the WMA.

Cpl Thomas G. Holzgen, 64, of Grandville, Mich. He served from 1966 to 1970, which included a tour of duty with the

1st MAW at Phu Bai, RVN. He was 100 percent disabled from Agent Orange.

He has a number of grandchildren, including Zachary Francis, who serves in the Corps, and Robert Francis, in the U.S. Navy.

LCpl Gerald F. “P.J.” Jamilowski, 64, of Ware, Mass. He was awarded the Purple Heart for a wound received from a sniper in Vietnam while serving with the 1stMarDiv during Operation Union as a machine-gunner. Although wounded, he provided covering fire from his M60, saving many of his fellow Marines. His act is documented in the book “Road of 10,000 Pains” by LtCol Otto J. Lehrack, USMC (Ret).

Jamilowski worked as a self-employed electrician for many years. He was a member of the Ware Det., MCL.

Col Michael F. Keane of Baneberry, Tenn. He was a 40-year veteran who enlisted and served in the Korean and Vietnam wars, and with the National Security Agency, Fort Meade, Md. He spent 10 years as an enlisted Marine and rose to the rank of master sergeant before being commissioned.

After his retirement in 1988, he was elected mayor of Baneberry. He was active in community service: he organized volunteers and often volunteered himself. He expanded the fire department and personally helped paint the firehouse. He supported the Building a Better Future program and sat on various boards of directors.

James A. “Tex” Lyles of Coldspring, Texas. He served in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967 with a combined action platoon. He then joined and served 30 years with the Houston Police Department, followed by eight years with the San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office in Coldspring.

Cpl James D. Lynch, 89, in Boca Raton, Fla. He enlisted in 1943 and served in WW II with MAG-32 as a radio operator in Zamboanga, the Philippines.

He then attended the University of Maryland, where he received a bachelor's

and a master's degree and played line-backer on the football team.

He formed his own company, Lynch School Products, in Boca Raton. He is in the McDonogh School Athletic Hall of Fame in Baltimore, where he grew up. He was a career educator who held leadership positions at Fork Union Military Academy in Virginia; Presbyterian Day School in Memphis, Tenn.; and Zion Lutheran School, Deerfield Beach, Fla.

Charles M. Moore, 73, of Fort Myers, Fla. He served in the Corps from 1956 to 1962 and worked at Andrew Ellis Company for 23 years and then sold insurance for Mutual of Omaha and Detroit Mutual for 14 years. He was a Boy Scout leader and also was a member of the Saginaw Police Reserve for 28 years, attaining the rank of captain. He was a member of the Subic Bay Marines and the MCA&F.

PhM Felix P. Peter, 90, Merrimack, N.H. He was a WW II veteran who served as a corpsman with Co B, 4th Bn, 20th Marines, 4thMarDiv. He saw combat at Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima. *Life* magazine featured a photo of "Doc" assisting two Marines on Saipan as they were blasting Japanese positions in steep cliffs with satchel charges. Doc Peter and Sgt Gordon Murphy were holding Sgt Charles Bucek by the ankles as he hung upside down so that he could reach the caves.

Twice wounded, Doc was awarded two Purple Hearts. He also earned two Bronze Star medals.

LCpl Richard D. Shaul, 69, in Ann Arbor, Mich. He was a Vietnam veteran who served as a radio operator with the 1st and 5thMarDivs from 1966 to 1968 and, on Aug. 29, 1967, earned a Purple Heart.

Sgt John F. Skorich, 69, of Leesburg, Fla. Born in Cleveland, he enlisted in 1963 and served with 3/25, 4thMarDiv.

He was a passionate bowler with 2,300 sanctioned games. He also taught children how to bowl.

Kent F. Stegner, 88, of Greeley, Colo. He was a WW II veteran of the Pacific. He served with Co A, 1st Bn, 28th Marines, 5thMarDiv during 36 days of combat on Iwo Jima and was recalled to active duty during the Korean War. He was a life member of MCL Det. 1093, Greeley.

James M. Stinson, 86, of Bradford, Pa. He served during WW II in the Pacific and during the Korean War. He was discharged in 1951.

He co-owned the Tarport Inn in Bradford and then worked for Seaboard Financial Company. Later, he worked in the construction business and, prior to his retirement, he worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. He served with the McKean County Board of Assistance.

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He was a member of the MCL, 1stMarDiv Assn., the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and the Marine Corps Association & Foundation.

Josias Villarreal, 85, in San Antonio. He enlisted illegally at age 15, and by the time he was 18, he was part of an amphibious tank crew that landed on Iwo Jima in 1945.

He returned to the States and became the first member of his family to complete college after graduating with a degree in architectural engineering from Texas A&M. He served in the Air Force Reserve and as an engineer working for Electronic Security Command, Lackland AFB.

Cleon A. Walden Sr., 73, of Cedar Hill, Texas. He was a Marine veteran and a Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) trooper in Beaumont and Winnie from 1967 to 1974. He later was promoted to intelligence agent with DPS, working in Laredo and Houston from 1975 to 1979. He joined Southland Corporation in Dallas and became corporation assets protection manager in 1989.

He was the owner-operator of CW & Associates private investigators until his retirement in 2009.

LtCol Theodore R. "Ted" Wall, 87, of Pinellas Park, Fla. He served in the Pacific during WW II. As a sergeant, he

was a turret gunner on a TBM-3 Avenger torpedo bomber and flew 70 combat missions. He was awarded three Distinguished Flying Crosses and 11 Air Medals.

In 2007, he was inducted into the Enlisted Combat Aircrew Roll of Honor at the Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum aboard USS *Yorktown* (CV-10) in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

After WW II, he completed his undergraduate studies at the University of North Carolina and then returned to the Corps. He served in various command and staff positions, including Task Force 79, U.S. 7th Fleet, and in the U.S. Strike Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Fla. He retired in 1967 while teaching at the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

He worked for Taco Bell Corporation and Sears in St. Petersburg, Fla., before completing his career as the postmaster for the Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg.

LtCol Lauritz W. "Larry" Young, 89, of Dumfries, Va. He served for 32 years, was a supporter of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and a 32nd degree Mason.





SOUND OFF

[continued from page 8]

I first saw it more than a few years ago, I was somewhat taken aback. But this is from a Marine who has always thought blue trousers with a khaki shirt and white frame cap was borderline gaudy. However, I got used to it, and Marines today are used to seeing drill instructors at graduation parades wearing their campaign hats with the blue uniform. Also, keep in mind that that uniform is worn only at ceremonies.—Sound Off Ed.

A Convoy Ambushed in Vietnam. Why? Sometimes There Are No Answers

We were a resupply convoy led by Captain Ron Brown, Headquarters Battery, 11th Marine Regiment from Phu Bai.

Our convoy was returning to our base at Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam, on Feb. 7, 1968, from our resupply mission to the Rock Crusher (artillery base for B/1/11, 9th Engineer Bn, C/1/1 and 7th Communications Bn). The base was about 3 miles southwest of Hue and was vital for its fire support in Hue. Our convoy of 18 vehicles had security provided by two Ontos from the 1st Anti-Tank Bn. Ontos

A-11 was the lead Ontos, and Ontos A-13 was the rear Ontos. Both were convoying with their 106 mm recoilless rifles empty. We were told that was the order of the day.

Our convoy was ambushed near Highway 1 at Route 547/549. All vehicles were destroyed by rifle, rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and 57 mm recoilless rifle fire from two North Vietnamese Army battalions—the 804th and 818th. We were overrun and fought more than eight hours. Both Ontos were eventually destroyed. Ontos A-13 was hit hard. The vehicle commander, Corporal Ron Prather, and Private First Class Thomas Beirle were both killed trying to load their 106s. They were unable to get a shot off.

Ontos A-11 was ordered by Capt Brown to clear the ambush site and head to Highway 1. Capt Brown was killed in the breakout. Cpl Dace Smith, the A-11 commander, and his driver, PFC Larry Powell, made it to the highway and loaded two of the rifle tubes and headed back to the ambush. They got off one round that demolished a building being used by NVA rocket teams. Their Ontos was hit, killing PFC Powell and gravely wounding Cpl Smith.

Fifty Marines fought for hours holding off more than 400 NVA until we were evacuated by a reactionary unit from 2/5



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at Phu Bai. Twenty-one Marines died, and the rest of us received multiple wounds. A number of our wounded were executed by NVA. Some of the survivors lived to die later in actions at Hue City.

The 64-dollar question is why? Why during Tet with 10,000 NVA in this area of operations were our two security Ontos traveling with their deadly weapons empty?

I would like to know the origination of these orders. Who issued them? I, along with a few survivors of this action, have lived with this tragedy for more than 45 years. Please, somebody explain why we were without the use of the Ontos weaponry.

Also, we had Marines in our convoy going on R & R who were ordered to turn their weapons in before they left the Rock

Crusher. These Marines were without weapons to defend themselves. If anyone knows why this happened, please answer us survivors. We need closure.

Joe Tiscia
Bartlett, Tenn.

"Be Proud to Stand Out As Squared Away"

I was thinking of giving you my thoughts on the Commandant's order that service uniforms now be worn on Fridays. I am astounded by the negative comments I am reading by junior Marines upset by this order and calling it inconvenient, expensive and just one more bit of crap they have to put up with.

What is wrong with these Marines? Many senior enlisted are telling their junior Marines to stop griping and follow orders. When I served on active duty, the uniform of the day was tropical worsted shirt, trousers and battle jacket or long-sleeved khaki shirt, trousers and field scarf, depending on the season of the year and the local climate. Those Marines working in the field wore dungarees, but the uniform of the day was standard for evening chow. Dungarees or utilities were never, never worn off base. I was proud to wear my service uniform. It really made me feel like a Marine.

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I do not understand why any Marine does not want to look like a Marine and be proud to stand out as squared away and representing the finest group of warriors ever to walk the face of the earth. I'll bet that most of the "old guys" agree with me.

David Dickson
Reading, Pa.

• *To be candid, I haven't heard many Marines complain. But, then with my hearing, I don't pick up much these days. I believe most Marines agree with you. Marines traditionally have been great at putting class, with low-budget effort, into their uniforms, including the utility uniform. Hopefully, the trend will return to dress up, and not down.—Sound Off Ed.*

Fit for Duty

In the 50-plus years since I graduated from Marine Corps boot camp, I often wondered why the Corps allowed my senior drill instructor to remain on active duty. The man vacillated, had auditory difficulties and should have been home helping raise an extremely gifted child.

Regarding indecision, my senior drill instructor never could decide if we recruits were "clowns" or "girls." In dealing with auditory difficulties, he would ask us a question, and after we screamed our reply,

he would announce, "I can't hear you!" Finally, a Marine drill instructor with an extremely gifted 12-year-old daughter needs to be home nurturing her development. Especially when that young girl possesses the capabilities of doing anything a Marine recruit can do—only better.

Gary "Uncle Bear" Eklund
Hickory, N.C.

• *Well said, Uncle Bear.—Sound Off Ed.*

Women in Combat Issues

The idea of having women in combat roles was put forth some 20 to 30 years ago. Back then I wrote that I was opposed to it, and I'm still opposed to it. Being a combat Marine, Vietnam veteran and former squad leader in 60 mm mortars, wounded five times in action, I can say it was bad enough helping my corpsman administer first aid to our wounded men, let alone a woman.

Further, most men have been raised to protect their women. We were raised to love and care for them. I'm pretty sure, according to biblical history, that women were put on this earth to populate mankind. They give life, as opposed to taking life.

Also, the majority of men are sexually attracted to women. In the real world, this



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- 17 - 27 May - 95th Anniversary of World War I
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- 25 May - 3 Jun - Battle of the Bulge



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is a distraction. In the world of the military, a distraction like that will get you killed.

Lastly, to have a woman blown apart before your eyes will create more PTSD than this country has ever seen, in my opinion. Not only that, but it appears to me, that the powers that be want to turn our women and men into a bunch of robots and sociopaths that don't feel a thing; otherwise, they will be ineffectual in combat. It's not the right thing to do.

Gregory Topliff
 100% disabled Marine Vietnam veteran
 Warrentville, S.C.

• I can only tell you that seeing anyone get blown apart before your eyes is enough to cause anyone PTSD.—Sound Off Ed.

Others Remember Seeing President Kennedy at San Diego

I was stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego during 1963. The Woman Marine Company was marched in formation, along with the other units, to the small football field on the depot.

I will never forget the thrill and excitement of saluting the President of the United States on the first note of "Hail to the Chief." From where I stood, President John F. Kennedy looked very small.

I still recount this experience as one of the best of my career.

1stSgt Nancy M. Rahfaldt, USMC (Ret)
 Lees Summit, Mo.

I was in Platoon 245 in 1962, and President John F. Kennedy paid a visit during that time.

As I remember, he was two hours late, and we stood on the grinder in the July sun and heat at parade rest. When he did arrive, he did a review in the back of a jeep with the roll bar and then went into the reviewing stand.

Just as we received the command "Eyes, right," the band struck up "The Marines'

Hymn," and I was never so proud to have on that uniform.

I have to question the dates. Did President Kennedy make another visit after my stay at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego?

Michael D. Myers
 Terre Haute, Ind.

• I don't know. We ran a photo of him visiting San Diego in 1963.—Sound Off Ed.

READER ASSISTANCE

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Mail Call

- Mary Anne Fitzpatrick-Barnes, 1327 Tooley Rd. Ext., Attica, NY 14011, (585) 591-0165, to hear from or about Marine veteran **Michael SESTIC**, from **South Chicago**, who worked in the **motor pool at MCB Quantico, Va., 1960-62**, and lived in **Arlington, Va., 1966**.

- Marine veteran Robert Wallan, (909) 599-7505, robertwallan@yahoo.com, to hear from **Sgt Robert WOOD**, from **Macon, Ga.**, who worked in the **legal office headquarters, 3d Marines, 3dMarDiv, Camp Fuji, Japan, 1955-56**.

- Nancy Dooley, 24 Main St., Saugerties, NY 12477, (845) 246-7604, jdooley1@hvc.rr.com, to hear from **Marine pilot John HART**, who served with her brother, **Air Force pilot Donald C. Quackenbush**, in **RVN**, with the **Red River Valley Gang**.

- MSgt Kermit Daniel, USMC (Ret), 960 Yancey St., Liberty, MO 64068, kdusmc8@kc.rr.com, to hear from members of **Plt 264, San Diego, 1960**.

- Marine veteran James A. Moore, 2300 Washington St., Lincoln, NE 68502, (402) 475-9109, to hear from the family of **PFC William Lawrence HARRIS**, from **Detroit, KIA Feb. 28, 1968**, who served with **106 mm Recoilless Rifle Plt, 1st Bn, 5th Marines**.

- Marine veteran Tom D'Andrea, (913) 549-8954, tom9063@sbcglobal.net, to hear from anyone who may have known **Col Damon PRUETT**, an **aviator** who was awarded **two Purple Hearts**, served in **Vietnam and Kuwait**, and died **Jan. 10, 1998**; or from or about **Col Elliott V. FOULDS**, USMC investigator, whose business card was found in **Col Pruetts' service "A," green dress coat**.

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COURTESY OF KAREN COZZI CAMPBELL

PFC Matthew A. "Al" Cozzi was a Paramarine who served during the liberation of Bougainville and landed with Co B, 1st Bn, 28th Marines, 5thMarDiv in the first assault wave on Iwo Jima, Feb. 19, 1945.

• Karen Cozzi Campbell, 71 Lombardy Ln., Oswego, IL 60543, (630) 554-1602, (630) 244-8816, halkarencampbell@yahoo.com, to hear from anyone who may have known her father, PFC Matthew A.

"Al" COZZI, who died in a work-related accident in Chicago in 1957. Cozzi completed boot camp at MCRD San Diego, 1943, and trained with Co B, 1st Paramarine Training Bn, 52d and 53d Parachute Training School, Camp Gillespie (Gillespie Field), Calif. He served with 17th Replacement Bn, T.C.; Hq Co and Co L, 3d Para Bn; 2d Para Bn, 1st Para Regt, under LtCol V. H. KRULAK; and Co B, 1st Bn, 28th Marines, 5thMarDiv at Iwo Jima.

• Former Cpl Thomas R. James, 38280 Tamarac Blvd., Willoughby, OH 44094, thomas.r.james67@gmail.com, to hear from Cpl William H. SCOTT III, from Lake of the Pines, Texas, who served with "Romeo" Btry, 5/11, MCAGCC Twentynine Palms, Calif., 1987-88.

Wanted

• GySgt Thomas Kendrick, USMC (Ret), (760) 961-0768, tomnann2@me.com, wants a recruit graduation book and photo for Plt 289, San Diego, 1957. SSGT IRVIN was the senior drill instructor and Sgt FRANCIS and Sgt JOHNSON were the drill instructors.

• Alvin Anquoe, 15 Elizabeth Ln., Owls Head, ME 04854, aakiowa@roadrunner.com, wants a recruit graduation book for Plt 319, San Diego, 1961.

• Marine veteran James A. Moore, 2300 Washington St., Lincoln, NE 68502, (402) 475-9109, wants a photograph of PFC William Lawrence HARRIS, from Detroit, who served with 106 mm Recoilless Rifle Plt, 1st Bn, 5th Marines, KIA Feb. 28, 1968.

• Former Sgt Donald Hendricks, 834 Grant St., Easton, PA 18042, (484) 373-0624, wants a recruit graduation book for Plt 300, Parris Island, 1953. Sgt D. S. DIXON and PFC S. M. SIGNORELLI were the drill instructors.

• MSgt James Bingham, USMC (Ret), 122 Hallie Cove, San Antonio, TX 78227, (210) 875-4983, wants the following *Leatherneck* magazines: January, February, April, May and July 1978; June, July and September 1979; December 1995 and July 1996.

Sales, Trades and Giveaways

• Capt Lloyd L. Loy, USMC (Ret), 5281 Navaho Dr., Alexandria, VA 22312-2034, (703) 354-8456, ul.loy@verizon.net, has a recruit graduation book for Plt 1005, Parris Island, 1967, for any interested member of that platoon.

• G. A. Schmitt, (850) 478-0880, big747@att.net, has three books for sale: "Tarawa" by John Hersey, 1970; "Iwo Jima" authored and signed by Lt John

Wells and "The Black Sheep: The Definitive Account of Marine Fighting Squadron 214 in World War II" by Bruce Gamble.

• Marine veteran Leonard Armstrong, 739 Humbert Schoolhouse Rd., Westminster, MD 21158, indianrivercapt@aol.com, has recruit graduation books for Plts 2005-2007, San Diego, 1989, for anyone who can identify their drill instructors.

Reunions

• **3dMarDiv Assn.**, Aug. 14-18, Alexandria, Va. Contact GySgt Don H. Gee, USMC (Ret), P.O. Box 254, Chalfont, PA 18914, (215) 822-9094, gygee@aol.com, www.caltrap.com.

• **Third Marine Division Assn. (Texas Chapter)**, April 18-21, Deer Park, Texas. Contact Mike Sohn, (210) 654-3310, jumient2@hotmail.com.

• **First Marine Aircraft Wing Assn. (RVN)**, Aug. 23-25, New Orleans. Contact Al Frater, (201) 906-1197, teanal@optonline.net.

• **Marine Corps Musicians Assn.**, April 23-26, Jacksonville, N.C. Contact Matt Stevenson, 1807 N. Irwin Ave., Green Bay, WI 54302, (920) 676-1260, mmusmceod@gmail.com.

• **8th & I Reunion Assn.**, May 16-19, Arlington, Va. Contact Maj John Marley, USMC (Ret), (703) 473-9818, jm1967a15@verizon.net, www.8thandi.com.

• **Moroccan Reunion Assn.**, Sept. 10-15, Daytona Beach, Fla. Contact Robert Sieborg, 2717 N. 120th Ave., Omaha, NE 68164, (402) 496-1498.

• **East Coast Drill Instructors Assn.**, May 2-5, Parris Island, S.C. Contact SgtMaj Ken Miller, (828) 757-0968, usmc_pidi@charter.net, www.parrislandddi.org.

• **"Marines of Long Ago" (all eras)**, April 16-20, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Contact Joe "Red" Cullen, (203) 877-0846, aircooledmg7@aol.com.

• **11th Engineer Bn (RVN, 1966-69) and Vietnam Veterans of America**, Aug. 13-17, Jacksonville, Fla. Contact Gene Spanos, (847) 770-9049, genethemarine@gmail.com.

• **11th Engineer Bn (RVN, 1965-70)**, June 11-15, Pensacola, Fla. Contact Charles Luhan Jr., 8451 S. Kilbourn Ave., Chicago, IL 60652, (773) 585-9629, 3rdMarDivCL@sbcglobal.net.

• **"Stormy" Sexton's BLT 3/3 (1961-62)**, Oct. 21-25, Wilmington, N.C. Contact H. A. Phillips, (910) 540-2226, hphillips@ec.rr.com.

• **2/1 (RVN)**, Nov. 7-13, Washington, D.C., with 2/1 monument dedication at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Triangle, Va., Nov. 8. Contact Paul Mangan, (515) 360-2600, namgrunt@aol

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- **2/4 (all eras)**, June 26-29, Philadelphia. Contact Bill Weise, (703) 866-7657, or Jay Brown, (856) 728-3196, 24reunion2013chairman@gmail.com.

- **3/27 (RVN, 1968)**, April 15-18, Ann Arbor, Mich. Contact Terry Rigney, 53442 Villa Rosa Dr., Macomb, MI 48042, (586) 992-0063, trigney098@comcast.net.

- **A/1/7**, Oct. 13-18, Kerrville, Texas. Contact Roland or Iva O'Con, 1018 High Point Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028, (830) 367-2801, rgocon@hctc.net.

- **H/2/7 (RVN)**, June 20-23, San Antonio. Contact Rudy Ramon, (210) 861-9950, h272013@att.net.

- **H/2/26 (RVN)**, Oct. 14-19, San Diego. Contact Bill Hancock, 2748 Moeller Dr., Hamilton, OH 45014, (513) 738-5446, hancockw@roadrunner.com.

- **1/3/7**, April 24-27, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Contact Dennis Deibert, 6007 Catherine St., Harrisburg, PA 17112, (717) 652-1695.

- **K/3/7 (RVN)**, Sept. 18-23, Jacksonville, Fla. Contact William Rolke, (262) 780-0993, k37usmc@att.net, or Don Tackett, (678) 725-0329, tdontack@net.scape.net.

- **L/3/5 (RVN, 1966-71)**, June 11-16, Arlington, Texas. Contact Dan Nordmann, (314) 291-1725, dmnordmann@att.net.

- **Marine Ammo Co (all units, all eras)**, May 8-10, Branson, Mo. Contact Tom Crotty, (513) 451-4694, tomandcar@fuse.net.

- **Wpns Co, 3/23**, April 20, Baton Rouge, La. Contact Patrick Fulham, (540) 343-1723, tricker713@hotmail.com, or Bill Prochaska, (225) 270-5788, wprochaska@eatel.net.

- **Anacostia Naval Station Marines**, Sept. 8-13, Branson, Mo. Contact Ron Bursch, (612) 499-0776, ronbur38@gmail.com.

- **U.S. Navy Site One Holy Loch, Scotland Assn.**, Aug. 27-Sept. 4, Dunoon,

Glasgow and Edinburgh, Scotland. Contact Roland Kitridge, (508) 877-2960, rk01701@yahoo.com, www.holyloch.org.

- **MarDet, USS Juneau (CL-119)**, Aug. 23-30, Alaska cruise. Contact William S. Gerichten, 141 Pinelawn Dr., Kernersville, NC 27284, (336) 993-5415.

- **MSG Paris** is planning a reunion. Contact Roland C. Beisenstein, 53 Castle Rock Dr., Mill Valley, CA 94941, (415) 388-4941.

- **4th USMC/METOC/Weather Service**, June 2-6, Las Vegas. Contact Lee Halverson, (925) 837-7493, lhazmateer@aol.com, or Don Innis, (321) 724-6600, dinnis@cfl.rr.com.

- **MASS-2/MTACS-2 (All years)**, Sept. 23-26, Las Vegas. Contact George Macartie, (858) 566-5303, mass-2@sbcglobal.net.

- **USMC Postal 0160/0161**, Oct. 6-11, Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Contact MSgt Harold Wilson, USMC (Ret), 835 N. Wood St., Logan, OH 43138, (740) 385-6204, handk.lucerne06@gmail.com.

- **Odorn Veterans**, July 12-15, Weatherford, Texas. Contact Jerry C. Long, 118 Mariah Dr., Weatherford, TX 76087, (817) 594-4623, jclhydsr71bafb@gmail.com.

- **38th OCS/SBC 3-66**, Oct. 16-20, San Diego. Contact Terry Cox, (310) 732-6908, tcoc95@cox.net.

- **21st SBC (1953)**, Oct. 9-13, Honolulu. Contact LtCol Tom Kalus, USMC (Ret), 98-1927 Wilou St., Aiea, HI 96701, (808) 486-5004.

- **SBCs (Korean War-era, 1950-54)**, Nov. 1-4, San Antonio. Contact Bob Lukeman, (405) 842-3601, jrlukeman@aol.com, or John Featherstone, (310) 833-2190, johnf9375@aol.com.

- **TBS 4-69/52d Special OCC**, Sept. 12-15, San Diego. Contact LtCol W. Todd Frommelt, USMC (Ret), 3402 Celinda Dr., Carlsbad, CA 92008, toddfrommelt@roadrunner.com.

- **Plt 94, Parris Island, 1955**, April 22-24, Savannah, Ga. Contact Tom Lawrence, (352) 344-1787, semfi155@embarqmail.com, or Orville Hubbs, onpahubbs@gmail.com.

- **Plt 280, Parris Island, 1963**, Oct. 4-6, Parris Island, S.C. Contact 1stSgt Malcolm Stewart, USMC (Ret), (904) 282-8319, malcolmstewart@comcast.net.

- **Plt 296, Parris Island, 1965**, is planning a reunion for 2014. Contact SgtMaj



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- **Plts 316-319, Parris Island, 1964**, April 17, 2014, Parris Island, S.C. Contact Alexander J. Nevglowski Sr., (910) 325-9148, (910) 548-5227, gunr88@hotmail.com.

- **Plt 331, Parris Island, 1959**, is planning a reunion. Contact MGySgt Bob Daniels, USMC (Ret), (904) 579-4346, bertojotol@gmail.com, or Bob Wood, (205) 903-7220, bwood@bellsouth.net.

- **Plt 1066, San Diego, 1969**, May 30-June 2, Branson, Mo. Contact Bob Deal, (443) 608-0008, robert.c.deal@gmail.com.

- **Plt 1089, Parris Island, 1986**, is planning a reunion. Contact Mark Smith, P.O. Box 828, Columbus, MS 39703, (662) 549-7712, msmith@cpi-group.com.

- **Plt 2023, San Diego, 1983**, is planning a reunion. Contact Jeffrey R. Johnson, 3751 Merced Dr., Unit 4D, Riverside, CA 92503, jrj430@yahoo.com.

- **Plt 2085, Parris Island, 1966**, is planning a reunion. Contact Bill Simmons, jstlputt@aol.com, mkboyle@myfairpoint.net.

- **Plts 4020/4021, Parris Island, 2000**, July 12-14, Parris Island, S.C. Contact Elizabeth Rossi, (914) 315-1728, elizabethannrossi@gmail.com.

- **HMM-363 (RVN)**, May 16-18, Pensacola Beach, Fla. Contact Mike Tripp, (401) 434-7200, mtripp@mwt-cpa.coxatwork.com.

- **VMA(AW)-533 (Chu Lai/Iwakuni, 1969-70)**, May 31-June 1, Las Vegas. Contact John Murphy, (609) 313-8434, jmurphy425@gmail.com, or Jerry Callaway, (303) 467-9896, j2callaway@q.com.

Ships and Others

- **USS *Bremerton* (CA-130/SSN-698)**, Sept. 8-12, St. Louis. Contact James Jensen, (406) 837-4474, jmbluff@centurytel.net, or R. F. Polanowski, (585) 365-2316, rpolanowski@stny.rr.com.

- **USS *Hornet* (CV-8, CV/CVA/CVS-12)**, Sept. 24-29, Providence, R.I. Contact Carl and Sandy Burket, P.O. Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, (814) 224-5063, hornetcva@aol.com, www.usshornetassn.com.

- **USS *Houston* (CA-30/CL-81) Assn.**, Aug. 20-24, Chicago. Contact Donna Rogers, 3949 Little John Dr., York, PA 17408, (717) 792-9113, dlr7110@yahoo.com.

- **USS *Iwo Jima* (LPH-2/LHD-7)**, Oct. 2-6, San Diego. Contact Robert G. McAnally, 152 Frissell St., Hampton, VA 23663, (757) 723-0317, yujack@megalink.net, ussiwojimashipmates.cfns.net.

- **USS *Portsmouth* (CL-102)**, April 25-29, Herndon, Va. Contact Walt Hohner, 448 Hillside Ave., Piscataway, NJ 08854, (732) 463-1745, wphohner@aol.com.

- **USS *Randolph* (CV/CVA/CVS-15) and USS *Terror* (CM-5)**, Sept. 22-29, Indian Rocks Beach, Fla. Contact Sal Rizza, 1720 Sandy Ct., Merritt Island, FL 32952, (321) 454-2344.

- **USS *Ranger* (CVA/CV-61)** (all members), Sept. 18-22, St. Louis. Contact George Meoli, (203) 453-4279, uss.ranger@yahoo.com.

- **USS *Renville* (APA-227)**, April 3-7, Portland, Ore. Contact Lynda Rumble, 187 Lakeshore Dr., Mooresville, NC 28117, (704) 906-7622, lyndahd01@aol.com, ussrenvilleapa227.com.

- **USS *Tarawa* (CV-40/LHA-1)**, April 25-28, Pensacola, Fla. Contact Ken Underdown, 31 Islet Rd., Levittown, PA 19057, (215) 547-0245, or Walter Tothoro, 106 N. Tranquil Trl., Crawfordsville, IN 47933, (765) 362-6937, walsue@accelplus.net.

- **USS *Ticonderoga* (CV/CVA/CVA-14/CG-47)**, May 16-20, Colorado Springs, Colo. Contact George Passantino, (720) 929-1844, georgepsr@aol.com.

- **USS *Yorktown* (CV/CVA/CVS-10)**, 1943-70, Oct. 3-5, Mt. Pleasant, S.C. Contact Nina Creasman, P.O. Box 1021, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465, (834) 849-1928, ncreasman@yorktown.net.






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When warships cleave the ocean
To angry, fighting foam,
They proudly fly the colors
That mark their native home.

When aircraft rise to battle,
They carry on their wings
The symbol of their country
And the power that it brings.

When riflemen move forward
To engage a battle scene,
Their shoulder patch or name tag
Says soldier or Marine.

When cowards wreak destruction
They wear no uniform.
They hide among the innocent—
Deception is their norm.

They fear to face a warrior,
To fight on equal terms.
They slink away from open fray
Like spineless earthen worms.
R. A. Gannon

Called Back

The email was brief.
It said that a fellow Marine,
A Vietnam veteran,
Had died after a long illness.

Would I “be in the honor guard
At the wake tomorrow”?
We had three “yeses” already.
“Yes, sir,” I replied.

We met before the viewing,
To place our scarlet and gold battle standard
Near the flag-draped casket,
And to practice changing the guard.

“On duty” standing as straight as possible,
I could not help but notice
That the deceased Marine was younger
Than those guarding his coffin.

Life is, essentially,
About family and friends,
I thought, as I stood my guard turns,
Rendering slow salutes.

This Marine, our friend, has been
“Called back and promoted.”
We honored him, as he wanted,
Rendering honors, our final salute.
Marine veteran Michael Spataro

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Ascending through
The smoke-filled
Light ...

Suspended from the ceiling,
As if by some
Celestial magic,
That they might preach
Their gospel ...

To the lonely
Warriors of the
Night!

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2012



Marine Corps
Association & Foundation

Advancing Leadership and Recognizing Excellence Since 1913

ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

MCA&F

The Professional Association for ALL Marines and their Dedicated Supporters

*A*s we close the first century of operation of the Marine Corps Association, the Marine Corps Association Board of Governors, the Marine Corps Association Foundation Board of Directors, and the MCA&F management team are pleased to present the 2012 Annual Report to the membership.

The Marine Corps Association & Foundation continued to advance leadership and recognize excellence through our various programs, including the introduction of several namesake awards. New awards include the LtGen Lewis "Chesty" Puller Honor Graduate Award, The 1stLt Baldomero Lopez Honor Graduate Award, The SgtMaj Leland "Crow" Crawford Honor Graduate Award, and the SgtMaj Dan Daly Honor Graduate Award. In addition, and in keeping with the Commandant's mandate and the Corps tradition of education excellence, MCA&F established or enhanced several writing awards as well, including the SgtMaj of the Marine Corps Writing Award.

Our focus of a professional Marine Corps through our Commanders' Unit Library program continued to gain traction in 2012 with the delivery of 296 libraries affecting 94,000 Marines. Well-read Marines achieve success on the battlefield and ultimately save lives. We are happy to do our part and it is through the support of members, like you, and donors to the

Foundation that we are able to achieve these numbers.

Our dinners and events continue to attract more people, and we achieved higher numbers at many of our dinners including our second West Coast Dinner. In April, we recognized the contribution of our Wounded Marines with a reception at the National Museum of the Marine Corps and this new event is on the calendar for 2013. In an effort to expand our influence and bring MCA&F to our members and friends of the Corps, we will head to two new venues in 2013 – Milwaukee in May and Hawaii in October.

We continue to reach more and more people, not only Marines, but Friends of the Corps. This is accomplished through our publications, *Leatherneck* and *Marine Corps Gazette*, our blogs which have morphed into discussion and debate boards, our social media initiatives now with more than 60,000 friends on Facebook, and our websites which provide you with a daily glimpse of what you help us accomplish under the title of Mission Execution. It is important for you to know what we do, how it is accomplished, and why you should care.

As we enter into our second century as an organization, we realize the impact of the digital world, and the fact that we are able to reach many more people today through electronic delivery channels versus paper. In an effort to better serve our members, potential members, and

to tell our story to everybody, we are implementing a strategic initiative to enhance our websites.

In celebration of our first century, the MCA&F team created a video that celebrates our history and shows how the organization touches the lives of Marines today. Please take a moment to view the video on our website (www.mca-marines.org) to learn more about how your membership dollars, donations to the Foundation, and purchases at *The MARINE Shop* and www.marineshop.net make a difference to Marines.

Thank you for taking the time to read through the report. But more importantly, thank you for your membership. It is through your membership and support that we at the Association and Foundation are able to accomplish so much for our Marines.

Semper Fi,

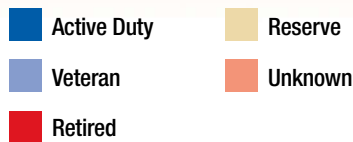
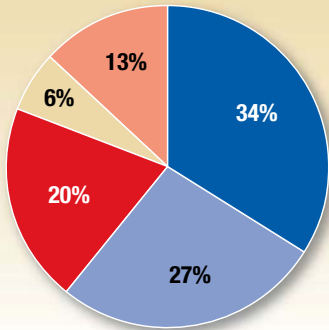


Edward Usher, Major General, USMC (Ret)
President & Chief Executive Officer, MCA&F

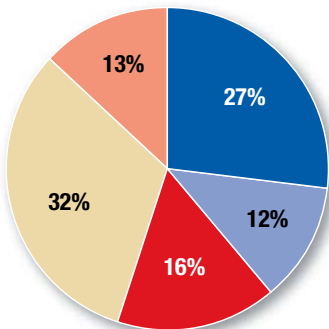
MEMBERSHIP



MCA Member Status



MCA Members by Age



MCA ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS

Officers 4,523

Enlisted 21,023

MCA MEMBERSHIP

Total 76,193

Many members found value in joining or renewing for multiple years as the percentage of multi-year members increased from 45% in 2011 to 50% in 2012. Despite an increase in Foundation members by nearly 100% from the previous year (305 to 596), combined MCA&F membership decreased by 1.4% year over year. Our members are our best advocates. You can ensure support to Marines by:

- Renewing your membership in a timely fashion
- Opting for our automatic renewal program to prevent an interruption in service and invoices in your mailbox
- Keeping MCA&F up-to-date on your address and contact information by changing your record online or calling our member services staff at 866-622-1775
- Inviting friends and family to support Marines by joining MCA&F
- Giving a gift membership

Thank you for your continued support of Marines and the MCA&F.



Col Wes Fox book signing.



The MARINE Shop at Quantico, VA



Retail Manager, Aisha Gurganus, presented Pfc Colton Bailey-Stoots with a donated Kindle at The MARINE Shop at Camp Lejeune before deployment to Afghanistan.



Gathering books for Unit Libraries.



MARINE CORPS Gazette

Professional Journal of U.S. Marines

Leatherneck

MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES

Gazette —“The Professional Journal of U.S. Marines” provides articles of professional interest to active duty Marines and enables veteran Marines to remain current on the issues that affect the Corps.

The print edition remains the cornerstone of the way we deliver professional content, but now the issues that are debated and the professional conversation about the Corps have moved online to our blog and to the comments section after articles that are published. Additionally, our digital edition contains significantly more content than is in the print edition.

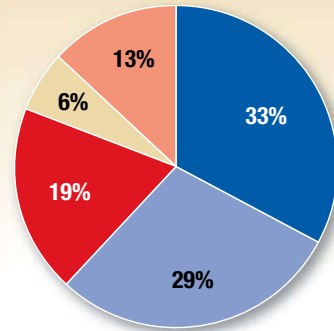
Join in the debate and conversation at www.mca-marines.org/gazette.

Leatherneck—“The Magazine of the Marines” continues to focus on delivering quality content, telling the Marine Corps story—yesterday, today and tomorrow—in our print edition, our digital (online) edition and on our website.

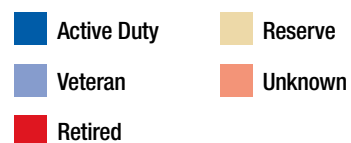
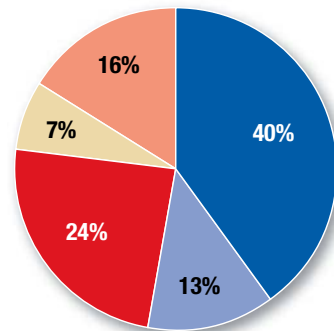
While our printed issue remains the centerpiece of our *Leatherneck* efforts, our digital edition allows us the opportunity to incorporate multimedia, including video, photo slideshows and audio recordings, and links to archived articles relevant to the subject. In addition, our *Leatherneck* website is frequently updated and provides access to even more current operations and Marine Corps history.

Check us out at www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck and don't miss our frequently updated “Corps Daily News” at www.mca-marines.org.

Leatherneck Readership



Marine Corps Gazette Readership

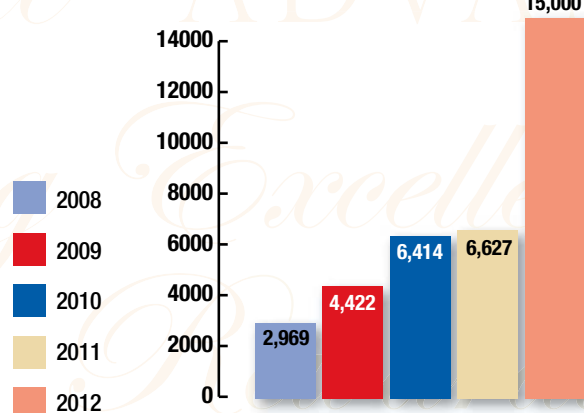


We continue to cultivate an ever-growing community of digital readers through enhanced content in our digital editions and in an expanded, frequently updated Internet presence on our *Leatherneck* and *Gazette* websites and through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest.

This past year, the *Marine Corps Gazette's* blog presence has garnered tremendous interest and seen phenomenal growth as the professional exchange of ideas for the good of the Marine Corps has shifted more and more to the digital world.

Looking to the future, we continue to position our Association publishing resources to more efficiently produce magazine content that is easily accessed on portable reading devices, like tablets and smartphones. We recognize that the current 15,000 online-only readers will increase, and our publishing plans allow us to meet that growing online focus with easily accessed, quality content.

Number of Readers



Average Online-Only Readership Per Year

MCA&F RETAIL



*M*embers receive **Member Value Pricing** at *The MARINE Shop* in Quantico and at our store at Camp Lejeune as well as online at www.marineshop.net.

2012 *Highlights*

Annual sales	\$6,534,327	last year \$7,106,069
E-Commerce sales	\$1,278,614	last year \$1,171,330
Online customers	26,652	last year 22,406
Overall customers	78,584	last year 85,003

Despite the fact that uniform sales are down because of the downsizing numbers of commissioning Lieutenants, retail was still able to contribute a significant sum of money to support our programs. It is also noteworthy that 2012 was the first year that *The MARINE Shop* at Camp Lejeune operated out of a new location. Please visit us at our stores in Quantico and Camp Lejeune when in the area or online at www.marineshop.net when it's most convenient for you.

RETAIL OPERATION'S PROFITS SUPPORT MARINES THROUGH MCA&F PROGRAMS INCLUDING:

- The Marine Excellence Awards Program
- Commanders' Unit Library Program
- Commanders' Forum Program
- MCA&F Professional Events

MCA&F EVENTS



*O*ur dinners and events experienced enormous growth in attendance during 2012 with the fourth quarter introduction of free seats for active duty and activated Reserve Marines. MCA&F added the Professional Dinner in September which provided General Martin Dempsey, USA, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the opportunity to meet MCA&F membership and the Marine community.

We proudly honored the winners of awards at the Ground Logistics Awards, C4 Awards, Ground Awards, Intelligence Awards, and Ammo Tech Awards Dinners and introduced the first Wounded Warrior Awards Reception for the Wounded Warrior Regiment held at the National Museum of the Marine Corps to honor two Marines and a civilian. The West Coast Dinner, held during the first quarter of the year, and the Camp Lejeune Dinner, held during April, continues to build upon attendance numbers first established in 2011. As we enter 2013, the Foundation will introduce a new dinner to be held in Milwaukee on 18 May with three MCA&F board members leading the charge. Of course, the unsung drivers behind our many events remain our individual and corporate sponsors and we thank them for their support.



MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

The Marine Corps Association Foundation continued in the organization's quest to advance leadership and recognize excellence through the expansion of the Commanders' Unit Library Program and the Marine Excellence Awards. This work could only be accomplished with the generosity of our members, donors, organizations and corporate sponsors. We received donations from 16,211 donors and 31 organizations during 2012 totaling close to one million dollars.

Several namesake awards were introduced in 2012 to honor the memory of a past Marine and the legacy of that individual. The "Chesty" Puller Recruit Company Honor Graduate Award made its debut as did the 1st Lt Baldomero Lopez Honor Graduate Award recognizing the Company Honor Graduates at The Basic School. Other new awards include the Daly Award presented to SNCOA Honor Graduates and the Crawford Award presented to Drill Instructor and Recruiter School Honor Graduates.

MCAF participated in the Combined Federal Campaign for the first time in 2012 and raised over \$23,000 to support MCA&F programs. The Foundation earned additional recognition when Independent Charities of America named it one of the "Best in America."

Thank you for your support of these programs and for your gifts throughout the year.



From left to right: The Puller Award, Lopez Award, Daly Award, and Crawford Award.



Master Sergeant Charles C. Arndt NCO of the Year Award was awarded to Corporal Raymond H. Lindsey at the 2012 MCA&F Intelligence Awards Dinner.

2012 Highlights

Number of Commanders' Unit Libraries provided – 296 impacting 94,000 Marines.

Number of awards distributed through The Marine Excellence program – 10,988 awards impacting 8,775 Marines.

Number of Commanders' Forums – 11 forums impacting 1,073 Marines.



MCA&F members and friends continue to visit our websites frequently. In 2013, we plan on making significant upgrades to our websites to make them more user friendly, more vibrant, robust, and interactive. We reach more people through our websites than any other means of communication.

We continue to expand our reach and tell the MCA&F story on the web through our Mission Execution Stories and videos of our many events. In addition, 2012 marked the first time that we live-streamed events. For our centennial, we created a video that celebrates our founding and history, but more importantly demonstrates how our members inspire, connect and support Marines!

2012 Highlights

MCA&F Facebook Friends reached a new milestone of **60,000**.

The MCA&F E-Commerce sales **increased by 20%** over 2011.

Site traffic from all sites reached **1.6 million users** up from 1.4 million.

Page views topped **8.5 million** which is up from 8.2 million.





FINANCIAL REPORT

The MCA&F continued to achieve financial success in 2012. Building upon the economic efficiencies, cost controls, and targeted efforts of 2011, the organization was able to generate the needed revenue to further enhance the myriad programs that support Marines.

**MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION
MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2012 (Preliminary Results) and 2011**

	2012	2011
Current Assets		
Cash	\$1,779,120	\$1,346,986
Accounts Receivable	184,964	294,063
Inventory	1,626,853	1,845,362
Prepaid Expenses	176,606	170,421
Total Current Assets	3,767,543	3,656,832
Investments	8,672,826	7,907,640
Property and Equipment	4,271,501	4,406,408
Total Assets	\$16,711,870	\$15,970,880
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$470,807	\$545,821
Employee Taxes and Benefits	363,271	319,966
Total Current Liabilities	834,078	865,787
Long-Term Payables		
Loans Payable	34,225	71,250
Deferred Revenue	3,034,574	2,885,953
Total Long-Term Liabilities	3,068,799	2,957,203
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	12,519,275	11,776,576
Temporarily Restricted	234,618	316,214
Permanently Restricted	55,100	55,100
Total Net Assets	12,808,993	12,147,890
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$16,711,870	\$15,970,880

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION *Board of Governors*



MCA Board Chairman
MajGen Harry W. Jenkins, USMC (Ret)



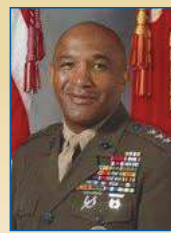
Vice Chairman
Mr. Michael Hegarty



President & CEO MCA
MajGen Edward Usher, USMC (Ret)



General Counsel
BGen Joseph Composto, USMC (Ret)



LtGen Ronald Coleman, USMC (Ret)



LtGen Earl B. Hailston, USMC (Ret)



MajGen Jim Lariviere, USMCR



MajGen Gordon Nash, USMC (Ret)



MajGen Eugene G. Payne, Jr., USMC (Ret)



Col William R. Costantini, USMC



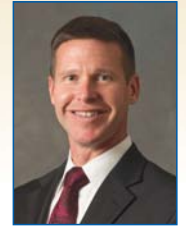
Col Daniel P. O'Brien, USMC (Ret)



Col Helen Pratt, USMCR



Col Greg Reeder, USMCR



Col Stephen D. Waldron, USMC (Ret)



LtCol Maria McMillen, USMC



SgtMaj Kim E. Davis, USMC (Ret)



MGySgt Steve Williams, USMC



Mr. Thomas Corzine



Mr. Jay Holmes



Mr. Jake Leinenkugel



Mr. John Lowry, III



Mr. Michael Martz



Mr. James A. Mosel



Mr. Burton "Skip" Sack



LtGen Robert Blackman, USMC (Ret)



BGen Thomas V. Draude, USMC (Ret)

EX-OFFICIO

* *Marine Corps Association Board of Governors members who are also on the Marine Corps Association Foundation Board of Directors.*

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION *Board of Directors*



Gen Peter Pace, USMC (Ret)



SgtMaj Richard L. Arndt, USMC (Ret)



Mr. M. L. "Buzz" Hefti

MCA DOD LIAISON



SgtMaj Micheal Barrett, USMC