MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES OF THE MARINES UP OF THE MARINES OF THE MARINES

Jungle Survival, Asian Style

Who's the Skipper? "Johnny the Hard"

INE 2013

Retracing "Golf" Co's Battle in Hue

MATSG-21: It's About Supporting Aviation

> Leatherneck Editor, Col Walt Ford, USMC (Ret), provides insight into this digital edition

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COVER: Cpl Wilkins Vidal crosses an obstacle during jungle warfare training at the Marine Corps Jungle Warfare Training Center in Okinawa, Japan, March 21. Read more on the Pacific Marines' focus on jungle warfare in "In Every Clime and Place," beginning on page 8. Photo by LCpl Donald T. Peterson. 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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR REUNIONS & ASSISTANCE

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 Anonymous letters will not be published.—Sound Off Ed.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 oneyear courtesy subscription to the non-MCA&F member whose letter is selected as the "Sound Off Letter of the Month." Leatherneck will continue to pay \$25 for a "Sound Off Letter of the Month" submitted by a member.)

After graduating from Red Bank High School in New Jersey, three of us decided that we wanted to join the Navy. We traveled to Asbury Park to talk to the recruiter. The Navy recruiter was out to lunch, but across the hall sat the Marine Corps recruiter.

"Come on over here, boys," he yelled. So we entered his office to hear what he had to say about the Corps.

Next thing I knew, we had taken the entrance exam, filled out all the necessary papers, passed the initial physical and were scheduled to go to Parris Island, S.C., for recruit training on July 15, 1953. Wow! We were to join up with the others and were dubbed the "New Jersey Company."

Twenty-three years later, I retired from the United States Marine Corps. It was a great career for me. I spent 18 months with the Third Marine Division in Japan and two tours on recruiting duty, one in Pittsburgh, and the other in Richmond, Va.

During my tour in Pittsburgh, I had dinner with President Dwight D. "Ike" Eisenhower, took part in opening ceremonies with a Marine Corps color guard at the Steelers home football games and enlisted famous singer and entertainer Billy Eckstine's son.

Oh, yes, I had a tour in Vietnam. I remember receiving a call after I returned from Vietnam, asking if I wanted to go back on recruiting duty or to Drill Instructor School. That was an easy answer.

I am so very glad I did not join the Navy. Lauren P. Bands Sr., USMC (Ret) Virginia Beach, Va.

Adapt, Improvise, Overcome And Achieve by Being Marine-Sneaky

LEATHERNECK IUNE 2013

Last summer my two grandsons, Will and Nick, were visiting me. They loved to target practice in the backyard with the air rifle. After that became boring, they culled out a few squirrels.

After they left, I was washing the bedroom windows and noticed an almost perfect hole in one of the windows. One of their shots had missed its target! With winter coming, I either had to spend \$100 on a new storm window, or ... the Marine Corps came through again. An eagle, globe and anchor sun catcher covers the hole perfectly. I haven't told my wife!

> Cpl Bill Pederson USMC, 1963-66 Mauston, Wis.

Wearing Shooting Badges Can Be Optional

The comment concerning the unauthorized wearing of the Expert rifle badge ["Sound Off," April] is disconcerting. The honor of wearing any of the marksmanship badges that have been awarded to an individual should be verified by those in leadership roles, and all hands should comply or face disciplinary measures. Period.

Looking through several recent issues of *Leatherneck*, I have noticed that marksmanship badges are not always worn with ribbons on class A uniforms. Is this a change from former years when I recall that they were always worn together?

Sgt Frank Everett USMC, 1963-67 Piedmont, Okla.

• Uniforms of the day are prescribed by the unit commander. However, unless otherwise ordered, shooting badges are optional, and it has been that way since before you and I went into the Marine Corps.—Sound Off Ed.

This is in response to "Does Everybody in the Corps Shoot Expert?" in the April *Leatherneck*. Per Marine Corps order, several categories of Marines are eligible for career exemptions from annual rifle marksmanship training. This includes enlisted Marines holding the rank of gunnery sergeant or higher, officers holding the rank of captain or higher, and any officer whose years of service are 13 or more (including Mustangs, former enlisted officers). However, these Marines may temporarily lose their exemptions during any period when, or if, their issued Table of Organization weapon is a rifle or carbine.

Also, any Marine of any rank who qualifies Expert for two consecutive years is eligible for a one-year exemption from the annual rifle marksmanship training.

Regulations require Marines to wear the marksmanship badge of their last qualification [when badges are required], and when Marines take these exemptions, they do so after they have mastered Expert, and they would then wear the rifle Expert badge for the remainder of their exemptions or careers. The Expert rifle badge and the pistol Expert badge are the only marksmanship badges that can be worn with an attached requalification bar showing subsequent Expert awards.

These exemptions were put into effect many years ago after the Marine Corps realized that Marines of and above the rank of "gunny" or captain would better serve their units as leaders who coach and instruct behind the firing line rather than being another shooter taking up a shooting point on the line. It does not mean the exempted Marine's rifle skills will degrade, because marksmanship sustainment training always continues. Only the annual qualifications (the event that awards them marksmanship badges) are exempt.

Remember that one criterion considered for promotion is the Marine's marksmanship abilities, and for this reason, no career Marine would want to exercise his or her exemption until he or she has mastered and earned that last and final Expert badge. If a Marine could not prove himself or herself to be a competent marksman by the time he or she is promoted to gunny or captain, or becomes a Mustang with 13 years of service, then he or she should not be a gunny, captain or Mustang.

With all that said, yes, it could appear by the number of badges you see that many (if not most) Marines are Expert riflemen, because the higher the rank, the more likely they are to shoot Expert. Marines take great pride and seriousness in their marksmanship







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abilities, so as a Marine's time in service grows, one would expect most Marksmen to eventually become Sharpshooters, and Sharpshooters to eventually become Experts where they would then hold that badge for the remainder of their careers. If the normal progression does not go in that order, then it would be an indicator that the Marine Corps' marksmanship program is ineffective.

1stSgt Frank J. Furtado, USMC (Ret) Port Orchard, Wash.

The letter from Sgt Joseph T. Mysak in the April issue, and the excellent piece by Lance Corporal Pedro Cardenas in "Wethe Marines," touched a subject that's long been sitting uncomfortably in the back of my mind.

A 1949 boot camp product of Parris Island, S.C., Platoon 23, I was awarded the rifle Sharpshooter badge for marksmanship with the M1 rifle. During the week of live fire, I was high man in our 80-man platoon three times and was never below third high, shooting Expert scores at least twice. (A third time was questionable because of a difference between my instructor's recording and mine.)

On the last day of fire, Record Day, a brisk and fluky wind between 9 and 11 o'clock markedly dropped all scores. No one fired Expert.

At Camp Lejeune, N.C., a year and a half later, while training for my tour in Korea, I fired Expert, but that also was just training and did not count for record, I was told.

As LCpl Cardenas wrote, recruits are given several days to hone their skills before firing for official scores. That sounds good for most recruits, but how about those who enter boot camp with expert shooting skills in hand?

To use an extreme example, if a recruit were to fire Expert scores on every day except "Record Day," would it be appropriate or wise to deny that person the rifle Expert badge? Later, someone considering candidates for scout-sniper school or for a Marine rifle team would likely skip over those individuals who wear "only" the rifle Sharpshooter badge. Aren't we missing out on some "shooting stars?"

> William P. Crozier N. Weymouth, Mass.

• Yes, it is appropriate and wise to deny that person the rifle Expert badge. Record Day is what it is all about. Up until then, it is all practice. Combat shooting also is on Record Day. There is no best of three or four. The badges are nice to wear and do count in cutting scores; but the real reason for rifle qualification is to train the Corps' vaunted shooters, men

and women, who accurately can shoot, without hesitation, in all conditions, and under pressure in combat.

The Marine rifleman was described aptly by Army General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing, who said, "The deadliest weapon in the world is a Marine and his rifle!"-Sound Off Ed.

French Cuffs and Marine Corps Sweaters

I am writing to see if anyone can provide clarification on current uniform regulations and when they changed. The February issue of Leatherneck contains a photograph on page 48 of Major General Melvin Spiese presenting a Silver Star to Sergeant David M. Gerardi. It appears that the general is wearing French cuffs and cuff links. As a Leatherneck reader for many years, I don't recall ever seeing Marines wearing French cuffs and cuff links.

Possibly the wearing is restricted to drill instructors and generals. Times change, and I guess that I have been out of the Corps too long. Hopefully, if French cuffs and cuff links are authorized, the cuff links display the Marine Corps emblem. Sgt Robert C. Stebbins

USMC, 1952-55 Encinitas. Calif.

I have a wool sweater-NSN 9405-01-192-9170. The current sweaters have shoulder boards; mine does not. I believe they now have shoulder boards to attach grade insignia, except for officer types, who wear their grade on the collar underneath the sweater. I'm pretty certain that in my era our sweaters did not have shoulder boards. We wore our grade on our collars like the officers. I am sure that some other Marines out there will verify that this is a Marine-issue sweater.

> Former Cpl Alan "Skip" Hornbake Encinitas, Calif.

• I went to the duty experts at the Marine Corps Uniform Board. The MCUB responded: "Male officers and staff noncommissioned officers are authorized to wear certified optional French cuff khaki shirts and cuff links [with emblems]. The French cuff shirt has been authorized for wear since at least the early 1980s.

"The only sweaters currently authorized for wear as an outer garment are the blue and green crew-neck sweaters with the epaulettes. The old blue and green crew-neck sweaters without the epaulettes are only authorized for wear as undergarments (i.e., under the utility blouse). Enlisted Marines wear their rank insignia on their epaulettes; officers wear theirs on their shirt collars. The V-neck sweaters are obsolete."-Sound Off Ed.



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A Bugle at "Frozen Chosin"

I entered the Marines in 1950, but due to a serious illness, I was delayed in my boot camp period. I did graduate shortly after the Korean War started and was sent to Sandpoint Naval Air Station in Seattle. After spending a year and a half of great duty and seeing most of our personnel coming in from Korea, I felt it was time for me to step up and take my turn.

I spent a year with "Able" Company, 1st Engineer Battalion and came home on the first shipload when the war ended. The entire time I was there, I got up every morning, thanking God that I was not there that first winter, particularly at the "Frozen Chosin," and admiring those who did serve in the Chosin Reservoir Campaign.

Years later, we moved to Colorado, and I had to select a dentist. Talking to him one day, he noticed I had Marine plates on my vehicle and said his dad was in the Marines at the Chosin Reservoir. His dad found a bugle before departing the United States and picked it up even though it lacked a mouthpiece and he did not know how to play it. Someone on ship gave him a mouthpiece. He carried the bugle with him, and on occasion he was requested to go to a burial where someone else would play "Taps." He survived the Chosin and took the bugle home with him. After his death a few years ago, his dentist son told me the family boxed up the bugle and sent it to the Marine museum. I thought it a fitting tribute to a fine Marine, Sergeant Charles Sanders. I have read *Leatherneck* for many years and did not see any mention of the story of the bugle and thought it would be very interesting for some of the veterans of that era.

> Former Sgt Bernard Bruce Loveland, Colo.

Bob Pugh, An Unsung Person During the U.S. Embassy Beirut Bombing

Retired Col Dick Camp's article, "Terrorism's First Strike: U.S. Embassy Beirut," in the April issue is very insightful, and I couldn't agree more with his title for the essay. I would add that, in my view, terrorism became a "hot-war" on Oct. 23, 1983. Nonetheless, I am stunned that no mention of the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) by name, Robert "Bob" Lee Pugh, is in the article.

Bob Pugh was a Marine captain who served from 1954 to 1961 as an infantry and intelligence officer. After he left active duty, he joined the Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer and was fluent in French, Turkish and Persian. After myriad diplomatic posts throughout the Middle East, Europe and Washington, D.C., he was assigned as the DCM in 1982 to the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon.

During his tour in Beirut, he managed the large and very diverse U.S. mission through the ongoing crisis of the Israeli occupation, renewed Lebanese Civil War, and seizure of U.S. citizens as hostages. Additionally, he was DCM during the catastrophic vehicular terrorist bombings of the U.S. Embassy, and Chancery buildings and the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut. There is no question that Bob Pugh was instrumental in the political/military relationships/dynamics of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force, Lebanese and Israeli governments and U.S. policy-makers.

In 1985, Bob Pugh was assigned as the U.S. Ambassador to Mauritania and, in 1988, became the U.S. Ambassador to Chad, serving until 1990. Tragically, his first wife, Bonnie, was killed on Sept. 19, 1989, by a terrorist bomb aboard UTA Flight 772 while flying from Chad to Paris. Her death was believed to be a revenge killing by terrorists involved in Lebanon.

All of us who served in Beirut, specifically the 24th and 22d Marine Amphibious Units (1983-84), knew Bob Pugh well and have nothing but the most sincere respect and gratitude for his service with us. I can tell you that the personnel involved in the embassy bombing feel the same way as all of the U.S. Marines who served with him in Lebanon.

Unfortunately, Ambassador Pugh died on Jan. 28, 2013, at age 81, after courageously battling Parkinson's disease. He was a true great American, Marine, public servant and a friend to all of us who served in Lebanon. He will be sincerely missed, but certainly not forgotten.

> Col Peter J. Ferraro, USMC (Ret) Branch Chief, Reference Branch History Division MCB Quantico, Va.

Dick Camp's description of the embassy bombing of 1983 is a continuing testament to the bravery, courage and dedication of Marines everywhere, and certainly those Marines on duty in Beirut on April 18, 1983.

Col Camp's article also touches on one of the low points in Marine leadershipthe bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut in October of that same year. At that time, with the embassy bombing still fresh in my mind, I could not believe the incompetence of the general (and regimental) staff that approved billeting almost an entire battalion in a single multistory complex especially so after the embassy murders six months earlier that showed an enemy all too willing to give their own lives to kill Americans. The Marines in Beirut had been shelled almost daily for several months prior, at least five troops were killed in action, and another 49 wounded, and according to some accounts, even our supposed Israeli allies had shot at Marines.

Yet, the battalion stayed put and exposed. I still can hear senior noncommissioned officers shouting to us while on operations in Vietnam: "Spread 'em out. One round will get you all!" Apparently that simple logic escaped senior staff in 1983.

SSgt Bill Bernstrom USMC, 1964-68 Bangkok, Thailand

He Was Too Good to Be True, Even CID Investigated Him

Whenever the topic of the Beirut, Lebanon, bombing comes up, I think of Sergeant Major Frederick B. Douglass who died in the blast. I tell everyone within earshot what an outstanding Marine and gunnery sergeant he was.

So, here's the word: "Gunny" Douglass did such a good job scrounging parts for our UH-1 Hueys [in Vietnam], that for 200 consecutive days we had no aircraft down waiting for parts. This set some kind of worldwide record in the naval services and drew the attention of people who thought we must be cheating.

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The Navy Criminal Investigation Division came calling and investigated Gunny Douglass' shop. They thought he was stealing the spare parts from the Army, but they couldn't prove a thing. I was a new guy at the time, so I know nothing, but understand from squadron mates that Gunny Douglass traded fair and square for everything he acquired. For example, the exchange rate for one leather Navy flight jacket was one Huey engine and a set of skids.

Anyway, when I put together the "Scarface" squadron [Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367] cruise book for 1969, my commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Warren G. Cretney, directed me to devote a full page as a tribute to Gunnery Sergeant Frederick B. Douglass. The colonel wrote, "Scarface owes a debt of gratitude to Gunnery Sergeant Frederick B. Douglass."

I say now, the people of the United States

and all free people owe their freedom to SgtMaj Frederick B. Douglass and the Marines of Lebanon.

> Mark A. Byrd Dallas

Leadership Might Have Saved Lives During That Ambush in 1968

In the April issue, you published a letter from Joe Tiscia of Bartlett, Tenn., in which he asked why the convoy in which he was riding from Hue to Phu Bai in February of 1968 didn't have proper fire support (the crews of the two Ontos were ordered to ride with empty weapons), and who issued such orders.

There will never be an answer to why such orders were issued. Leadership is not something that can be taught; only situations and how to deal with them can be presented to individuals or groups of

[continued on page 60]



FORWARD OPERATING BASE ZEEBRUGGE, AFGHANISTAN The Green Zone: Security and Stability Are Staples in Kajaki, A Former Taliban Stronghold

Standing on the roof of Afghan Uniformed Police (AUP) Outpost Mamanzi in Helmand province, Afghanistan, First Lieutenant William McPherson asked the outpost commander where insurgents in the area lived.

Kneeling behind a mounted Soviet machine-gun, the AUP policeman smiled and opened his arms wide, motioning with both hands to the other side of the Helmand River.

The policeman pointed to a small, abandoned compound across the river and told McPherson they have received fire from there in the past. McPherson, who is a member of the U.S. Marine-led Kajaki Police Advisor Team (PAT), asked if they had been fired upon from any other locations.

The policeman shook his head and admitted that besides the sporadic fire from the compound, the area had been quiet and many of the locals were enjoying the peace. The attitude of the policeman was lighthearted, but as the two men sat down to drink a cup of tea, he reminded McPherson that insurgents still are a threat to the security in Kajaki.



First Lt Sean Conway talks with one of several road surveyors near an Afghan police outpost at Torioba, March 30. The surveyors were working on a construction project connecting the main road between Sangin and Kajaki.

As the policeman talked with McPherson about the upcoming fighting season, he looked in the distance toward the river and said, "I cannot read and I cannot write, but I can fight. And soon the [insurgents] will know it."

Transition in Kajaki

Like many of the outposts in Kajaki District, Mamanzi sits wedged between Route 611 and the Green Zone, a stretch of fertile, cultivated ground along the Helmand River Valley. For years, the

8

Green Zone provided refuge for insurgents who mounted daily attacks against coalition troops; however, the landscape of the area has changed drastically.

During the past year, Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) have established a permanent footprint in the region. The Afghan National Army, Afghan Uniformed Police and Afghan Local Police have built numerous outposts and bases inside and along the Green Zone. These posts have provided increased security for the local community.

Each day, the security forces patrol through local bazaars and farmlands, establish vehicle checkpoints along the roads and routinely hold security shuras, or meetings, with village elders to discuss security concerns.

The increased stability within the district is unmistakable and has provided the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan with the opportunity to complete state-building measures by improving local infrastructure. The Afghan government currently is working on a road improvement project along Route 611, which will pave the road from Sangin to the Kajaki Dam.

"This road represents a new stage of our lives in this part of Helmand province," said Haji Faizullah, the deputy chief of police for Kajaki. "Two years ago, you couldn't even travel this road for fear of being killed. Now people can go from their homes, to the bazaar, and back again without any worries."

Coalition Forces in Kajaki

Recent successes in Kajaki have allowed coalition forces to transition from a comprehensive counterinsurgency strategy to an increased focus on security force assistance.

With less than two years until coalition forces are scheduled to withdraw from Afghanistan, advisor teams remain fully engaged with their ANSF counterparts to ensure the security transition out of Afghanistan goes smoothly.

"The ANSF know how to fight. There is no question about that," said Marine Brigadier General George W. Smith Jr., Deputy Commander, Security Force Assistance, Regional Command Southwest. "The role of our advisor teams now is to train the trainers and help the Afghans develop those capabilities and functional systems they need to sustain long-term success."

The U.S. Marine-led Kajaki PAT is one of two Marine advisor units serving within the district. The mission of the advisor team mainly is to develop the Afghan's law-enforcement capabilities by training and mentoring the local Afghan Uniformed Police (AUP).

AFGHANISTAN



POLICE PATROL BREAK-Cpl Martin Kim, right, and LCpl James Brockwell take a break at the Afghan Uniform Police Outpost Mamuriyet, April 1. The Marine-led Kajaki Police Advisor Team visited the post and patrolled through the local bazaar with the Afghan police. Before leaving, the police fed the Marines a meal that included sheep liver and bread.

With the local judicial system taking root and the recent transition of security at the Lashkar Gah detention facility, it is vital for the police to learn basic skills including crime-scene investigation and evidence collection.

"The process of evidence collection leads to the actual detention and conviction of criminals in court," said Buck McCluskey, a law-enforcement professional with the Kajaki PAT team. "The Afghans must continue to build their investigative capabilities for long-term success within the criminal justice system."

Although the PAT interacts daily with the policemen, the advisors do not supervise or direct the actions of the AUP. They only observe police activities and mentor the leaders within the organization.

Recently, the advisors recognized that the AUP didn't have their own organic capability to reduce improvised explosive devices (IEDs), so the PAT developed an Explosive Hazards Reduction Course to teach the Afghans how to detect and remove IEDs. Already 17 policemen have completed the two-week course.

According to Major Burke Eltringham, officer in charge of the PAT, the aim of his team is to teach the police the skills they will need to sustain themselves once coalition forces leave.

"The Afghans have already assumed lead security responsibility within the region," said Eltringham. "As we move forward with advisors and coalition forces stepping into the background, any type of sustainable professional policing capacity is all the more important. By continuing to teach them, we are ensuring a secure future for the people in Afghanistan."

Sgt Bobby Yarbrough

Combat Correspondent, Regional Command Southwest

PICKEL MEADOW

"Island Warriors" Add Scout Skiers **Training to Every Clime and Place**

Leathernecks from 2d Battalion, Third Marine Regiment graduated from scout skier training April 10 at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif.

Staff Sergeant Richard Sweetman, a scout skier chief with MCMWTC, said the 21-day course teaches Marines how to serve as scouts for their company or battalion.

"Scout skiers fall under the command of mountain leaders, which are usually sergeants, staff sergeants, lieutenants and captains," Sweetman said. "The scout skiers themselves are usually privates first class to first lieutenants. All of these Marines together pave the way for the battalion by surveying the area, for whatever the mission at hand is."

Sweetman said the instructors focus on teaching Marines to select routes that avoid avalanches and to set up overwatch for mountain movements. The students



LCpl Justin Hoppis (foreground), a machine-gun squad leader with "Echo" Company, 2d Bn, 3d Marines, and other "Island Warriors" of 2/3 participate in scout skier training at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif.

received avalanche training and learned how to rescue an avalanche victim, how to set and prevent ambushes and how to conduct a site survey for patrol bases in snow-covered environments through deception and concealment.

"The stress is to teach them over-thesnow mobility, like how to ski and use snowshoes, and route selections," Sweetman said. "What they learn is not normal land navigation. They need to know why they pick certain routes, how long it will take and how many breaks they will need. The key for them is to get there and be able to fight once they arrive."

The "Island Warriors" of 2/3 were chosen for training according to their physical fitness test scores.

"Marines are welcome to volunteer," Sweetman said. "But because of the altitude and the loads they have to carry, they need to score a first class PFT, unadjusted for age or altitude."

The scout skiers train at altitudes averaging 9,000 feet, with packs weighing between 25 and 80 pounds.

Lance Corporal Vincent DeLuca, a team leader for 3d Platoon, Company E, said the training has been hard, especially going uphill with the weight they carry.

"When you have an 80-pound pack on,

it's hard to walk, period," DeLuca said. "Then [when] you add in sinking into the snow and moving a certain way with skis on, it's even more difficult. But practicing helps, and talking to the other guys in my company helps since we are all going through this together."

DeLuca said the training has been beneficial, especially for future deployments.

"If we enter a war with a mountainous environment, our job as scout skiers is to go out in the mountains in front of the battalion and set up their best route," DeLuca said. "We go up and provide overwatch, similar to what guardian angels do."

LCpl Joseph DeMarco, a team leader for 1st Plt, "Echo" Co, said skiing with a tactical mindset has been difficult, due to always moving and remaining quiet.

"We are trying to do our job, which is patrolling or setting up an ambush, and skiing interferes," DeMarco said. "But snow is so much easier to dig in than dirt. As far as using this training in the future, I think our battalion can use us to their advantage. From the mountains, we can provide information on terrain and enemy positions."

Private First Class Eli Deogracia-Torres, a radio operator with Headquarters and

Service Co, said the best part was the instructors' training style.

"The instructors wouldn't try to hold our hands through the training," Deogracia-Torres said. "They would come to make sure we were doing well, but they trusted that we were doing our job."

"We hit the requirement of any clime, any place," Sweetman said. "People tend to shut down in mountain weather, and with these guys being trained here, they can rise up and be those leaders and get the mission accomplished. When they return to their unit, they will be the leaders when it comes to movements because of their drive and morale. They will feel it too."

> LCpl Suzanna Lapi PAO, MCB Hawaii

THE MARIANAS

Residents Voice Their Concerns To Having Live-Fire Ranges, Training Areas on Tinian, Pagan

Residents on Tinian and Saipan gathered information and recently submitted comments during public scoping meetings regarding the proposed development of live-fire ranges and training areas on Tinian and Pagan islands in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The meetings, which concluded April 12, allowed government officials to provide information, answer questions and seek public input on the current preliminary alternatives proposed in the CNMI Joint Military Training Environmental Impact Statement and Overseas EIS. The current proposal includes three unit-level training alternatives for Tinian and two combinedlevel training alternatives for the island of Pagan.

As the United States looks to rebalance forces in the Pacific, military studies have identified a large number of joint training deficiencies in the Western Pacific. The U.S. Pacific Command initiative seeks to reduce those deficiencies with appropriate ranges and training areas to ensure military units can meet their mandate to train combat-ready forces to execute operations capable of winning wars, deter aggression, maintain freedom of the seas and provide humanitarian and other support to civilian governments.

Project officials will continue collecting public input and collaborating with federal and local agencies throughout the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to determine the best alternatives for Tinian and Pagan, with a final decision scheduled for release in 2016.

"NEPA is about a three-year process, and we are right at the beginning," said Craig Wheldon, executive director for U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific.

"The purpose of this visit we've done ... was to demonstrate to the local population what we have in mind and listen to them to see what kind of alternatives, what kind of comments they have, what concerns they have, so that we can start refining our courses of action," he added.

An Environmental Impact Statement is prepared when a proposed federal action has the potential for significant effects on the natural or human environment and analyzes the potential direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the proposed action. An Overseas EIS is prepared when a proposed action goes beyond 12 nautical miles from the coastline and is included in that proposal because of the danger zones surrounding the islands during military training activities.

Throughout the week, government officials also met with regulatory agencies, such as the National Park Service, the Department of Public Lands, the CNMI Department of Cultural and Community Affairs and the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife, key stakeholders and elected officials to discuss the proposal.

Local residents were able to voice their concerns and ideas through those meetings and the open-house-format scoping sessions, providing important information



Above: Tim Robert, lead operational planner at U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii, addresses Saipan residents during the last in a series of public scoping meetings April 12.

Below: Maj Bryan Swenson responds to Saipan resident John Castro during a public scoping meeting April 10. Swenson-who is assigned to Pacific Division, Plans, Policies and Operations Department, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps-was one of many subject-matter experts on hand to provide information, answer questions and gather comments and concerns from local residents regarding proposed development of live-fire ranges and training areas on Tinian and Pagan islands.



to scoping officials. Whelden said nobody knows the area better than the people who live there, so it's important to listen to them and take into account everything they can provide in order to determine the best course of action.

Members of the Tinian Cattlemen's Association raised their concerns and even provided suggestions for solutions, as cattle owners on the island currently use government-leased land for grazing areas.

"Our primary concern would be to try to convince the military to incorporate the cattle industry into their planning so that we can hopefully coexist on this property that we are developing," said Jose Dela Cruz, president of the Tinian Cattlemen's Association. "The beef industry here on the island is very important; it's a food commodity, and we feel it is one way of contributing to our local economy."

Additional concerns focused on airspace limitations, access to areas on Tinian used for tourism, and access to Pagan, where an active volcano forced the sparse population to leave the island in 1981. A handful of people currently live on Pagan, despite the ongoing volcanic danger, and former residents periodically enjoy visiting the island.

Residents who participated in the scoping meetings said they liked having project representatives on hand to answer questions and appreciated the opportunity to voice their concerns.

"I really appreciate [these representa-



IT'S JUST AWESOME!-A leatherneck with Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command fires an M240B machine gun during night-fire sustainment training in Helmand province, Afghanistan, March 28. Among other missions, MARSOC Marines train and mentor Afghan National Security Forces.

tives] coming here and hearing our side, our views on this property," said Dela Cruz. "We understand clearly [the property on Tinian] is leased by the military, but at the same time, coming here and giving us the opportunity to contribute, to have a say in this is a wonderful thing."

Steven Lee is a concerned citizen on Saipan who lived for a time on Pagan with his family and has connections to those few still residing there. He said he attended one meeting to ask questions and gather information from officials, stating he is concerned about preserving the beautiful island and the history his family and others have with the island.

"Everything I asked, they answered my questions and gave me more information," explained Lee. "I just want [officials] to think about it, and I hope the military and the government here in Saipan listen to us and give us a chance to say what we want to say. That's why I came to scoping."

Leaders on both Saipan and Tinian, such as Saipan Senator Pete Reyes, CNMI Senate, and Ramon Dela Cruz, mayor of the municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan, echoed some of the concerns of local residents, but also confirmed their support of military training on the islands and their desire to work with military officials to benefit civilian and military interests.

"The public needs to know we want to be good neighbors, ultimately," said Whelden. "And the reason this is a threeyear process is because we need to study it, we need to conduct the analysis that's required, based on what we hear from them. We hope that at the end of the threeyear period, we come up with an alternative that's a win-win for everybody."

MSgt Pauline Franklin PAO, Marine Corps Activity Guam

ZAMBALES Philippine Marines Share Survival Skills With U.S. Marines

Leathernecks from the 3d Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group and Combat Logistics Regiment 35, Third Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan, participated in a Jungle Environmental Survival Training (JEST) course instructed by Philippine reconnaissance Marines, April 10, in Zambales during Exercise Balikatan 2013.

The training helped the Marines better understand jungle warfare tactics and further strengthened the relationship between the two forces.

Philippine Marine SSgt Calixton Deatras blows onto a charred bamboo stem, demonstrating to U.S. Marines how to start a fire during a Jungle Environmental Survival Training course April 10 in Zambales, Republic of the Philippines, as part of Exercise Balikatan 2013. The Marines, who were taking part in the annual bilateral exercise, are based in Okinawa, Japan. "This was a good opportunity to share the information we have and the tactics we use to survive in the jungle," said Philippine Marine Sergeant Bimbo Busico, JEST instructor and intelligence analyst with the Philippines Force Reconnaissance Bn. "It wasn't only about training, but also about the camaraderie amongst the forces. We are always sharing our tactics and techniques."

The bilateral training led by the Philippine Marines showcased the strong relationship, according to U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Iain A. Orr, an engineer equipment mechanic with CLR-35.

As treaty allies, the Armed Forces of the Philippines and U.S. military have a longstanding friendship that has contributed to regional security and stability and is deeply rooted in cooperation.

"It was nice to be able to learn some different ways to survive in a jungle environment," said Orr.

The JEST was an important factor in achieving one of the goals of Balikatan 13, which was to increase interoperability and enhance military-to-military relations and combined combat capabilities.

"We also taught them about the psychological aspect on how to survive in the jungle, because no matter how well-trained you are, you may not know the things that will affect your mind," said Busico. "Your skills will be useless if you do not have prioritization."

"I enjoyed this training, and I was able to take in a lot of new techniques on how to catch food, gather water and make a shelter," said Orr.

Balikatan is an annual Philippine-U.S. bilateral exercise. Humanitarian assistance and training activities enable the Philippine and American military personnel to build lasting relationships, train together and provide assistance in communities where the need is the greatest.

> LCpl Brandon C. Suhr PAO, MCl Pacific



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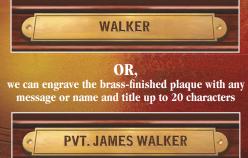
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Bonnie Amos

Commandant's Wife Closes the Distance Between Marines Serving in Afghanistan and Families at Home

By Mary D. Karcher

t's hard for Marine spouses to imagine the daily life of a leatherneck in Afghanistan. They may get a glimpse from a book, but rarely do they have a chance to look through the eyes of a fellow spouse who has whispered goodbyes (and shouted hellos) to her Marine for 42 years. That is the perspective Bonnie Amos presented through her trip report: "CENTCOM ... Viewed Through My Eyes, Christmas 2012."

The audience in Humphrey Hall at Fort Belvoir, Va., on March 13, 2013, warmed to Mrs. Amos when she described how she had pleaded for four years to visit deployed Marines at Christmas. The reason that was even a possibility is that Bonnie Amos is the wife of the 35th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James F. Amos. Finally, in 2012, Mrs. Amos received her wish, and with the blessing of the Corps' senior leaders, she joined the Commandant and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Micheal P. Barrett to take Christmas greetings to Marines.

Through photos and narration and told with humor, poignancy and grace, Mrs. Amos shared with her fellow military spouses and others what she learned about Marines in Afghanistan.

When she spoke about the trip during her March presentation, she depicted snapshots of life there: the setting ("mountains of dirt"), military vehicles, helmets and flak jackets, memorials, FOBs, VSPs, camps, "cans," heads and IED dogs. In the process the audience learned about the Marines she met. "It was my privilege to be able to be your eyes, your ears, your representatives. And that is what I told the Marines: 'Bonnie Amos is your mom, dad, brother, sister, wife, husband, sons and daughters. I represent them since they could not be in Afghanistan.' "

So a little bit of home arrived in time for Christmas. packaged as Bonnie Amos.

Mrs. Amos traveled in uparmored humvees, a tiltrotor MV-22 Osprey and CH-46 and CH-53 helicopters. She learned to "jump in and out really fast. ... You've got to be a tough girl over there." And she was.

She saw how the Marines were "on their 'A' game," a phrase she used often when describing the Marines' intense focus on the mission to her audience. During one convoy, a Marine in the gun turret of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) armored vehicle explained to Mrs. Amos that should he become incapacitated, she should apply his tourniquet and jam a blood-coagulant packet into the wound. Marine business is intense.

Perhaps the greatest lesson Mrs. Amos gave to spouses during her March talk. however. was that the transition from battle to home is not an easy one.

In VSP (Village Stability Platform) Puzeh in the Sangin District, an area which sustained a high concentration of improvised explosive device attacks, the Amoses took Christmas cheer to Special Operations Marines-including two female Marines who served on the female engagement team (or FET)-and an IED dog. Mrs. Amos heard firsthand how the FET interacted with village families, helping to improve education, health and livelihood.

There were visits to other forward operating bases (FOBs) including Payne,



Mrs. Bonnie Amos

Hanson, Geronimo, Price, Sabit Qadam, Kajaki and Musa Qa'leh. Stark photos revealed simple living conditions, including a few bullet holes. Landscapes were sparse, dry and colored in various shades of brown. What put a little life in those landscapes were the stories Mrs. Amos told about the Marines.

The somber act of Mrs. Amos leaving a coin at a memorial erected to honor those who gave their lives in the contested area of FOB Kajaki was balanced by Gen Amos administering the oath to a reenlisting corporal on Christmas Day.

Visiting FOB Musa Qa'leh took them to "Fox" Company, 2d Battalion, Seventh Marine Regiment-descendents of the famous unit that held Toktong Pass in Korea in 1950. A photo of the Fox 2/7 cook, rifle slung over his shoulder, proudly standing next to makeshift shelves filled with spices, elicited a story about how Marines value their cook and how a cook takes care of his Marines. The cook told Mrs. Amos that his mother and fellow church members kept him supplied with spices and even sent plastic Christmas poinsettias. Sometimes it's the little things that mean the most over there.

Although they could not stay for the holiday meal he prepared, Mrs. Amos did sample his apple pie. She said it was some of the best she ever had eaten.

Mrs. Amos paid tribute to the medical staffs in Bagram and Bastion in Afghanistan, as well as at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, none of which had patients with combat wounds at the Right: While addressing military spouses in March, Mrs. Bonnie Amos discussed her visits last Christmas season with Marines and sailors in Afghanistan and other distant locations. In this photograph, Mrs. Amos is focused on SSgt Michele Pointer, Family Readiness Officer, Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion, Fort Meade, Md. To SSgt Pointer's left are Marine spouses Amber DeCarli, wife of Sgt Matthew DeCarli; Nicole Gaynor, wife of Capt Dane Gaynor; and Vanessa Colon-Butler, wife of Sgt Eric Colon-Butler.





Above: The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen James F. Amos, and Mrs. Bonnie Amos wish Marines and sailors a Merry Christmas at Combat Outpost Payne, Afghanistan, Dec. 24, 2012.

Below: Gen James F. Amos and his wife, Bonnie, serve Christmas dinner to Marines and sailors aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, Dec. 25, 2012. The Commandant and Mrs. Amos spent their holiday visiting Marines at different bases in Helmand province.



time she visited. A photograph of Bagram's empty receiving area looked thankfully still, yet a respectful silence came to the audience as they viewed the huge American flag suspended from the ceiling, the first sight that arriving wounded would see from their stretchers.

Mrs. Amos also described her visit to Navy spouses at Naval Support Activity Bahrain; flying out on a CH-46 to visit the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit aboard USS *Peleliu* (LHA-5); visiting Marines in Djibouti; and visiting Ramstein, Germany, where they met the Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team (FAST) response team. In a very short time, Mrs. Amos had been in the air, on land and at sea to take homefront wishes to those who are the "first to fight for right and freedom."

Perhaps the greatest lesson Mrs. Amos gave to spouses during her March talk, however, was that the transition from battle to home is not an easy one. While on station, Marines stay on their "A" game, even during holidays. They are not thinking about being home for Christmas since that can be counterproductive. While we are trimming trees, sending cards and singing carols, she said, our deployed Marines are focusing on their jobs.

Mrs. Amos also commented that after her whirlwind visit, she fully understands how reintegration is harder than the deployment itself. Having spent just 3½ days in "their" world, she understands the time it takes to enter "our" world again.

Editor's note: Many will recognize Mary Karcher's byline from her days as a Leatherneck staff writer and editor of various segments of the magazine. We are pleased to have her work back in the magazine.

"Johnny the Hard" Settles for Nothing Less Than the Best

By Maj Allan C. Bevilacqua, USMC (Ret)

"Major Hughes was my ideal. He was everything I wanted to be." -1stlt (later BGen) Robert Latané Montague

–1stLt (later BGen) Robert Latane Montague Navy Cross France, 1918

The officer of Marines who wears the ribbon of the Good Conduct Medal attesting to his prior service as an enlisted Marine is no oddity. Of all the U.S. Armed Forces, the Marine Corps always has offered the greatest number of paths from the enlisted to the commissioned ranks. One of the most unusual of these Marines came around a little more than 100 years ago.

In the early 1900s, the Marine Corps inaugurated a program that would allow young men with a high-school diploma to enlist for a period of one year, after which those who were evaluated as having the proper potential would be commissioned as regular officers. In today's Marine Corps, a high-school diploma is the norm, not the exception. That wasn't the case a century ago when few Marines, many of whom were foreign born, could boast of having completed 12 years of schooling. A high-school diploma, it was felt, was indicative of a better than average education, the mark of a young man who had applied himself, a young man with possibilities.

That was the theory. Unfortunately, the experiment produced spotty results in practice and was discontinued after only a few years. Every now and again, however, the program uncovered a real gem. It did just that in November 1900, when it came up with a 20-year-old New Yorker named John Arthur Hughes. No one knew it at the time, but the new recruit was destined to be a Marine Corps legend, known by the nickname "Johnny the Hard." The name always was spoken with a mixture of awe, admiration and exasperation.

In the beginning, though, there was merely a nice young man who, it was noticed, held himself to a rigid standard of conduct, applied himself totally to each and every task he was assigned and had short shrift for anyone who didn't do the same. During his period of initial instruction at Marine Barracks, Boston Navy



Yard, those with sharp eyes for such things were quick to take note of his ramrodstraight posture, booming voice and iceblue eyes that could cut through steel. He was a young man with possibilities, one who wasted no time in making his mark as a man who could be depended upon. He would do to make a Marine officer.

On 17 Dec. 1901, John Arthur Hughes was appointed a Marine second lieutenant and reported to the School of Application in Philadelphia, the forerunner of today's The Basic School at Quantico, Va. The School of Application of 1901 was nothing like The Basic School of today. It was little more than a fast-paced familiarization of those qualities expected of a Marine officer. Young Hughes wasted no time in becoming known as a "quick study," fast to pick up and retain instruction, far above average. He was a hard charger long before the phrase became popular.



Congress photo)

Soon enough, he found himself at his first duty station, the Philippines, where the Philippine Insurrection was wearing itself out in a flurry of minor skirmishes and bushwhackings. Under the leadership and guidance of such noted Marines as Littleton W. T. Waller Jr. and the redoubtable Hiram I. "Hiking Hiram" Bearss, he learned the practical aspects of leading men and hearing shots fired in anger. By some means or other, exactly how is uncertain, he came to be widely known as Johnny the Hard.

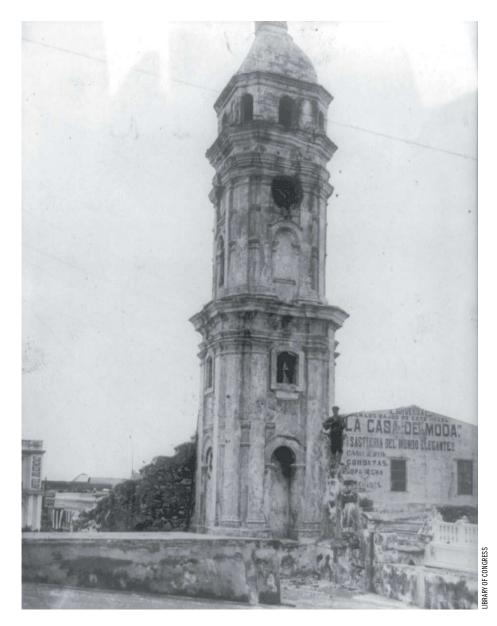
Hard he was—a demanding taskmaster who settled for nothing less than the best. This attribute can lead some men to become martinets, lording it over the men they command, earning their loathing in the process. But it's hard to loathe the leader who holds himself to the same standards to which he holds you, who does everything he asks you to do and does it better. Johnny the Hard—hard but fair—soon won the respect and, yes, the admiration and affection of his Marines. He may have been a hard nose, but he was a hard nose who led from the front by example.

Those early years of Johnny the Hard were a miniature of the Marine Corps of the era, a fair example of the Corps' activities: semi-colonial actions in the Philippines, Cuba and Panama interspersed with duties as old as the Marine Corps itself at Mare Island, Calif.; Philadelphia; and Portsmouth, N.H. Along the way, Hughes was promoted to first lieutenant in 1903 and to captain in 1908, with the legend of Johnny the Hard always growing, repeated wherever Marines who had served with him gathered.

In 1914, the Marine Corps began to emerge from being a small expeditionary force to the engine of war it became on the battlefields of France, an evolution that led to the Marine Corps of today. Trouble was brewing in Mexico in 1914. Three years earlier, in 1911, Porfirio Diaz, the strongman who had held sway over Mexico for three decades, surprisingly had been ousted from office by a lightly regarded opponent, Francisco I. Madero, and forced into exile in France.

Then, in 1913, Madero himself was assassinated by supporters of General Victoriano Huerta, who seized power, but not without strong opposition from constitutionalist Venustiano Carranza. Mexico exploded in gunfire.

So what? Mexico always had revolutions. What did it matter to the United States? But the latest set-to in Mexico was different. Germany, which had interests of its own to pursue, had stepped into the picture, openly supporting the Huerta regime and pledging to support it with arms





LtCol Hiram I. Bearss



LtCol Wendell C. Neville

and munitions. Germany's actions matched its words.

In April 1914, the German freighter *Ypiranga* was already en route to the port city of Vera Cruz, loaded with weapons for the Huerta forces. (Three years later with the discovery of the infamous Zimmermann Telegram, it was learned that Germany was urging Mexico to invade the American Southwest. That led to Congress declaring war against Germany.)

Mexican revolutions were Mexican affairs. On the other hand, when a European Above: While attempting to clear Vera Cruz, Marines and sailors took a great deal of Mexican sniper fire. Snipers from this tower in Vera Cruz drew immediate naval gunfire response from USS *Chester* (CL-1), a light cruiser.

power attempted to exploit one of those revolutions to its advantage, the U.S. President could not, would not, stand around and watch. For nearly 100 years, the Monroe Doctrine had put Europe on notice that the Western Hemisphere was off-limits to European adventurers and colonizers. Rear Admiral Frank F. Fletcher's squadron, with the Marines of Lieutenant Colonel Wendell C. "Buck" Neville's 2d Regiment of the 1st Advanced Base Brigade embarked, was already on station in the Gulf of Mexico.

Early on the morning of 21 April, acting on the orders of President Woodrow Wilson, Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels ordered RADM Fletcher to seize the port of Vera Cruz. Before noon Buck Neville On 11 May 1914, President Woodrow Wilson attended a National Memorial Service at the Brooklyn Navy Yard honoring the Marines and sailors killed in Vera Cruz, Mexico, during the Mexican Revolution.



Right: A U.S. Navy brigade operated on the left of the Marines at Vera Cruz. In this photograph, a sailor searches a Vera Cruz citizen for weapons.

had his men ashore; their objective was to secure the port facilities, including the cable station, nearby electric power plant and customshouse.

At the head of 15th Company, Johnny the Hard was one of the first ashore. Mexican soldiers, local militiamen and convicts released from the city jail contested the advance, laying down a nasty fire on the Marines. In the thick of the fighting, leading from the front, Johnny the Hard moved the company forward from house to house and along rooftops, eliminating pockets of resistance as they were encountered.

Oblivious to enemy fire, untouched by it, Captain Hughes was everywhere at once, directing the fight like a conductor directing a symphony orchestra and, in the process, being largely instrumental in the securing of all objectives before nightfall.

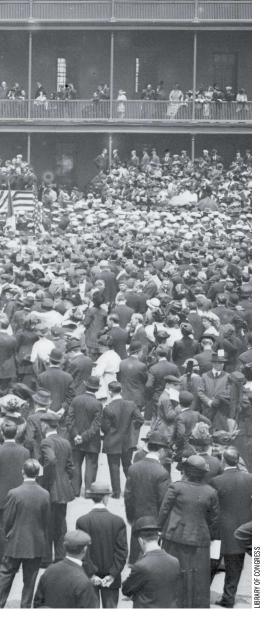
Johnny the Hard wasn't quite through. The following day, 22 April, the fighting

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continued, and casualties among the Navy element of the landing force soared when a column of bluejackets was ambushed and cut off. The situation could have been worse but for the timely arrival of 15th Co with Johnny the Hard at its head, blazing away with his Colt Model 1911 .45-caliber service pistol.

For his actions at Vera Cruz on 21-22 April 1914, John Arthur Hughes was awarded the Medal of Honor. The citation would record that "Captain Hughes was in both days' fighting at the head of his company, and was eminent and conspic-



uous in his conduct, leading his men with skill and courage." That certainly was right. Johnny the Hard didn't scare worth a damn. In later years, there would be a number of voices raised in skepticism some of it justified—at the large number of Medals of Honor passed out for the intervention at Vera Cruz. No one ever said that Johnny the Hard didn't earn his fair and square.

Latin America was a pesky region in those teenage years of the 20th century. No sooner was the Vera Cruz problem solved than events in the Dominican Republic got out of hand. The pot began to simmer before all American forces had been withdrawn from Mexico, and by 1916, it all boiled over. Where Mexico had been pretty much split between the backers of Huerta and Carranza, the Dominican Republic seemed to have almost as many factions as it had people, a countrywide free-for-all, everybody against everybody else.

Most Americans couldn't have said exactly where the Dominican Republic Below: Quantico was just being established as a Marine training center when "Johnny the Hard" Hughes arrived for pre-WW I training in 1917. (MCA Archives photo)



was and couldn't have cared less. The trouble was the island of Hispaniola that the Dominican Republic shared with Haiti, a problem all of its own, sat squarely astride the eastern approaches to the Panama Canal, absolutely vital to America's interests. After two years of failed diplomatic efforts to reconcile the bewildering number of feuding factions, President Wilson ordered the Marines ashore in May 1916, beginning an occupation that would last until 1924.

By and large, the occupation worked out well. Over time, order was restored throughout the country, the national debt was slashed dramatically, economic growth burgeoned, and, for the first time in the country's history, a viable road network linked the republic's various regions.

A functioning government and a national army were taking shape.

Only in the eastern regions of El Seibo and San Pedro de Macoris was there intense resistance to the occupying forces. Ironically, it was in the relatively peaceful north, near the city of San Francisco de Macoris, on 21 Nov. that Johnny the Hard went down with a gunshot wound to his left leg that would plague him for the rest of his life. The wound never healed properly. It dribbled blood and pus every so often, and from time to time bits and pieces of bone would work their way out. He was never entirely without pain in that leg, and while he gritted his teeth and plugged ahead (Johnny the Hard didn't know how to do anything else), the pain was always there.

The pain was there when Johnny the Hard, then a major, arrived at the new base the Marine Corps was carving out of the Virginia woods at Quantico in July 1917. He arrived to take command of the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines that was just then forming from scratch. There was a lot of work to be done. Everything had to be put together from nothing, and Johnny the Hard wasted no time getting it underway.

In only three short months, America would declare war against Germany, and the battalion would be up to its neck in that war before long. Young men straight from the farm and the corner drugstore would have to fight that war. As only he could, Johnny the Hard impressed on his officers and noncommissioned officers that readying those young men was going to be their job if it took all day, every day. It just about did.

Working from "can't see" to "can't see," from well before dawn to well after dark, the battalion worked its way into shape, with the battalion commander in the thick of it, favoring his gimpy left leg, but not giving it any slack. When Johnny the Hard conducted battalion drill, his booming voice could be heard all over Quantico. It could be heard when he had to drive home a point as well. Somehow or other the job got done. On 23 Sept. 1917, 1st Bn, the first element of 6th Marines, sailed for France.

In France, more training was interspersed with stretches on the line in quiet sectors, just to get the feel of things. All that came to an abrupt end in the spring of 1918. German Field Marshal Paul von Hindenburg, ably abetted by his brilliant staff officers Erich Ludendorf and Max Hoffmann, had thrown a massive offensive against the British and French forces holding the left of the line on the Western Front. Designed to force Britain and France into a negotiated peace before American manpower and industrial might could



make themselves felt, the offensive was succeeding all too well.

By May, French commander in chief Gen Henri Petain was asking GEN John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), to help stem the tide. "We'll give you everything we have," was GEN Pershing's reply.

The Marines of Johnny the Hard's 1st Bn, 6th Marines, a part of the famed Marine Brigade of the 2d Division, United States Regular, soon found themselves in a first-class fight with the cream of the German Army in a forest known as the Bois de Belleau (Belleau Wood). It was a vicious affair on a scale far larger than anything in which Marines ever had been involved. For a solid month, Marines and Prussian Guards battled each other, no holds barred, fighting with rifles and machine guns, mortars and grenades, while the artillery of both sides poured in a deluge of high-explosive and gas shells.

Johnny the Hard lasted only eight days in the cauldron of Belleau Wood before going down with wounds that would put him in a hospital for a month. Those eight days were fast and furious days with Hughes sending 1st Bn, 6th Marines into a knock-down, drag-out brawl with Germans attempting to hold the sector of woods about the critical village of Lucy le Bocage. As usual, Johnny the Hard ranged the battle line, driving, driving always driving. The leathenecks of 1st Bn, 6th Marines were falling fast, but they were taking droves of Germans with them, getting in close, slashing with bayonets and clubbing with rifle butts.

Johnny the Hard's Marines must have taken on something of the temperament of their battalion commander. One German officer wrote that the attack of 1st Bn, 6th Marines had been "the worst day of my life. God has mercifully preserved me. They fight like devils." For his bravery and leadership at Belleau Wood, Johnny the Hard was awarded the Navy Cross. From the French government there was the Croix de Guerre, 1914-18, with two palms.

With his wounds from Belleau Wood barely healed and with his gimpy leg still tormenting him, Johnny the Hard nevertheless rejoined his battalion in time to take part in the attack at Soissons the following month. If Belleau Wood had been a bloodbath for 6th Marines, Soissons was a torrent of blood. Going into the attack on 19 July, the regiment was met by a German artillery barrage one Marine described as "a black curtain." Maxim machine-gunners laid down a fire that another Marine could remember only as being "a thousand times worse [than at Belleau Wood]."

Soon enough, Hughes was forced to report to regimental headquarters that 1st Bn, 6th Marines had been shot down to barely more than 100 effectives. Shortly afterward, he went down with a double lung full of gas. That was the end of the war for Johnny the Hard. He would be promoted to lieutenant colonel and remain on active duty, but his torn leg and blistered lungs were beginning to be entirely too much. John Arthur Hughes was transferred to the Retired List in 1920. Upon retirement, he was advanced to the rank of colonel.

After leaving the Marine Corps, he joined his father in business for a number of years. He settled in Cleveland in the early 1930s, where he served as director of the Ohio Repeal Council, managing that state's campaign to ratify the 21st Amendment rescinding Prohibition. Following ratification, he became director of the Ohio Liquor Control Board. In 1936, he was appointed safety director of the Great Lakes Exposition held in Cleveland in 1936 and 1937.

Colonel John Arthur Hughes, Johnny the Hard, died on 25 May 1942 and was interred with full military honors in Virginia's Arlington National Cemetery.

Wouldn't he have been something else with whom to serve? Now, that would have been an experience.

Semper Fidelis, Johnny!

Editor's note: Maj Allan Bevilacqua, a Leatherneck contributing editor, is a former enlisted Marine who served in the Korean and Vietnam wars. Later in his career, he was an instructor at Amphibious Warfare School and Command and Staff College, Quantico, Va.



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Marine Noncommissioned Officers: On the Front Lines of Leadership

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

A s I near the conclusion of my third year as your Commandant, I am awestruck by the quality and character of the young Marines throughout our Corps. In particular, I could not be more proud of our noncommissioned officers whose professionalism and selfless devotion to duty truly make them a vital part of America's Corps of Marines.

From the recruiting process, through recruit training, and into the operating forces, we hold our NCOs responsible for the care and development of our nation's most precious resource—the individual Marine. No other service in this nation, nor in any other, fully entrusts its NCOs to the extent that we do. Since 1775, this "special trust and confidence" in the character and ability of the Marine noncommissioned officer has been the cornerstone of our success in both making Marines and winning battles.

When Marines sew that second stripe on their sleeves, their focus changes from that of one's self to that of their small unit. The NCOs' duty is to transition their commander's intent into action so as to accomplish the unit's mission. In so doing, Marine NCOs incur obligations to their



Gen Charles C. Krulak

unit, to the individual Marines who comprise that unit, to their seniors and to themselves.

NCOs' Obligations to the Unit

The NCOs' primary obligations to their unit are to win on the battlefield, accomplish all assigned tasks and to build and foster unit cohesion. In so doing, they must create trust among Marines from vastly different social backgrounds and cultural experiences.

The NCOs build such trust through demanding training, by setting meaningful standards and holding their Marines accountable to those standards, and by requiring Marines to work together as a team to accomplish the mission. They build this trust by eliminating the ignorance of prejudice while, at the same time, educating Marines on the value of diversity. This mutual trust is all too easily destroyed when the NCO tolerates ... even momentarily ... racist overtures, sexual harassment, fraternization or hazing. NCOs who encourage or turn their heads to any of these evils will immediately lose credibility ... and unit cohesion will be destroyed.

Our noncommissioned officers understand that the title "Marine" is the common thread that binds us together. They realize that the entire Corps is an "elite" force and that completing recruit training is the only "initiation" required. They know that a unit can ill afford to foster cliques or demonstrate favoritism based on race, religion or gender without ruining unit cohesion and thus destroying combat effectiveness. Instead, they assign duties,

When Marines sew that second stripe on their sleeves, their focus changes from that of one's self to that of their small unit.

awards and billets on the basis of proficiency, character and potential and without regard to some other unjust bias.

They not only employ this philosophy when interacting with juniors, but they set the example by consistently using it with respect to their peers.

NCOs' Obligations to Their Subordinates

The Marine NCO must consistently balance discipline with compassion. NCOs understand that the authority and power entrusted to them must be wielded with responsibility and that they must never use it to take advantage of subordinates. Every order or instruction they issue and every act they perform must take into consideration what will make their team more effective and combat capable. Every effort must be made to ensure mission accomplishment and Marine welfare.

NCOs are obligated to provide for the professional development of each of their charges. This development best occurs through challenging, creative and wellrounded training. While the development of the overall training syllabus is the responsibility of the larger unit, the NCO must actively seek out ways to improve upon it and to expand it. German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's assertion that "the best form of 'welfare' for the troops is first class training" remains as true today as it has been throughout the history of warfare.

Demanding and challenging training immediately demonstrates to Marines the need for mutual trust in order to fight, survive and win in combat situations. Creative, innovative training also stimulates the young Marines' interest and cultivates his or her enthusiasm, thereby helping them to maintain a positive attitude and a thirst for learning.

Since NCOs know that there is more to being a good Marine than simply performing well in military occupational specialty (MOS) skills, they ensure that proper emphasis is placed on common Marine Battle Skills and General Subjects Training. While they refrain from unrealistically expecting every Marine to score 300 on the physical fitness test, qualify "High Expert" on the rifle range and become "Water Safety Qualified," they demand that Marines give their very best in attempting to reach realistic, individual goals and that every Marine be strictly held to Marine Corps standards. They reward and discipline wisely and fairly with the goal of generating selfdiscipline within each of their Marines.

NCOs are obligated to pass on the "gift" of tactical and technical expertise within their MOS, just as it was passed on to them



Sgt Matthew J. Stotts, an instructor with the Second Marine Logistics Group's Corporals Course, debriefs a squad after a simulated engagement aboard MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., in February 2013.

... and better. Marine NCOs remember the leadership examples and training techniques that their seniors used during their own development ... both good and bad. They avoid the temptation to repeat mistakes which may have been made during their own development simply because "that's the way it was done when I was a lance corporal."

The conscientious NCOs train and prepare their subordinates to assume the next higher leadership position. They do this through example and by using General John A. Lejeune's timeless leadership philosophy of teacher-scholar, parentchild. This approach will not only build team depth, it will also provide continuity and redundancy on the field of battle. However, NCOs must be careful not to use this approach as an excuse for not doing their share of the work.

Marine NCOs are obligated to identify and strengthen their juniors' weaknesses by working with them toward improvement. This obligation is not confined merely to Marine specific skill deficiencies. Rather, it extends to areas such as marital, financial and substance abuse problems as well.

Good NCOs know when the problem is beyond their own professional abilities to correct and are intelligent enough to seek



Above: Cpl Jefferson M. Urrutia, a radio operator in the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit's command element, is congratulated by the MEU sergeant major, SgtMaj John W. Scott, on March 15 upon Urrutia's completion of the MEU's Corporals Course held at sea aboard USS *Peleliu* (LHA-5).

Below: Second Lt Tiffany Sturgell welcomes LCpl Skyler Deuter to the NCO ranks as she promotes him to corporal at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, March 1.



help for the subordinate from the chain of command, the unit substance abuse control officer, the chaplain or the Family Service Center as appropriate. In short, being a capable NCO requires demonstrating care and compassion for the Marine and his or her family as fellow human beings and not simply as "tools" with which to get the job done. Marines are smart! They see right through insincerity.

Solid NCOs consistently set a positive example for their subordinates to emulate by being selfless in their approach to duty. They must set the example by their own unquenchable thirst to learn and grow as Marines and by their enthusiasm and positive attitude in the face of discomfort and adversity. They accept responsibility for the failures or shortcomings of their unit without attempting to deflect blame onto their subordinates. They keep their juniors informed as completely and in as timely a fashion as possible, for they remember what it was like to be unprepared for the next training event and to spend hours waiting for "the word."

Simultaneously, Marine NCOs build on their subordinates' individual strengths

by requiring them to help instruct and train their fellow Marines in those areas where they have demonstrated talent and expertise. This enhances their leadership development and increases their sense of pride and accomplishment.

NCOs' Obligations to Seniors

"MCDP 1 Warfighting" tells us that "until a commander has reached and stated a decision, each subordinate should consider it his duty to provide his honest, professional opinion-even though it may be in disagreement with his senior's." NCOs do their senior enlisted and officers a grave disservice when they elect to act as "yes men." Today's battlefield (not to mention tomorrow's) is far too complex to afford victory to a unit whose NCOs are afraid to bring potential problems to the attention of their seniors. At times, this will not be easy. It requires NCOs to use the moral courage that goes hand in hand with the "special trust and confidence" mentioned in their promotion warrant.

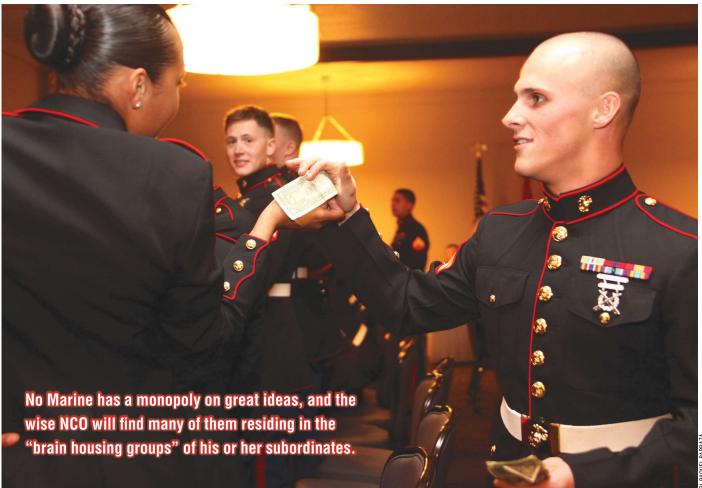
While raising reservations and making recommendations, it is incumbent upon the skillful NCO to do so with tact and respect, and in such a manner as not to challenge the senior's authority or jeopardize his or her credibility with the unit. Doing anything less degrades NCOs in their subordinates' eyes no less than it degrades the senior. Once a legal and moral decision has been made, NCOs are obligated to their senior to discharge the directive as if it were their own. They must avoid the temptation of passing the order to their subordinates as a decision they fought against and with which they do not agree.

NCOs are also obligated to keep their seniors informed. Just as with juniors, this fosters trust. Similarly, it builds the senior's confidence in the NCO's professionalism and ability. Wise NCOs periodically update their senior on the status of their Marines' training, welfare and equipment ... without the senior having to ask.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the NCO is obligated to his senior to bring his experience and innovative ideas to bear on the decision-making process. Designing challenging training opportunities, for example, is tough; and it gets still tougher at each successive level as you go up the chain of command. The NCOs' wellthought-out recommendations, therefore, are invaluable.

NCOs' Obligations to Self

As strange as it sounds, Marine noncommissioned officers owe it to themselves to enjoy the "burden" of their leadership position. If they do not, it will be obvious



Camaraderie and reinforcing the leadership role of NCOs are achieved in many ways, one of which is the traditional formal NCO mess nights. In this photo, Cpl David Zamora, right, an airframe mechanic with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462, collects fines during an NCO mess night at MCAS Miramar, Calif.

to their unit, and they will not be effective. Just as "enthusiasm is contagious," so is the lack thereof. Only the NCO is in a position to give the close, constant, personal type of leadership that I have mentioned above. When NCOs provide their unit with this type of leadership, then they will reap the greatest return ... the accomplishment of the mission and the willing obedience, confidence, loyalty and respect of the United States Marines entrusted to their care. I cannot imagine a greater, more satisfying reward!

Marine NCOs owe it to themselves to refrain from micro managing. By failing to supervise, their subordinates will not, and cannot, develop proficiency in their own billets because they will not know what needs improvement. Conversely, by micro managing, NCOs will find themselves working harder and longer as they struggle to keep up with their subordinates' duties as well as their own. In either case, NCOs do themselves a great disservice.

Finally, NCOs owe it to themselves to listen to their Marines. At first glance, one may think that I have mistakenly listed this as an obligation to self when it should be included as an obligation to subordinates. If you think about it more carefully, however, you will realize that, in most cases, several heads are better than one. No one should realize more than NCOs that they promote enthusiasm in accomplishing the mission, if their juniors know that their thoughts, ideas and innovations are valued. Similarly, no Marine has a monopoly on great ideas, and the wise NCO will find many of them residing in the "brain housing groups" of his or her subordinates.

The summation of all these obligations to unit, seniors, subordinates and self can be given in one word ... duty. Tomorrow's battlefield will become more dispersed as technological advances continue to be made in communications and weaponry. The need for intelligent, selfless and professional noncommissioned officers focused on "doing their duty" with little or no supervision, will only become greater. There is no more demanding mental, emotional and often physical task than that of leading United States Marines. The only thing that is greater than this "burden" is the intense personal reward of knowing that you have made a difference ... that you have been selfless in your leadership.

For a good noncommissioned officer of Marines, that is more than enough. Semper Fidelis,

C.C. GenlaL

Editor's note: To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Marine

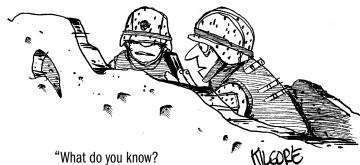
Corps Association's founding by then-LtCol John A. Lejeune and a group of officers at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on 25 April 1913, we will be reprinting significant articles from the Leatherneck archives in each 2013 issue.

This is the second Leatherneck article written by Gen Krulak that our staff has selected for re-publishing because of its enduring operational value.

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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

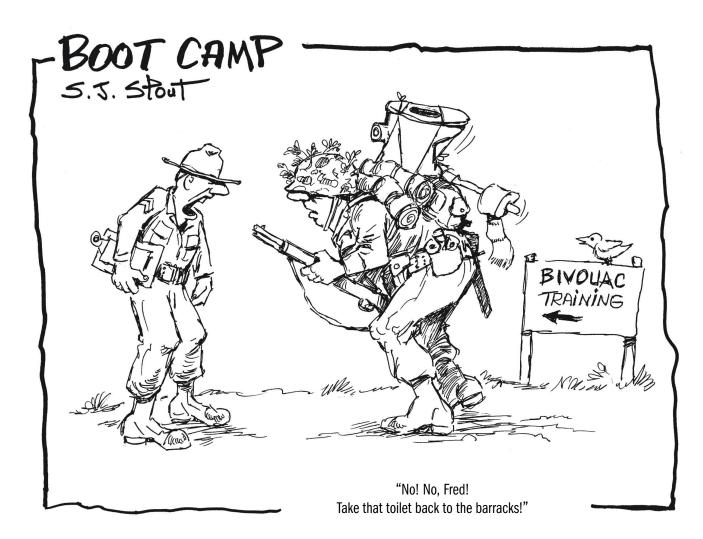


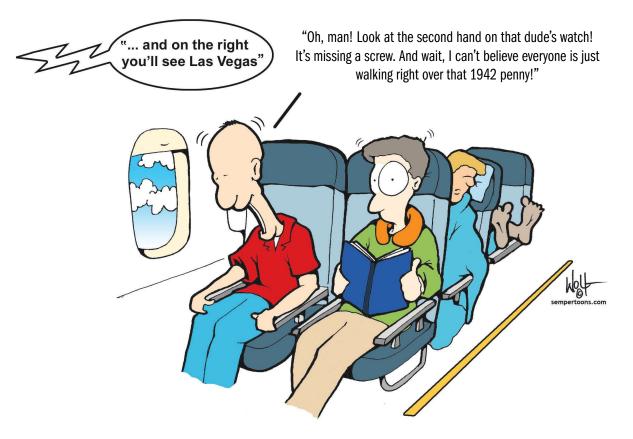
The Taliban's on Facebook."

KILCOPE



"Where did I fail? Rode 'em hard, made 'em tough, made 'em hate me. Retired, had a dinner. Said they loved me. Where did I fail?"





Satellite Imagery Analysts (SQUINTS) on a Plane





"Oh? And what else does your daddy say about the 'old man'?"

"That should do it, huh, Dad?"

CAPT DALE DYE Lights, Camera, Action—

Marine Combat Correspondent Brings Corps Values to Hollywood

By CWO-4 Randy Gaddo, USMC (Ret)

R etired Marine Captain Dale Dye admits he has a low tolerance for boredom; however, that penchant for action ultimately led him to a colorful 20-year Marine Corps career and a continuing post-Corps vocation in Hollywood.

"I grew up listening to World War II vets telling their stories," recalled Dye of his early years in Cape Girardeau, Mo., two hours south of St. Louis along the Mississippi River. "I think that's what sparked it. I knew the military was something cool, and I wanted to be part of it."

Just out of grade school, about the time his father died, Dye decided to engineer a way to get there. His mother was able to borrow money for him to attend the Missouri Military Academy in Mexico, Mo.

"I absolutely thrived there," he recalled. "Other people thought it was purgatory, but I thought it was the greatest thing ever. I was convinced that the military was going to play a big part in my life."

He aimed for the U.S. Naval Academy,



Above: Ever creative, a youthful 1stLt Dale Dye slates a roll of film using a C-ration box during a combined arms field exercise at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Below: An early coup for CWO-2 Dale Dye at the Far East Network TV station in Okinawa, Japan, was an interview with Gen Louis H. Wilson Jr., 26th Commandant of the Marine Corps, who had earned the Medal of Honor in the WW II Battle of Guam.



but after two failed attempts at the entrance exam, he needed to find another route.

"I saw a Marine Corps recruiting sign and that's what got me thinking," he said during an interview in his North Hills, Calif., home. It's not hard to discern it's a Marine's home, from the flagstaff flying the U.S. and Marine Corps flags in his front yard to the military memorabilia and collectibles covering nearly every square inch inside.

"I was pretty down. There was no money for college. I'd tried out for professional baseball with the St. Louis Cardinals, but that didn't work out," he said.

"I remember walking down Pine Street in St. Louis in December, cold, and seeing this Marine recruiting poster and thinking, "The thing that's going to require the biggest commitment, that's either going to kick my a-- or kill me, is going to be the Marine Corps."

He signed up just before Christmas 1963 and shipped to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in January 1964. "You do monumental things when you're sad on Christmas," he bantered. A pithy, colorful, swaggering remark is never far from his lips—a somewhat flamboyant trademark style he has practiced and perfected through the years.

Dye remembered the eye-opening experience when he stepped off the bus onto the yellow boot-camp footprints, but military school gave him an advantage over many recruits: "I knew what was coming; I knew close-order drill, the manual of arms."

He entered the Fleet Marine Force as a mortarman, but after a couple of years, he began to look for something else. He met Sergeant Doug Bland, a combat correspondent. He saw Bland out interviewing people and taking pictures at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

"He looked really happy doing what he was doing, so I got to know him and found out he worked for the ISO," he remarked. The ISO (Information Services Office) was the predecessor to today's PAO (Public Affairs Office).

Then-Corporal Dye learned about the job of a combat correspondent from Bland. "He told me you could do anything, go anywhere as long as you could produce a good story," recalled the still-fit, silverhaired 68-year-old who works out daily. "I couldn't believe there was a job in the Marine Corps where you could do that!"

He was assigned to Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Calif., to post security. "That bored the hell out of me," he recalled, so he decided to take action.

After a visit to the local ISO, a successful editing and writing test (he had been a high-school newspaper editor) and interviews up the chain of command, he found himself standing in front of the base commanding general, a requirement for a lateral move to another military occupational specialty (MOS).

"That scared the hell out of me," Dye recalled with a smile. "I had never seen a general, let alone met one in his office. I just stood there vibrating at the position of attention while the ISO lieutenant and the general bandied some terms about and that was it. I was dismissed."

The meeting went well, and Dye was assigned the 4300 MOS as a basic combat correspondent. There wasn't time for formal school, so he began on-the-job training. "What I liked about it was that everybody in the field was willing to teach me," he said.

He had found his niche as a combat correspondent, a place where his propensity for boredom would play to his advantage. "This was cool, this was what I wanted to do," he recalled.

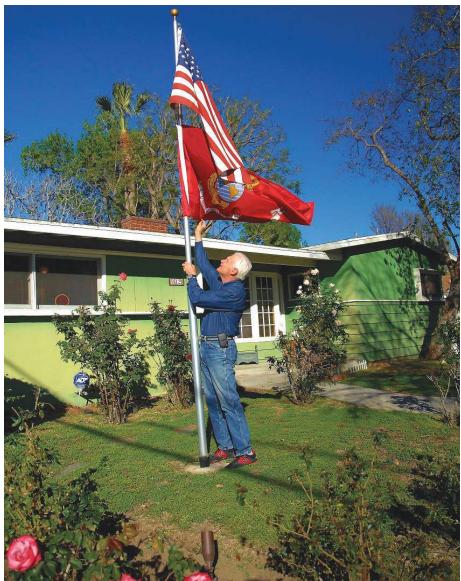
With Vietnam heating up, it wasn't long before he received orders to First Marine Division in Da Nang in summer of 1967. He said he joined one of the "wildest bunch of Marines [he's] ever encountered" with the ISO unit in Da Nang.

Vietnam was the first real-time televised war. Like the war they covered, the Marine combat correspondents were colorful and spontaneous.

"These guys were magic," Dye remarked. "It was a hot outfit. We would do, and did do, anything. We probably had 30 Purple Hearts between us; we were excellent infantrymen, and under no circumstances would we be a burden to a unit we were with," said Dye, who has three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with combat "V."

"This just seemed to be where I needed to be," he said. "I could see the full panoply of war and human emotion, and even for a kid from Cape Girardeau, I could understand the gravitas of what I was seeing."

During multiple tours in Vietnam, he was on the leading edge of military radio



Dale Dye adjusts the set of flags that he displays proudly in front of his home in North Hills, Calif.

and television. After leaving Vietnam in 1970, Staff Sergeant Dye went to AFRTS (Armed Forces Radio and Television Service) in Washington, D.C.

He was stationed in the Pentagon, which he said "was an education. ... I really learned how to deal with things at that level, how to interview general officers about policy-level items and interpret them [the policies] for 'Rudy in the Rear Rank with a Rusty Rifle.'"

Dye spent the rest of his Marine Corps career working his way from one duty to another: with 1st Marine Brigade in Hawaii; Operation Frequent Wind in South Vietnam; refugee camps in Guam; the Far East Network radio and television station on Okinawa.

He learned about the nuts and bolts technicalities of radio and television and earned his bachelor's degree in English literature. His commanding officer at the time asked him: "What are you gonna do, Dye, read 'em to death?" Old Corps Marines may remember Dye's signatureand-rare-in-the-Corps opinion/editorial column, "Check Point Delta."

He earned the rank of warrant officer and eventually captain. He noted that he would have "stayed in the Corps until the cows come home," but events in Beirut, Lebanon, led him to pull the plug.

He served in early phases of the 1982-84 multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut, but he was back at Camp Lejeune, N.C., when he heard about the Oct. 23, 1983, terrorist bombing of the Marine Barracks that killed 220 Marines, 18 sailors and three soldiers.

"I remember reading the initial casualty list, and I knew these guys," he said, gritting his teeth as he flashed back to that day.

He recalled a promise he'd made to himself the day he was appointed a warrant officer.

"I said if the day ever came when I can't look at my Marines and say, 'Follow me,



Australian actor Leon Ford, or Lt Edward "Hillbilly" Jones in the 2010 TV miniseries "The Pacific," receives tips on being a Marine from retired Marine Capt Dale Dye, head of Warriors Inc.

it is necessary that we die today,' when that day comes, that's the day I would quit," he said. "My warrior spirit had been ruptured." Soon after, he decided it was time to retire.

After 20 years in a brotherhood where he "was going to retire when they threw [him] out, and [he'd] be that guy on the third bar stool down at the VFW," he faced an unknown future in a civilian world that he felt didn't understand the military ethos.

"So I did what Marines do. I got a case of beer and a big, yellow legal pad and drew a line down the middle with 'Assets' on one side and 'Liabilities' on the other," he chuckled. "By dawn the beer was gone. I'd come up with 16 pages of liabilities and only three lines of assets," he exaggerated.

One of the assets was that "I'd seen every military movie there was in whatever language available," he recalled. "The common denominator was that they all pissed me off because they were technically inaccurate and didn't reflect the true caliber and quality of American men and women in uniform."

He decided to "unscrew" Hollywood— "Only after a case of beer do you come up with rationale like that"—and he was off on another action adventure.

He formed the company "Warriors Inc.," with a mission to provide accurate, technical military advisory services to the entertainment industry worldwide. The rest is ongoing history, as his company continues as arguably the front-runner in that unique field.

"I found my niche," he iterated, simplifying a long and winding road to success. He went to Hollywood with that concept, but he had absolutely no idea how the movie industry worked.

"Fortune favors the brave, and when you're ignorant, you can do a lot of things people say you can't do," he asserted. "I went to the movie studios and started hanging around until they'd have security escort me off the lot—but fortunately, most of them were former military so they treated me good."

He learned about a potential advisory job on a remake of a 1950s sci-fi classic, "Invaders From Mars," in which Marines were killing Martians. They needed someone to teach actors life in the trenches and adapt it for the camera. They hired him as military adviser.

"I learned how movies are made, the nuts and bolts," he said of the six-month experience. "I'd go into the wardrobe department, the hair department, makeup; I soaked it up like a sponge."

By mid-1985, he had developed a theory that actors in war movies didn't truly understand the ethos of the military. "Actors need full immersion training so they understand how military men and women treat each other, how we relate to each other and rely on each other," he noted.

He told directors that he would deliver actors who gave brilliant and realistic military performances. But, like others in Hollywood, he needed a break. Directors weren't flocking to his door.

The break came when he read about Oliver Stone, who at that time was a relatively unknown director, making a Vietnam War movie based on his own experience there as an Army infantryman. Dye confirmed Stone's background, then by means best left unpublished, obtained Stone's home phone number, on a Saturday night, in a bar.

"I called Oliver Stone at home next morning and went into my best threeminute drill to tell him how I could help make his movie brilliant," he said. Stone hired Dye to take 35 actors into the jungles of the Philippines and deliver him a platoon of Vietnam veterans.

"I did. I isolated them. They were in the hills living in holes they dug themselves. They ate rations twice a day unless they pissed me off, then they didn't eat at all. They were carrying 85-pound packs. We shot at them with blanks day and night," Dye recounted.

This was not the way actors were usually

Below left: Dale Dye's home is like a mini-museum. Here, he explains the history behind one of the hundreds of pieces of Marine Corps and other military memorabilia and collectibles he has in his California residence.

Below right: Dye's wife, Julia, is an instructor-level bladed-weapons expert who teaches fight scenes for movies and other productions.



treated, and most had no previous military experience—actors such as Johnny Depp, Tom Berenger, Kevin Dillon, Charlie Sheen, Willem DaFoe and Forest Whitaker.

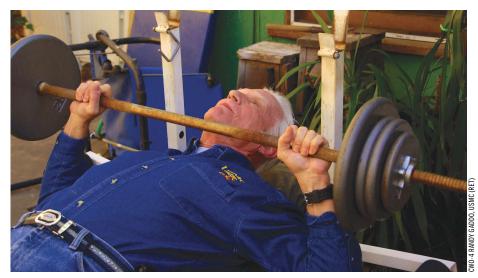
The ensuing \$6 million budget film "Platoon" earned the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1986 and became the first in Stone's Vietnam Trilogy. "Platoon" also validated Dye's theory, and Warriors Inc. became the "go-to" for movie and TV producers who want to make authentic war movies.

Dye's list of credits since then, both as a trainer of actors and an actor in movies and on TV and as an author, is impressive: adviser with director Brian De Palma and actors Michael J. Fox and Sean Penn in 1989's "Casualties of War," also playing the role of Capt Hill; Capt Nick Garza in "Under Siege" and "Under Siege II" with Steven Seagal; advised executive directors Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks and acted in the 10-part, 11-hour TV miniseries "Band of Brothers"; and in 1998, advising and acting in "Saving Private Ryan," to name a few.

The actors appreciate the experience after the fact.

"We hiked everywhere; it was cold, it was wet, we slept on the ground, we ate food that came out of cans," recalled Tom Hanks on a YouTube video about "Saving Private Ryan." Hanks was Capt John H. Miller in the movie, which received 11 Academy Award nominations. "He constantly yelled at us because we were doing things wrong. We're playing guys who are tired and miserable and who want to go home and of whom great physical things are being demanded, and we couldn't have done that without what Dale Dye put us through," Hanks affirmed.

Director Spielberg, speaking on the video in the midst of shooting the movie, confirmed, "Had it not been for boot camp, this would have been a lot harder movie to



Keeping fit and trim, Dale Dye lifts weights and runs to maintain the stamina to put Hollywood actors through his "boot camp."

make ... but having gone to boot camp, the actors on the set every day with me said they've never come close to the hell they suffered from Dale in boot camp."

Warriors Inc. has expanded from Dye flying solo to today's 10-person staff, including his wife, Julia, an author, director and actress who met Dye during a Warriors Inc. boot camp experience preparing for the movie "Starship Troopers."

With a Ph.D. in ancient history, her latest book, "Backbone," is a great read, featuring Marine noncommissioned officers, past and present, personifying the 14 NCO leadership traits through historical narratives about their experiences.

"He runs Warriors Inc. like a rifle company," said Julia, who is officially the vice president and chief financial officer on paper, but said, "mostly I'm known as the adjutant. Marines are good actors; it's bearing, and good leaders know what sort of bearing is appropriate for various situations."

She postulated that, before "Platoon," Vietnam veterans were thought of negatively. Through "Platoon" and similar movies afterward, civilians were no longer willing to "spit on the troops. When you saw protests against Afghanistan and Iraq wars, the message was against the war, but supporting the troops," she said.

Asked about how Capt Dale Dye has adapted to Hollywood, Julia summed it up: "He didn't adapt to Hollywood; they adapted to him."

Editor's note: 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.

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Marine Aviation Training Support Group 21— The Crossroads of Marine Aviation



The United States Marine Corps may have unparalleled excellence in the sky, but it all starts on the ground at NAS Pensacola, the historic gateway for all Marines in aviation.

By Roxanne Baker

POST OF THE CORPS

ourists may know the Emerald Coast as a vacation destination with sugary white sands and turquoise waters. But the Marines based at Marine Aviation Training Support Group (MATSG) 21 in Pensacola, Fla., aren't looking toward the beach. They have their sights locked in on the sky.

The seaside city is the historic gateway for U.S. Marine Corps aviation. Whether it's newly minted privates first class learning the interworking of an F/A-18 engine or student naval aviators flying jet trainers, all Marine aviation training intersects in Pensacola-the "cradle of naval aviation."

"It's a crossroads for Marine aviation," said Colonel Robert Sherrill, Commanding Officer, MATSG-21. "At some point you put your footprints here."

Long before planes took to the sky, MATSG-21 was rooted on the Gulf Coast. Seven Marines, known as the Pensacola

"MATSG-21 is unique in the sense

that this is where everybody

[aviation Marines] starts."

-Maj Frank Shone Jr.

Marines unit, guarded the Pensacola Navy Yard, dating back to 1826. The unit wasn't known for aviation until a Marine section of the Naval Flying School was established in 1914, with just two aviators and 10

mechanics. In 1972, years after the Golden Age of Aviation, the detachment became known as Marine Aviation Training Support Group. A new era in training emerged after the first Marine students reported to MATSG in 1996 for Air Traffic Control School.

The Brass Tacks

MATSG-21 is the administration hub for Marines located in the Southeast region and along the Gulf Coast. More than 5,000 Marines are attached to the immense group, and more than 650 civilians and rotating Marines staff the headquarters at Naval Air Station Pensacola.

The MATSG-21 administrative support requirements for Marines span three states, including Marines located at bases



from multiple military branches. The outposts under MATSG-21 leadership include NAS Pensacola and Corry Station in Pensacola; Whiting Field in Milton, Fla.; Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training (CNATT) at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.; CNATT in Jacksonville, Fla.; Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron (MATSS) One in Meridian, Miss.; Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss.; and the Marines at both Fort Benning and Fort Gordon in Georgia.

The Marines who are assigned to the Blue Angels, usually about 15 at a time, also are attached to MATSG-21.

With the exception of permanent personnel, the majority of the MATSG-21 Marines are in training for their military occupational specialty (MOS) at NAS Pensacola. All enlisted students belong either to Aviation Maintenance Squadron (AMS) 1 or 2. Student naval aviators and naval flight officers are assigned to the Marine Officer Control (MOC) unit. These Marine aviators all pass through flight training at Pensacola while attached to MATSG-21.

"MATSG-21 is unique in the sense that this is where everybody [aviation Marines] starts," said Major Frank Shone Jr., control officer in charge. "With a common starting point, you're able to standardize training for Marine Corps officers for fleet operations."

Shone said commonality is important for mentorship outside flight training. The lieutenants regularly attend professional military education meetings and work in the MOC office at jobs such as teaching classes to enlisted students and serving in funeral details for Barrancas National Cemetery.

The Marines at Pensacola also volunteer at events throughout the greater Pensacola region. The community aptly recognizes that dedication from all the Marines, Sherrill said.

"Pensacola is a wonderful city, and it's a real pleasure to be part of the family here," Sherrill commented. "They really love their Marines here, and that is indicative of good support and a good relationship over the years."

That active-duty presence has immeasurable benefits that come from thousands of volunteer hours on community projects, said Craig Dalton, the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce's vice president of armed services. In addition to being a \$6.7 billion economic engine in greater Pensacola, he said, the military's presence is positively felt on many levels for the community's youth.

"The Marines coach our kids, assist teachers in schools and volunteer for special projects. They are positive role models



Above: PFC Justin Schnegelsberger works on the engine of an F/A-18 while his classmates, PFC Raymon Shimel, center, and PFC Cody Velliodis, right, study the lab instructions during a class at the AD Schoolhouse.

Below: Capt Dan Vanes, left, teaches a student naval flight officer how to inspect an aircraft before a training flight.



for our children to look up to," Dalton said. "It supports our community's future for more vibrant, productive, stronger and educated thinkers and workforce."

Fresh-faced

There are about 1,000 young leathernecks attached to AMS-1 and another 800 attached to AMS-2. With just a few exceptions, many of the Marines in those squadrons are entry-level and often are fresh from boot camp and Marine Combat Training at either the School of Infantry (SOI)-East or SOI-West. Each group has a barracks division and signature schools, most of which are Navy-operated.

At AMS-1, some of the schools include

Enlisted Aircrew Candidate School, Aircraft Structural Mechanic, and Ejection Seat Mechanic. AMS-1 schools typically last from four to 16 weeks, but a new class begins every seven to 10 days. The welloiled machine sustains an average of 1,000 Marines under instruction and trains more than 2,900 annually, making the AMS-1 behemoth one of the largest squadrons in the Marine Corps.

Staff Sergeant James Rose is the lead instructor at the AMS-1's Airdale (AD) Schoolhouse and teaches the young "devil dogs" about the fundamentals of aircraft engines. In the initial A-level school, his students study the interworking of an engine in their manuals. They receive hands-



on experience and inspect engines from helicopters, jets and turboprop aircraft such as the C-130. Rose said the instructors give the students scenarios, and they in turn must provide a mechanical solution.

This initial training provides the fundamental building blocks for success in the operating forces, he said. Rose still has his textbook from when he passed through the AD Schoolhouse in 1996. The mentorship he received from his senior Marines was essential in making him an effective troubleshooter while he worked on Hueys and Cobras in the Pacific.

At the intermediate C-level school, Rose said, they will learn how to take an engine apart and put it back together.

"What I tell them is, operating an aircraft is not like driving a car; you can't pull over to the side of the road when something goes wrong," Rose said. "If something breaks and an aircraft goes down, the last thing we want is to lose our Marines."

Although the Marines in these classes are young, Rose said, they are well-trained and completely capable of the significant responsibility of maintaining USMC aircraft in the fleet.

"The aircraft that we maintain save lives and play an important role in completing the mission," Rose said. "The Marines attending training understand the importance and seriousness of the job they will be performing."

AMS-2 houses entry-level Marines as well, including air traffic controllers, air traffic control maintenance technicians, aircraft electricians and avionics technicians. AMS-2 schools are typically longer than AMS-1 schools, lasting from 14 to 45 weeks. Annually, AMS-2 chugs out about 1,700 well-trained Marines into the operating forces. Sergeant Jason Spardella is an AMS-2 instructor for the Apprentice Technical Training (ATT) School, the basic electrician course. Although the primary role of all AMS instructors is to teach the basics, Spardella said, the instructors also must be mentors. When the Marines attend an A-level school, they're coming straight from boot camp and then Marine Combat Training, he said, so it's their first time as Marines without strict rules.

"Most of these Marines are coming straight from high school, and this is their first chance to be on their own away from Mom and Dad or away from the rules," Spardella said. "Every Marine should be a mentor to them; we should all be teaching them about more than just their job."

The instructors are well-prepared to



be those mentors, said SgtMaj Walter Kilgore, MATSG-21 sergeant major. They attend the Instructor Training Course and undergo monthly or quarterly programs such as Suicide Prevention Training, Sexual Assault/Prevention Training, Drug and Alcohol Training and Financial Specialist Training.

"My biggest emphasis to the instructors is put on training the entry-level Marine, taking and using the approach of 'If I cannot teach, train and lead them, no one else can,' "SgtMaj Kilgore said.

The entry-level students also have been in a predominantly Marine-only environment, Spardella said, and it's their first time they're around civilians off base as a new Marine. The MATSG-21 Marines often volunteer for community events in

Aviation Skills Honed at MATSG-21

Marine Aviation Training Support Group 21, headquartered in Pensacola, Fla., is responsible for taking care of Marines during the initial skills training in 153 military occupational specialties in occupational fields that include:

59—Aviation Command and Control Electronics Maintenance

60/61/62—Aircraft Maintenance

63/64—Organizational and Intermediate Avionics Maintenance

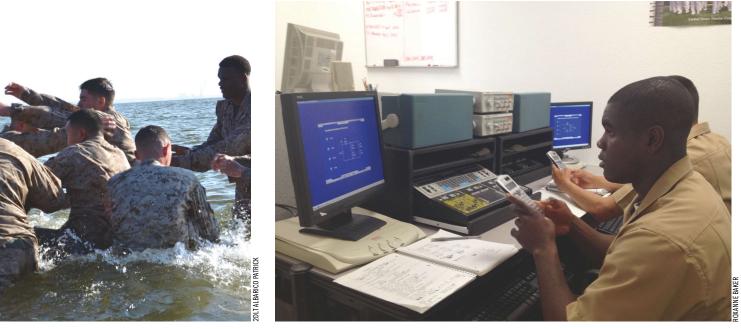
65—Aviation Ordnance

66—Aviation Logistics

70—Airfield Services

72—Air Control/Air Support/Anti-Air Warfare/Air Traffic Control

-Roxanne Baker



The more than 5,000 Marines attached to MATSG-21 are located in the Gulf Coast region for a variety of aviation-related training opportunities: Aircrew candidates are tested on their water survival skills, and student naval aviators learn how to navigate a cockpit. Privates first class learn the basics of electronics and aircraft maintenance, and many Marines certify for higher belts in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program.

Pensacola. They run in 5K races for charity and staff free citywide events.

"As Marines, they need to help with community involvement to show that we are more than just ourselves," Spardella said. "We need to make where we live better."

As with civilians, it's the Marines' first time exposed to other military branches on base, Col Sherrill said. They're still young in their Marine Corps careers and have been around only a Marine Corps atmosphere. Most of the Marines attached to MATSG-21 in Pensacola are in Navyoperated schools and are in classes with sailors. That "deliberate stamp" of the Marine Corps can fade when around the dynamics of other branches, Col Sherrill said, and it's important those Marines "stay green."

"I think the instructors have an important role because they're mentors and leaders and continue to instill the ethics into the young men and women who are still in that molding process," Sherrill said. "[The instructors] need to make sure they stay Marines even though they're exposed to all these other branches."

In Transition

MATSG-21 is the largest of the Marine Corps' five Marine aviation training support groups. The remaining four are MATSG-22 in Corpus Christi, Texas; MATSG-23 in Lemoore, Calif.; MATSG-33 in Virginia Beach, Va.; and MATSG-53 in Whidbey Island, Wash.

The organization of the training system, however, soon will undergo a significant downsizing, Sherrill said. The Marine Corps will cut MATSG-23, -33 and -53. Then MATSG-21 will split into two separate groups to house Marines in Pensacola. The redesigned MATSG-21 will consist only of officer aviation training, and the new MATSG-23 will comprise only enlisted aviation technical training. Sherrill said the transition should be complete by the summer of 2014. He

The training at Pensacola

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expects the new MATSG-23 will house about 3,000 Marines and MATSG-21 will have 2,000 Marines.

Sherrill said the streamlining of the aviation training support groups is meant to create a more efficient administration process.

The landmark transition should not affect training, and the hub will continue to produce some of the world's finest aviators and support teams.

The training at Pensacola is something Marines are proud of, Sherrill said, and ensures unrivaled excellence in the sky. The good ol' training days are often a sentimental time when Marines look back on their career and know they were prepared by the best. It's what makes the Marine Corps aviation teams the elite fighting force in the operating forces.

"Pensacola is a special place for all aviation Marines," Sherrill said. "At some point we all train here; the majority have fond memories of the beaches, the Blue Angels and the city nightlife. But aside from the personal, off-duty fun memories made here, the real magic is the training. MATSG-21 makes the finest aviation, EOD, armor, combat diver, intelligence and SATCOM [satellite communications] Marines on the globe, and if anyone doubts that comment, they need to look at our combat track record.

"As their commander, I could not be more proud of the men and women we have in our ranks. I believe they represent the finest that America has to offer-smart, fit and a selfless dedication to service. I thank them all for their service to our country and to their parents for allowing us to have them in the service of the Corps. To the Marines of MATSG-21, I say enjoy this time, but train hard now, because your next step is the operational forces where the real work begins."

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. A

Leatherneck—On the Web

See more photos of the Marines of MATSG-21 at www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/MATSG21

- "Golf" Company at Hue -It Was Supposed to Be a "Piece a Cake"





Part I

By R. R. Keene

N ow, 4¹/₂ decades later, Chuck Meadows points his walking stick across the Trang Tien Bridge that spans the River of Perfume. It is raining, probably not as heavily as in 1968, *Tet Mau Than* (Tet, year of the monkey), and perhaps a little cooler. Trucks, automobiles and mostly small motorcycles piloted by men and women hidden under rain slickers and protective helmets now move noisily en masse across what in 1968 had been the site of the Nguyen Hoang Bridge.

It is Tet 2013, the Vietnamese Lunar New Year of the snake. *Chuc Mung Nam Moi*, or "Happy New Year," is the common greeting. Meadows, an

Left: Chuck Meadows, with former Cpl Richard Cobb, leads the 1968 members of Golf Co, 2/5 across the An Cuu Bridge in February 2013.

Top: In 1968, Golf Co leathernecks take a break on the south side of the River of Perfume: (from left) Cpl William Peterson, battalion radio operator, who also photographed some of the never-before-printed images in this story; Capt Chuck Meadows, Commanding Officer, G/2/5; GySgt Heidel; LCpl Ken Stetson, artillery forward observer, later KIA; and Cpl J. R. Collins, company radio operator. (Photo courtesy of Chuck Meadows) affable retired Marine colonel, stands at the southern end of the bridge and returns the greetings. He then leads his group of 35 Marines and their families traveling in Vietnam as part of Military Historical Tours across the bridge.

It isn't Meadows' first tour in Vietnam. His first was back in 1965 with 2d Battalion, Fourth Marine Regiment in Chu Lai. He returned in 1968 for a second tour as a 28-year-old captain commanding Company G, 2d Bn, 5th Marines. More recently, he's been back several times helping to lead tours of returning veterans. This one, however, is special. It is the 45th anniversary of the Tet offensive, and many of those on the tour are former members of "Golf" Co, who, on a very similar day 45 years earlier, had crossed the bridge in Hue.

Hue, which it has been called since the 15th century, is the old imperial capital of the Nguyen feudal dynasty, 1802-1905, with its Citadel and Forbidden City where only emperors, concubines and those granted access could enter. All others were put to death.

Although it is Vietnam's seat of culture, with beautifully planned tree-lined avenues, French architecture and the seat of education and higher learning, Hue also has a dark side. Visible on close scrutiny are bullet holes pockmarked on old government buildings and terrible battle bruises indenting the more than 68-footthick and nearly 20-foot-high Citadel wall. Back in 1968, "all others" still were being put to death.

Hue was one of the bloodiest battles of the 16-year Vietnam War. Battalions of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN), two U.S. Army battalions and three understrength U.S. Marine Corps battalions took the brunt of more than 10,000 regulars of the People's Army of Vietnam, North Vietnamese Army (NVA) and Viet Cong and kicked their asses.

The following is what happened to Golf Co.

On 31 Jan. 1968, Marine Captain Robert E. "Bob" Laramy, an aerial observer, and his Army warrant officer pilot flew their light, single-engine Army O-1 "Bird Dog" from Phu Bai, north toward the River of Perfume. They uneventfully had flown the area around Hue almost every day that month. That morning, however, unsettling reports were coming in stating that large numbers of Communist soldiers had captured Hue.

"We came up east of the city and came down the river at a very low altitude. It was first light over the Citadel, and our radio traffic was going berserk," Laramy



Above: Golf Co leathernecks dismount vehicles just south of Hue proper as they move north on Highway 1. They had not been hit yet by fire.

Below: Marines take cover after being hit with fire from the west. The A/1/1 company commander, Capt Gordon D. Batcheller, far right, was wounded.



says to fellow Marines on tour with MHT. "Then we saw that thing, a Viet Cong flag, fluttering over the palace. It was an incredible sight only a few hundred feet away."

Back at Phu Bai, 10 miles southeast of Hue, the Marines of G/2/5 chowed down on breakfast. During the night, Marines had taken rocket and mortar fire at the airstrip, and there were reports that outlying Marine Combined Action Platoons and local Popular Forces, or militia, had come under well-orchestrated and heavy attacks. Still, nobody in Golf Co had heard much and had any reason to be overly concerned. There was a two-day "ceasefire" declared by both North and South Vietnam for the holiday, and although few Marines were foolish enough to believe the pause in fighting was likely to be totally observed, at least there would be,

they hoped, a couple hours of calm.

It seemed so when Meadows was called to the 1st Marines' command post and told to attach his company to Lieutenant Colonel Marcus J. Gravel's 1st Bn, 1st Marines. Golf Co received word to convoy up to Hue with elements of A/1/1, pick up the commanding general of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's 1st Division and escort him back to Phu Bai. About 160 Marines clambered into the backs of more than a half dozen 6-by cargo trucks.

"Piece a cake. We'll be back for evening chow," former Corporal Richard "Rich" Cobb recalls speculating. They were "traveling light," which in "grunt" terms means they left their packs, but loaded up with everything else, e.g., weapons, ammunition, canteens, flak jackets, rain gear, etc.

The convoy, led by LtCol Gravel's jeep,

rolled out of Phu Bai at 1030. It quickly jolted along for six miles. Meadows noticed there was no traffic on the road. There were no pedestrians or children on the sides of the road. "There [weren't] even chickens." Meadows became uneasy. "We didn't have good intelligence." And there were no good maps of Hue. Communications were poor, often just radio static.

Earlier, the company had been strung out between Phu Bai and south to the Truoi River Bridge. Although being Marines meant they were well-trained and -disciplined, it had been a while since they worked as a company, and there were lots of new guys. "At no time would I say that this company was seasoned," recalls Meadows.

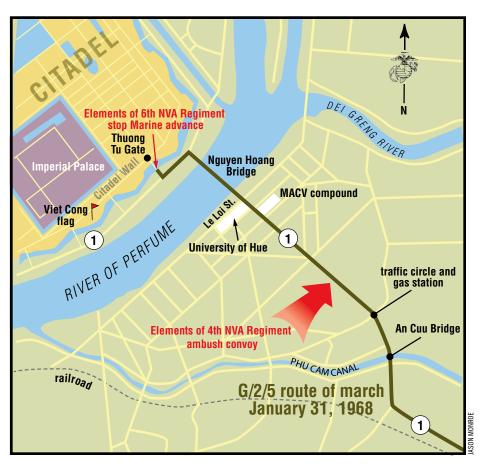
It was raining and they donned their rain gear.

They slowed measurably for a view of a destroyed ARVN M41 tank with charred crewmen. Cpl Glenn Lucas, with less than 10 days left in country, didn't like any of what he was seeing. Asked by a new private first class named Bill Tant if they would soon see enemy soldiers, Lucas replied, "You'll probably see more action than you want to."

They crossed the An Cuu Bridge over the Phu Cam Canal that outlines the Gold Coast area of southern Hue and drove through the market area that still thrives today and across a cane field that long has been built over.

It was from the southwest corner of the cane field that Meadows saw the muzzle flash of a machine gun. Everyone jumped from the vehicles and took up defensive positions. "Enemy fire from that tree line 300 yards west!" One corpsman went down immediately.

That's when they first saw them. Twentytwo-year-old Lance Corporal "Barney" Barnes, who'd been in country since



September 1967, said: "Pith helmets. We had never seen a North Vietnamese soldier. You could actually see them maneuvering, then shooting, well organized. They were there to kick our ass." Even so, the "well-organized" NVA still were only men, and Meadows noted their first mistake was not blowing the An Cuu Bridge: the Marines were in the city.

Meadows started moving his men up along Highway 1's north berm. He was without radio contact and for all intents and purposes on his own. He now says, "Each of us had our own little war. We didn't know the big picture." It had been that way since morning chow. Five-paragraph orders had been issued, and still no one was sure what was happening. Meadows knew it was time to find out.

Today, the traffic circle still is there and so is the gas station, although it has been rebuilt. In 1968, Meadows checked it out and, there taped to the wall, was a map of Hue. It was a tourist map one normally would find at a gas station, hardly tactical and in French, but better than nothing.

Meadows noted the location of the Military Assistance Command Vietnam, or MACV, compound northeast of his location, not that far actually. Although



The original Shell gas station (above left) where Meadows found a map of Hue, still was standing as late as 2008. It since has been replaced by this up-to-date station (above right) on the same traffic circle Marines passed in 1968. (Above right photo by R. R. Keene)

the firing continued, motor transport officer Second Lieutenant Jerry Nadolski started to carefully move his trucks forward. "However, we continued on foot to the MACV compound," recalls Meadows.

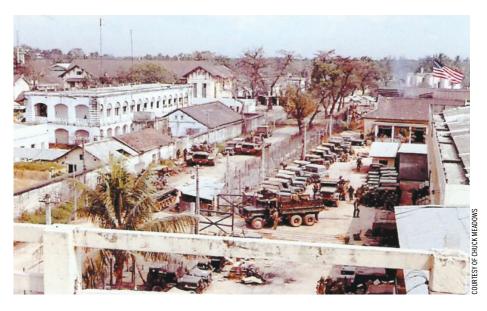
Today, the MACV compound is a home for old (Communist) soldiers. Chuck Meadows sees the MACV compound as another major error made by the NVA. "They didn't take it." Consequently, the soldiers and Marines were able to keep communications with their commands and were somewhat updated on the everchanging, fluid situation. They soon realized that the Tet offensive was a coordinated assault throughout South Vietnam.

The Communists had launched a wave of attacks on the morning of 30 Jan. These early assaults were not met with quick defensive countermeasures. The South Vietnamese and their allies seemed slow to comprehend and respond. Eventually, more than 80,000 Communist troops were striking more than 100 towns and cities, including 36 of 44 provincial capitals, five of the six autonomous cities, 72 of 245 district towns, and the southern capital of Saigon. It was then the largest military operation of the war.

Aside from massive Citadel walls, Hue was defended poorly. Seven regiments of NVA infantry and artillery came in undetected through the hills and dense forests to the west. They ran unchallenged through streets with Tet revelers. They slipped, nearly unscathed, through the western gates of the ARVN-occupied Citadel. They were in place waiting for an ARVN and American response. They also expected the populace to rise up against the Americans and the South Vietnamese. This, too, was a mistake.

It was approximately 1515 when the U.S. convoy reached the MACV compound, a hubbub of activity with lots of wounded and lots of confusion. The consensus was to consolidate what forces were in the compound and hold. Meadows' original mission, however, had not been rescinded. Golf Co still was under orders to get to the ARVN command post within the Citadel and bring out the general.

LtCol Gravel could see no reason to cross the river and enter the Citadel. He got on the radio to the First Marine Division's Task Force X-Ray at Phu Bai and emphatically stated his case. He was told the orders to enter the Citadel would stand: "Proceed." Further, there would be no air or artillery support, partly because of the low-ceiling weather and mainly because of the Citadel's historic structures. There would be no destruction or damage to Vietnamese property.





Above: The MACV compound was never taken by the NVA and flew the American flag throughout the fight. As a result, it was a rallying and staging point for Marines. It also kept communications open with commands in Phu Bai and Da Nang.

Left: Barney Barnes points out the position of the NVA machine-gun on the north side of the Nguyen Hoang Bridge to Marine veterans John Peirano and Stephen Moore.

Below: Golf Co leathernecks have just crossed the bridge to the north side of the River of Perfume.





Above: The life-size poster of a cowboy with drawn six-shooters gave Marines pause as they passed a movie theater. LCpl Ray Quist, carrying an M79 grenade launcher, barely gives it a glance.

Below: They turned the corner to the Thuong Tu Gate and took the brunt of NVA fire. Capt Meadows and others behind cover see Cpl Glenn A. Lucas and Hospitalman Donald A. Kirkham across the street, KIA.



Golf Co leathernecks, with small arms, M60 machine guns and one 60 mm mortar, stepped out of the compound, faced right and moved two blocks up Hung Muong Street past the University of Hue, across Le Loi Street and onto the 400-meter-long bridge. Once across, they would make a left on Tran Hung Bao, head one block west parallel to the River of Perfume and then turn right to the Thoung Tu Gate that towered above a moat. It was not very far; it still is almost completely visible from the south bank of the river. It was 1630, and daylight would be gone around 1800.

Second Platoon drew the point with LCpl Barnes' squad in the lead. Barnes noticed two ARVN M41 tanks at the bridge. Life would be easier—and perhaps longer—if he could talk them into being first across the bridge. The tank commanders' answer, roughly translated, was a firm and less than polite, "No, thank you!"

Barnes checked his people before they stepped off. "Don't get clustered," he said. "If somebody goes down, don't stop, keep going."

Crossing the river again 45 years later brings back vivid memories. Barnes remembers "like it was yesterday." Marine Larry Verlinde, accompanied this time by his grandson, 20-year-old Tyler Canfield, remembers moving out, saying: "Whoopee! We're all gonna die!" Mike Stallings says, with honest candor, "I was scared the whole time." William DeKryger is back too, this time with his wife, Nancy, and his son Tim, an active-duty Marine major and Iraq veteran who peppers him with questions.

Halfway across, the tour group bunches up and moves with no particular pattern. In 1968, that's when the first thump of a machine gun sent green tracers of fearsome grazing fire into the bridge span, ricocheting off the beams and trusses, wounding and killing 10 Marines.

Barnes was one of the first across the bridge, and he saw the NVA machine-gun bunker off to the left. Its crew had spotted the Marine M60 machine-gun team and ripped into assistant gunner PFC Clyde Carter, killing him. Cpl Lester Tully, also a squad leader, rose up.

As Barney Barnes tells it, standing on the site where the NVA gun was, speaking rapidly, his volume increasing dramatically: "Lester, man! He ran across that bridge, threw grenades. I helped, but it was Lester!"

Tully killed five, wounded a bunch and silenced the gun. He later would be awarded the Silver Star.

It was about that time when Army Sergeant Bob Lauver showed up with an M55 quad-.50-caliber "Duster": big rounds, loud noise, heavy firepower and the street was cleared.

Lauver later said: "I saw many Marines of Golf-two-five perform heroic actions that remain unheralded to this day. Many Marines were cut down trying to take out the machine gun in the bunker. I remember a Marine charging the bunker with grenades, only to not make it. Another Marine with an M60 or M16, firing from the hip, also did not make it to the bunker."

Lauver and his three crewmen made numerous trips across the bridge picking up the dead and wounded as they went. He later was awarded the Silver Star and a second Purple Heart. His crewmen each received Bronze Stars.

According to author Eric Hammel, 2d Platoon was loading its dead and wounded onto a 6-by. Nobody knows what caused it, but there was an enormous blast that wounded nearly all the Marines near it. PFC Nolen Lala, a perpetual private with 1st Motor Transport Bn, had been driving the truck that exploded. He was not a happy driver, but he found that his truck still worked. He jumped behind the mounted .50-cal. and let loose an angry burst. He then helped to load the last of the wounded and dead, slipped the gear into reverse and under fire drove across the bridge. It was worthy of a Silver Star. Like then, those from Co G on the MHT tour continue down the street. Cobb points to a movie theater. "It's still there," he says. "I remember being startled coming face to face with a life-size poster of a cowboy with drawn six-shooters." It was advertising, "Massacre Valley," starring Franco Nero.

A few feet more and Golf Co was looking down Thoung Tu Gate Road. "First Platoon, take the lead!" The rest took up firing positions behind buildings and on rooftops.

Cpl Lucas' squad in 1st Plt turned the corner, and there stood the massive gate behind a bridged moat. PFC Tant later would tell Hammel that he remembered looking to his left and seeing the huge Viet Cong flag Capt Laramy had reported.

They cautiously moved about 50 meters down the street. Heavily concentrated enemy fire rained down from the ramparts of the Citadel and from within the gate. There was little-to-no cover; all the Marines could do was make themselves as small as possible and try to advance. Several Marines went down on both sides of the street. PFC Tant finally was seeing the enemy. He tried like hell to open a building door or window. They'd been nailed shut! He ducked behind a tree that seemed way too small. He could hear and feel the bullets impacting the other side.

Tant saw Lucas run and saw him go down. He wanted to save his squad leader, but the bullets were everywhere. Someone yelled to the platoon commander, 2dLt Michael McNeil, "The point squad is getting shot to pieces!"

The Marine riflemen and machinegunners on the roofs concentrated their fire on those NVA at the gate. Grenadiers launched 40 mm smoke grenades.

The corner pharmacy still is doing business all these years later, and outside, there's a tree that stands as it did during the fight. Cpl Cobb stands behind it as he did 45 years ago. It was, on both occasions, a tight fit. (Today, scars barely are visible where NVA bullets peppered and punctured the trunk.) Around the corner came Capt Meadows.

Smoke from the grenade launchers wafted in a thickening veil on the street. Meadows tossed his smoke grenades. He looked at Cobb and yelled: "Move your ass!" Cobb moved. Today, Cobb likes to tell the story about Meadows meeting his daughter years later. She told Meadows: "Thank you for saving my daddy." Meadows still likes to hear it.

The smoke initially confused the NVA. A few Marines who were pinned down were able to run back to the corner. Lt





McNeil was very concerned. He had counted heads twice, and Cpl Glenn Lucas, PFC Tant, LCpl Patrick Lucas, PFC Gerald Kinny and Hospitalman Donald Kirkham had not answered up. As the smoke screen lifted, they spotted them 50 meters away near Tant's tree.

Someone hot-wired a Vietnamese flatbed truck. Marines used smoke and the truck as a shield to reach those still pinned down. Two Marines brought out "Doc" Kirkham, who bled to death from a bullet wound in his throat.

Those standing at the site today said Doc didn't have to go out under fire. But he and Cpl Glenn Lucas ended up taking bullets on the sidewalk. Other Marines behind a nearby slant in a wall watched in frustration. Doc died treating Lucas. Above: Members of G/2/5 rested after returning from the fighting on the north side of the river.

Left: Retired Col Chuck Meadows stands before the Thuong Tu Gate in February, which 45 years earlier was the source of heavy NVA fire that stopped the Marine advance to the Citadel.

His family received his Silver Star.

But where was PFC Kinny? Meadows saw him 50 meters forward on the right side of the street. Meadows was no hero. He was a Marine captain, married with two kids, trying to complete a hopeless mission and save his Marines. He put his rifle down and ran to Kinny. He grabbed Kinny by the belt, heaved him over his shoulder, picked up Kinny's rifle and ran for all he was worth. Cpl William Peterson, Meadows' radioman, ran out to help. Unfortunately, Gerald Kinny was dead.

Meadows wiped his glasses and considered what to do next. He now had a good idea of what was going on, and it was not good. He radioed Gravel and reported five dead with 44 wounded. His casualties, since the corpsman was shot at the An Cuu Bridge, were 35 percent. He told Gravel that he was, on his own authority, pulling back to the Nguyen Hoang Bridge.

The leathernecks of Golf Company were the first Marines to reach the Citadel. It would be another 45 years before they made it inside.

Editor's note: Stand by for the conclusion in the July issue of Leatherneck.

Ceatherneck—On the Web To see more MHT and Hue images, go to www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/hue

We-the Marines

Edited by Clare A. Guerrero



Second Lt Logan McKenna, a Marine awaiting training at IOC, hurries to clear the landing for the Marine behind him during an MV-22 fast-rope proof of concept training exercise at LZ Cockatoo, MCB Quantico, Va., Feb. 6.

Infantry Officer Course Marines Fast-Rope From MV-22 Osprey

■ Leathernecks with Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron 22 flew two MV-22B Ospreys to Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., to support the Infantry Officer Course (IOC) in familiarizing the next generation of infantry officers with helicopter rope suspension techniques Feb. 28. This was the second stage of the crawlwalk-run training with the Osprey, said Major Christopher Meixell, VMX-22 director of safety and standardization.

The officers' first exposure to the Osprey was earlier in the month when the Osprey pilots performed elevator drills, said Meixell. The Osprey loaded 38 Marines and lifted off 30 feet in the air. The infantry officers practiced sliding down

the rope attached to the aircraft during the day and at night. Marines gradually increased their load until they were comfortable using the fast rope with a full combat load.

Marines then practiced fast-roping into an urban environment with a full combat load and their rifles.

"While the MV-22B is authorized to hover from 20 to 40 feet during fast-rope, the troops are most comfortable executing from 30 feet," said Meixell. "Above that, the ropers have difficulty controlling their speed. Below that, the in-ground-effect rotor wash pushes the rope too far aft, making it difficult for the [fast-roper] to slide down vertically."

Lance Corporal Adrian Cruze, VMX-22 crew chief, said that the helicopter rope suspension training master and the crew chief work together to ensure the safety of the officers. The aviation Marines successfully inserted the ground Marines at the combat town on MCB Quantico for military operations in urban terrain training.

The Marines practiced clearing the town and simulated gathering intelligence for future operations.

"When it comes to fast-rope ops in the MV-22B, there is a hesitation among many infantrymen serving in the fleet [operating forces] today," said Meixell. "The director of IOC seeks to generate enthusiasm among the future infantry officers, so that they can better capitalize on the capabilities this aircraft provides them as they transition from the [Operation Enduring Freedom] mission to the more traditional Marine Corps mission of expeditionary warfare in the littoral regions, especially urban settings where adequate landing zones may not exist."

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

Drone Wars: Future Deployment to Use Raven Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

■ A dozen leathernecks from Combat Logistics Battalion 6, Second Marine Logistics Group split up into three groups made up of two-man teams to train with the Raven RQ-11B unmanned aerial vehicles during a training exercise at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., March 26. The new system is the updated model of lightweight UAVs used for reconnaissance missions overseas.

A vehicle operator manually guides the aircraft, while a mission operator monitors the route and makes changes as necessary.

The Marines volunteered to train with the Raven system for its use in their upcoming deployment, said Lee E. Hess, a course chief at the small-UAV school at MCB Camp Lejeune.

The training included classroom lessons as well as practical application in the field during a two-week period to prepare the Marines for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

Ravens are equipped with infrared and daylight front-end cameras, making them useful for day and nighttime operations. They can operate more than six miles away from the Ground Control System (GCS) and run for a 60- to 90-minute period.

"[The Raven is] not waterproof like other systems, but it's practical for desert operations," said Corporal Pedro J. Aldebol, with CLB-6, who took part in the training. "If it does get wet, you can still dry it off, and it will fly."

The technology gives Marines a bird'seye view of battlespace and enemy territory without them physically having to go into harm's way.

Weighing in at 4 pounds with the frontend camera attached, Ravens have removable wings that make the systems extremely portable.

The aircraft are launched by hand, allowing them to be used in a variety of locations, and their rugged design and adaptability make them valuable assets for military operations.

"We can manually control the system by remote or autonomously via the GCS," said Sergeant Dustin T. Gill, with CLB-6, who trained with the new system. "We can



SOUAD COMPETITIONS ENCOURAGE OPERATIONAL **EXCELLENCE**-Cpl James Masterson, a small-arms repair technician serving with 1st **Battalion, Fourth Marine** Regiment, performs a fireman carry for a fellow squad member during a squad competition at **Marine Corps Base Camp** Pendleton, Calif., March 22. The course challenged the Marines with more than five miles of various obstacles. At this checkpoint, Marines practiced treating team members and called for medevacs for simulated casualties.

even use one Raven to direct another."

Changes made in the GCS are automatically reflected by the Raven in the form of direction or altitude. The system even has an auto land feature, which causes the Raven to fall at a specific coordinate.

CLB-6 is scheduled to use the Raven UAV in Afghanistan, where it has the potential to save lives and give commanders an aerial view of enemy activity. LCpl Shawn Valosin

PAO, 2d MLG, MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C.

MRAP Vehicles Now Have Mechanized Rear-Door Assist

■ Marine Corps Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) "Buffalo" vehicles were designed to protect Marines from improvised explosive devices, and the Navy is improving them by upgrading them with a new rear-door assist mechanism. This particular MRAP model is managed by Marine Corps Systems Command at Quantico, Va. Buffalo Systems Deputy Project Engineer Steven "Tate" Carow with the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Panama City Division said that the Buffalo MRAP truck does not have a power system to assist opening its rear door.

"Currently, the vehicle's rear door requires a manual effort to open, and it weighs about 500 pounds. It is designed so one person can open it on flat ground. However, should there be an emergency situation like a rollover, [or] if the vehicle has to park on uneven terrain or even if the heat of the environment affects the door frame's shape, the door can bind and become difficult to open," Carow said.

The Buffalo program office provided specific requirements for the rear-door



Above left: PFC John D. Duydos, a Marine with CLB-6, 2d MLG, displays the portability of a Raven UAV and ease of launch in a field at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., March 26.

Above right: Cpl Pedro J. Aldebol, left, and Sgt Dustin T. Gill, performing prelaunch functions, check on the Raven. Aldebol, Gill and PFC Duydos were among the CLB-6 leathernecks who volunteered to train on the UAV system.



Steven "Tate" Carow, NSWC Panama City Division Buffalo Systems deputy project engineer, sits near the rear-door assist mechanism on the Buffalo MRAP at MCB Quantico, Va., April 1. The door assist mechanism is a critical upgrade that allows the crew to more easily push and hold open the rear door, helping to improve Buffalo crew survivability.

assist. With a critical requirement to improve crew survivability, some specifics that were addressed included door-opening response time, reliability and environmental protection. Engineers designed the rear-door assist solution to meet these requirements while using modified commercial-off-the-shelf hardware to reduce cost and production schedule.

Essential components of the design include a linear electric actuator that unlatches the door and a modified hydraulic cylinder that pushes and holds the door open. The design employs a ruggedized motor controller to activate the linear actuator and the hydraulic cylinder.

The system can be activated from two locations inside the vehicle and one location outside the vehicle. The external switch can be activated by first responders if the crew is incapacitated. The system is self-powered, which is another benefit of the modification, according to Carow.

"The system has its own battery, which is charged from the truck's alternator. So, even if the truck's batteries become disabled, the system has enough stored energy to open the door many times," Carow said.

He explained that should the rear-door assist battery not work, there is a backup to the normal battery-powered activation.

"If all else fails, we have a manual way to crank out the pump's hydraulic cylinder. A Marine can pull out a handle, which fits into a slot in the integrated hydraulic cylinder, and he or she can then simply use this to jack the door open," Carow said.

Albert Shaw, Marine Corps Systems Command assistant program manager for the Buffalo MRAP, said the collaboration with NSWC Panama City Division engineers is a win-win situation because the partnership is producing effective solutions that in many cases can be shared by several Department of Defense entities.

"This partnering for solutions is exemplary of the DOD acting as good stewards of taxpayer dollars," Shaw said. "It's American ingenuity at its best."

> Alan Canfield and Dan Broadstreet NSWC Panama City Division

Corporal Awarded for Teaching English

■ On March 26 at the Nago Civic Center in Okinawa, Japan, Corporal Jacob W. Helms was recognized and awarded for his contributions to the "Let's Play With English" program.



Cpl Jacob W. Helms, an antitank missileman with 3d Marines (currently assigned to 4th Marines), 3dMarDiv, III MEF, receives a certificate of appreciation from Noriko Zamami at the Nago Civic Center, Okinawa, Japan, for his contribution to the "Let's Play With English" program March 26.

Helms' hard work and dedication to the program was acknowledged by Noriko Zamami, the Nago City education superintendent, who awarded Helms a certificate of appreciation.

"The program was a great success," said Zamami. "With the help of Mr. [Fumio] Iha [the community relations specialist for Camp Schwab] as well as Corporal Helms and the other Marines who volunteered, it was quite enjoyable for the students and a great learning experience."

The program is designed to give Marines the opportunity to teach English to local kindergarten students and continue building a strong relationship between the Marine Corps and the Nago community.

Marines have worked as volunteers in the program for the past 10 years.

"[The volunteers] visit 12 schools during the program to interact with students," according to Fumio Iha. "Corporal Helms participated in several of the classes throughout December and played a big part in many of the events, including our Christmas play, when he dressed up as Santa for the children."

To help them with their goal of learning basic English, volunteers teach the students a new topic each month.

"The program was very enjoyable to participate in," said Helms, an antitank missileman with 1st Battalion, Third Marine Regiment (currently assigned to 4th Marines), Third Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force under the unit deployment program. "We helped teach the students colors, numbers, basic greetings and American holidays."

Helms said it was a tremendous learning experience for the students as well as the Marines. "It helped teach us the common customs and courtesies, as well as the culture of our host nation, which will help us interact with our neighbors here."

With knowledge gained and a new relationship made between the Marines and students, the bond between the Nago community and Marines was strengthened, according to Iha.

"We conceive that this program is another investment to the future leadership of Okinawa," said Iha. "In the future, when these children grow up and become the new leadership of this country, they can make the mutual alliance between the United States and Japan stronger."

LCpl Donald Peterson PAO, Marine Corps Installations Pacific

Quick Shots Around the Corps

■ Lance Corporal Alejandro Bedoya, Public Affairs Office, Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., reports that leathernecks with



SEMPER PITCHING-Former Sgt Dick "Lefty" Heverling was one of many outstanding athletes to join the Corps during the draft years. Among the teams Heverling pitched for during his 1948-52 tour in the Corps were the "Flying Bulls" of Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Calif., and the "Flyers" of MCAS Cherry Point, N.C. Today, in his 80s, he pitches healthy lifestyle topics, such as avoiding tobacco and alcohol, to elementary-school students in Palmyra, Pa.

Combat Logistics Battalion 7 participated in a non-lethal weapons training exercise in conjunction with the U.S Department of Defense Non-Lethal Weapons Program on March 21 at Range 800.

The Marines learned to use the Active Denial System 2, an advanced non-lethal, direct-fire support system that projects a man-size beam of heat-emitting, millimeter waves. It can effectively engage targets up to 1,000 meters.

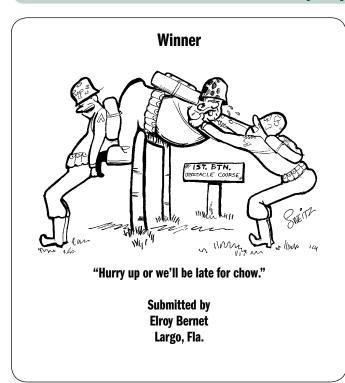
The ADS 2 can support troops in a number of different scenarios, such as perimeter security, crowd control and advance-to-contact if employed in country. It can withstand small-arms fire and stay in the field for up to a year, in any temperature or weather. The system can be transported by truck and can be dropped off at different operating modules.

Hospital on Camp Lester Closes

■ Lance Corporal David N. Hersey, Public Affairs Office, Marine Corps Installations Pacific, reports that staff at the U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan, lowered the colors at the facility on Camp Lester for the last time March 26, marking the hospital's official closure.

Commissioned in 1958 as a U.S. Army hospital, the facility changed hands from the Army to the Navy and was recommissioned as the U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa in 1977.

The new hospital, located on Camp Foster, ensures a function-for-function relocation of medical services on Okinawa. The hospital has been built to withstand earthquakes and is located above the tsunami flood zone. Other features include state-of-the-art technology, climate control to further ensure patient comfort, and modern electrical and medical gas systems to provide the best quality care available.



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 photo 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.

Crazy Caption Contest

This Month's Photo



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Corps' Information Operations Center Fosters "A Different Way of Thinking"

By Clare A. Guerrero

ot a round was expended at the Military Information Support Operations Field Exercise (MISO FEX-1), 2013, which took place at Camp Upshur, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., Feb. 4-8. That's because the MISO (formerly known as PSYOP) Marines weren't on the range; they were practicing their cross-cultural communication skills.

The exercise, which focused on the MISO element of the U.S. Marine Corps' Information Operations (IO) warfighting doctrine, was sponsored by the Marine Corps Information Operations Center (MCIOC, pronounced "MC-KAI-OC"), which is headquartered at MCB Quantico's Walt Hall, named in honor of deceased iconic warfighter General Lewis W. Walt.

According to Mr. David C. Grohoski, MCIOC chief of staff, information operations are "a different way of thinking" that fundamentally influences military operations. In an age where information is an armament, information operations aim to utilize information in various forms in order to influence the behavior of a foreign target audience and to aid Marine air-ground task force commanders in decision-making.

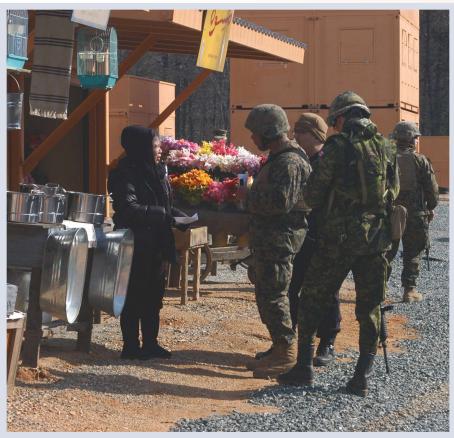
Using expeditionary "MISO" teams of two to five Marines, MISO is a bootson-the-ground component of information operations that involves directly interfacing with key individuals within a foreign populous. The task requires MISO Marines to be diplomatic and empathetic.

"Instead of kicking down doors, now we knock on doors and kiss babies. So it's a completely different mindset [compared to that of the infantry]," said Sergeant Kyle Kenyon, who served in the infantry for four years with 2d Battalion, Sixth Marine Regiment and as an instructor at The Basic School, MCB Quantico, before transferring to the MCIOC when it opened in 2009. While gaining the support of the local populace may sometimes be an objective, MISO Marines do not limit their activities to strictly friendly engagements and may sometimes intend to create or exploit kinetic effects.

MISO is one of information operations' information-related capabilities. Others may include but aren't limited to operational security, military deception, electronic warfare and computer network operations. "IO is not a mission. We don't go do IO," said Colonel Christopher L. Naler, the MCIOC commanding officer.

"IO is a function that should be organic to the [Marine air-ground task force, or MAGTF,] staff in the form of information operations planners. From a myth-busters [standpoint], a lot of folks think IO is the non-kinetic fire to the Marine Corps. That's not the case; our [IO planning] teams deployed to Afghanistan currently teams were committed in Afghanistan and Iraq, and there were no teams to deploy with Marine expeditionary units (MEUs). "Really what led to the creation of MCIOC was the need for the Marine Corps to have organic psychological operations forces," Naler said. Since its establishment, the MCIOC also has developed an organic IO planning and reachback support capability.

The Marine Corps Information Opera-

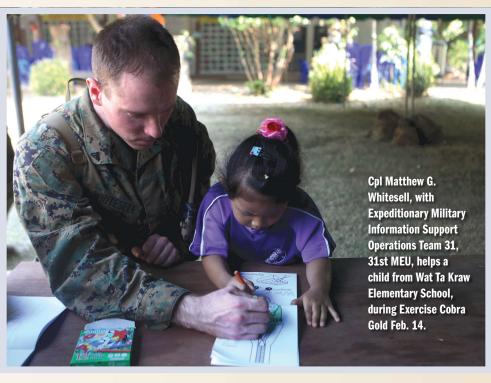


An information support operations team of three Marines and a Canadian soldier engage a role player acting as a local village woman in a marketplace in order to gauge the temperature of any local conflicts or perceptions during MISO FEX-1, 2013, an Indonesian scenario-driven exercise at Camp Upshur, aboard MCB Quantico, Feb 6.

are executing operations that are bringing together all aspects of information-related capabilities."

Col Naler also said that prior to 2011, MISO teams were called PSYOP—psychological operations—or Tactical PSYOP Teams (TPTs) and were provided to the Marine Corps by the U.S. Army. But during the 2003 United States Special Operations Command/Marine Corps Warfighter discussions, the Army revealed that its tions Center was established under a 2008 order by the 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James T. Conway. Its special mission: to organize, train and equip information operations planners and Military Information Support Operations teams to provide operational support to the MAGTFs and Marine components for the Corps' growing needs. The MCIOC also provides IO subject-matter expertise in support of Marine IO advocates and





proponents in order to enable the effective integration of IO into Marine Corps operations.

"[A goal of the MCIOC] is to have a MISO team on every MEU," said Major Robert McGrath, the MISO company commander in the MCIOC, who explained

that IO planners and planning teams and expeditionary MISO teams currently support MAGTF commanders after a "request for forces." McGrath also said that MISO teams can work with any element of the MAGTF and participate in regional exercises sponsored by different

"Really what led to the creation of MCIOC was the need for the Marine Corps to have organic psychological operations forces." -Col Christopher L. Naler

combatant commands. Also, the teams could be sent outside of the MEU rotation, if necessary, and in the past supported activities in Afghanistan.

In the Marine Corps, information operations skills are found in the 05 military occupational field, which is the Marine Air-Ground Task Force Plans occupational field. Information operations is not a primary military occupational specialty (MOS), so leathernecks may return to their primary MOS or seek a B-billet. A B-billet is another non-primary MOS need of the Marine Corps, such as drill instructor duty, so MISO Marines may continue their career progression and have the added benefit of deployment experience and additional training, such as an initial 18-week MISO course at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

In 2011, the MCIOC introduced the first





scenario-based field exercises, which were developed to maintain deployment readiness.

MISO FEX-1, 2013, an Indonesia-based scenario, was a five-day joint field exercise and part of a two-week combined unit exercise, which also included an information operations planning exercise. This was the first of three scenario-based exercises the MCIOC will conduct in 2013. (Other scenario exercises that will be conducted in 2013 include MISO FEX-2, an Afghanistan-based scenario, which was scheduled for May 20-24; and MISO FEX-3, a Nigeria-based scenario, scheduled for Sept. 23-27.)

The joint-combined exercise attracted U.S. Army participants and evaluators,

The exercise story line used real-world information, such as geographical or cultural facts, and the history behind real tensions that exist in Indonesia.

Canadian Forces PSYOP participants and evaluators, an Army audiovisual team, Marine Combat Camera, Marine Civil Affairs, the Marine Corps' Center for Advanced Operational Culture Learning and an observer from the Singapore Army.

"In the future, we intend to expand this exercise to have more international

Before and after each lane engagement during the Camp Upshur exercise, MISO teams conducted briefs and debriefs with U.S. Army and Canadian Forces PSYOP evaluators.

and interservice participants," said Maj McGrath. "We are looking at the Republic of Korea Marines and ... the U.K., as well as more Singapore and more Canadian involvement. Right now there are five Canadians [at this exercise]. We hope to have between 10 and 15, next time."

During the first day of MISO FEX-1, 2013, participants received a "Road to Crisis Brief," which presented a fictional scenario that described tension between certain groups native to Indonesia, with the added complexity of American interests and the presence of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). The exercise story line used real-world information, such as geographical or cultural facts, and the history behind real tensions that exist in Indonesia, whether demographical, religious or political.

Some of the exercise objectives included familiarizing the Marines with local language and dialect, cultural norms and narratives of Indonesia. Role players were integrated to emphasize face-to-face engagement and to give Marines practice communicating through an interpreter. Other objectives included development of technical skills using MISO equipment, such as loudspeakers, a Radio-in-a-Box and satellite communications.

To drill the operational steps, exercise participants followed the "7-phase MISO process." The process includes planning, target audience analysis, series development (which involves utilizing various forms of media), product development and design (such as a pamphlet that would communicate a desired message to the target audience), approval (by delegated authorities), production, distribution (to troops) and dissemination (to target audiences), and evaluation.

At the Urban Training Center at Camp

During the field exercise, role players act out a scenario that MISO Marines might face, such as human rights violations or torture.



ARE A. GUERRERO



CLARE A. GUERRERO

Lew Walt: The "Grunt" Who Wore Stars

n a small, but highly impressive, April 19 ceremony, the Marine Corps Information Operations Center aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., was named Walt Hall. It could not have been named more appropriately.

When he retired, General Lewis W. Walt was a four-star general, but known first and foremost as a leatherneck grunt: fearless, tenacious and frank-hardly silent, but known for listening quietly. He was packed into a bulldog frame; barrelchested, pugnacious and smart, with penetrating blue eyes and a lantern jaw that exuded confidence to those who followed him.

In recent years, the Corps almost seemed to have forgotten him. How could it forget a Marine like Lew Walt? Thus, when the Marine Corps Operations Center opened at Marine Corps Base Quantico, the Marines checked a very important historical block by naming the building, "Walt Hall," after a giant of the Corps.

Gen Walt's keen understanding of psychological operations and aggressive application of its tenets is part of what made him a giant of the Corps and the perfect patron for the Marine Corps Information Operations Center. He was a man who innovatively utilized his resources in order to create "influences" to achieve a desired effect on the battlefield and thus developed a contemporary model for information operations.

Some of his groundbreaking initiatives are still effective today-the most notable of these was the pioneering of the Combined Action Program in Vietnam, which served as a model for Military Transition Teams employed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Lewis William Walt was a young journeyman second lieutenant who stood with old China-hand Marines behind watercooled machine guns and 1903 rifles with fixed bayonets facing hostile Japanese forces in 1938 at the International Settlement of Shanghai.

As a captain he volunteered and commanded Company A, in the elite 1st [Edson's] Raider Battalion as they landed on a deceptively small island named Tulagi in the South Pacific on Aug. 7, 1942, where he earned the Silver Star.

By October, he was a major and commanding 2d Bn, Fifth Marine Regiment on Guadalcanal, where he was wounded, yet his leadership and gallantry saw him promoted to lieutenant colonel.

He was back leading his battalion in the assault at Cape Gloucester, New Britain, in December 1943 and was a newly assigned regimental executive officer when ordered to take command of 3d Bn, 5th Marines, which faced serious resistance at Aogiri Ridge. Against five night attacks LtCol Walt and his men mowed down the Japanese, and when dawn broke, he directed the battalion in the capture of the entire ridge, which the 1stMarDiv commander, Major General Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr., renamed "Walt Ridge," and then wrote him up for the Navy Cross.

Later in the war, LtCol Walt landed on Peleliu as regimental executive officer of 5th Marines but again was assigned as the commander of 3/5 when the battalion's commander and executive officer were both killed in action. He earned his second Navy Cross in that horrific battle.

He was a colonel in 1952 when he finally got to command the Fifth Marine Regiment in Korea. He earned the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star, both with combat "V."

In the late 1950s, the Corps started using Walt's knowledge and experience as a warfighter, and he was assigned Director, Advanced Base Problem Section, Marine Corps Educational Center, Quantico, Va., as the commander of Officers' Basic School and served as a member of the Advanced Research Group, MCEC. In 1960, he was the Corps' representative on the Joint Chiefs of Staff's Joint Advanced Study Group. Promoted to



Dwight D. Jones, stand next to a monument (above) honoring Gen Lewis W. Walt (inset). The MCIOC was named Walt Hall, in recognition of Gen Walt's keen understanding of the value of psychological operations, during a ceremony on April 19.

brigadier general, he was director of the Marine Corps Landing Force Development Center, also at Quantico.

In June of 1965, now a major general, Lew Walt became the commanding general of III Marine Amphibious Force and 3dMarDiv in Vietnam. He also was Chief of Naval Forces, Vietnam, and Senior Advisor, I Corps and I Corps Coordinator, Republic of Vietnam, which included 73,000 Marines.

He was promoted to lieutenant general and continued as CG, III MAF and Senior Advisor, I Corps and I Corps Coordinator. Leatherneck magazine featured him on the cover of the April 1967 issue and dubbed him the "Three-Star Grunt." He was featured in Life magazine, where a May 1967 cover story extolled the success of the combined action companies in Vietnam, a program he had initiated in August 1965.

In 1968, he was appointed the 12th Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps under Gen Leonard F. Chapman, 24th CMC. In 1969, he became the first ACMC to wear four stars.

Gen Walt retired from the Corps in 1971 and passed away on March 26, 1989, at age 76. He is buried at Quantico National Cemetery, but lives on in Walt Hall and Marine history.

-R. R. Keene



Participants in MISO FEX-1 receive a dose of Indonesian culture on the last day of the exercise, Feb. 8, during a meal that featured Indonesian food and traditional song. The event allowed the exercise participants to communicate with the role players and become more familiar with the culture in a relaxed setting.

Upshur, MISO teams participated in the scenario by using "lanes," which represented the physical location of key tension points or opportunities to gain relevant information for influencing the target audience. "These different lanes piece together the whole story of how [Marines] would support [MAGTF] operations in real life," said Captain Calvin Parsons, with MISO Company.

The lanes offered the opportunity for the exercise participants to communicate friendly force messages to key leaders, or communicators, such as the mayor of a town or an opposition leader. The Marines were challenged to build rapport with the different groups while remaining outwardly unbiased. They also were tested to uncover key vulnerabilities and conditions and to negotiate relationships to achieve cooperation between parties.

Marines also practiced relating to members of the community, such as a shop owner or a local disc jockey, in order to gather feedback on local climate and perceptions and to help the Marines analyze and influence relevant target audiences in support of the mission and the commander's objectives.

Changing foreign target audiences' behaviors, which may sometimes focus on winning hearts and minds, doesn't always come naturally. With assistance from U.S. Army and Canadian evaluators, who provided graduate-level MISO instruction, exercise attendees were pushed to become more situationally aware as well as self-aware.

"We build [a reputation] with the people through emotions and sympathies and empathy," said Sgt Kenyon. "We try to relate and tell stories, and that gains us a lot of respect with the populace—it hu-

"We try to relate and tell stories, and that gains us a lot of respect with the populace—it humanizes yourself

to your target audience."

-Sgt Kyle Kenyon

manizes yourself to your target audience. Basically, it comes down to you relating to them on a personal level."

Col Naler said that if the population is truly the prize, demonstrating support is imperative.

"You have a Taliban leader who is saying the following things ... [and] have an insurgent leader who is trying to impede the credibility of the coalition forces. And that's where we've got to get in between [the adversarial forces and the populous]. ... It might be as simple as 'Hey, we need this convoy to go down this road at this particular time' because we're trying to demonstrate ... to that local leader of that town or that village that ISAF [International Security Assistance Forces] and coalition forces are keeping their word," said Naler.

So, why would anyone want to become a MISO Marine? Sgt Wesly Weber, who served as an infantryman for six years with 1/8 and 3/5, said that as a MISO Marine, he had the opportunity to work on a level he might not as a "grunt," referencing how a MISO Marine may work with a battalion operations officer or even the battalion commander directly.

"If you want an opportunity to deploy ... if you're an NCO [noncommissioned officer] and want that opportunity to lead, not only small teams, but to answer the MEU commander; [if you're] a young sergeant who wants to do something different, we're going to send you down to a special operations school. ... We're going to bring [you] in and teach [you] about a different way to think, a different way to look at the world," said Col Naler.

With an average 37 percent of the command currently deployed in support of Marine task forces, and the MCIOC still two years away from full mission capability, the Center continues to grow its force as it reaches an era of warfighting that, while becoming increasingly informational, is yet critically personal.

In the Highest Tradition

He Heard His Marines Were in Trouble And Drove Into Enemy Fire to Assist Them



First Sergeant Anthony J. Velarde, 1st Civil Affairs Group, Force Headquarters Group, Marine Forces Reserve, was awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V" during a

ceremony at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 11.

Velarde was recognized for combat action in Helmand province, Afghanistan. The first sergeant—at the time the company gunnery sergeant with Company F, 2d Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment earned his medal March 22, 2010, during an eight-hour firefight near the town of Kashta Jelijay.

"This award is for the company," said Velarde. "It was a company effort because we were out there hooking and jabbing all night and day. I am always going to be proud to wear that for the company."

While a senior tactical advisor at a command operating center, Velarde received reports of roadside bombs and two pinneddown Marine platoons. He quickly assembled and led a small reaction force.

"I heard that my boys were in trouble down there," said Velarde. "It was eating me up that they needed help. I just needed to get out there and make sure they all got back safely."

Driving seven kilometers in off-road terrain, Velarde navigated to the battle site without knowledge of the terrain, said Captain Travis R. Martin, Velarde's company commander in Afghanistan.

Upon arrival, Velarde set up a security cordon and used his tactical skills to seize a piece of contested high ground from the enemy, according to Martin. When one of the platoons became pinned down again, he ordered his vehicle into the line of enemy fire to provide cover and regenerate forward momentum for a counterattack. Velarde also redirected fire from other vehicles and effectively suppressed enemy machine-gun and rocket teams. Finally, he enabled trapped units to withdraw by directing mortar fire onto the insurgents.

Martin said he would seek Velarde to have at his side in combat anytime.

"Our [Marines] took the fight to the

Edited by R. R. Keene and Tina Pearce



First Sgt Anthony J. Velarde, right, is awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V," March 11, at MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., for combat action while a gunnery sergeant deployed with F/2/5 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

enemy with great credit to his force of will and constant energy towards the mission," said Martin. "He worked himself ragged for the Marines of 'Fox' Company. First Sergeant Velarde is my hero."

> Cpl Marcin Platek PAO, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve

The First Sergeant Was a Leader During His Deployment to Afghanistan

First Sergeant William Pinkerton IV of Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, was awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V" during a ceremony March 18 at Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

"I'm humbled that I got to receive the Bronze Star," said Pinkerton, 39. "I wouldn't have been able to accomplish anything without the Marines I served with."

Pinkerton was recognized for his efforts supporting combat operations in Afghanistan from May 1 to Nov. 30, 2010, while the first sergeant of Company I, 3d Bn, 3d Marines.

"Marines stood an average of 1,000

hours of post throughout the deployment," Pinkerton said. "Our company had the largest area of operation during that time. We never lost any gear or compromised safety for the duration of the deployment. Our Marines really understood what it meant to be disciplined in every aspect of the deployment."

Pinkerton provided battlefield discipline during five operations against enemy forces in Afghanistan's Helmand province. He led several patrols on foot, which covered more than 300 kilometers throughout the deployment.

"We need to have more Marines like First Sergeant Pinkerton," said Major Francisco Zavala, who commanded "India" Co while Pinkerton was first sergeant. "He instilled discipline in every Marine, which helped make the whole deployment run smoothly."

He frequently exposed himself to enemy fire in order to successfully lead the Marines under his charge.

"I want Marines to understand that just because you may be in a leadership position doesn't mean sit back and relax," Pinkerton said. "I made it a point to be out with my Marines, always leading the fight from the front."

While partnered with Afghan soldiers on July 22, 2010, Pinkerton led the company in an immediate response to a downed AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter. The forces sprinted three kilometers in full combat equipment and secured the site.

"We reached the crash site first, and it was complete chaos—we started receiving rounds immediately," Zavala said. "The chaos didn't affect Pinkerton, and he remained composed throughout the fight, making sure everyone was in the correct position to keep everyone alive."

Pinkerton's combat leadership was paramount to the company's success during several hostile encounters, and he successfully targeted eight improvised explosive device emplacements, using supporting arms. He led the company's Marines from the front during 16 IED, 19 explosive devices and 14 weapons cache finds. He captured six detainees and executed six friendly medical evacuations.



First Sgt William Pinkerton IV is presented the Bronze Star with combat "V" by LtCol Michael Roach, Commanding Officer, 1/12, at MCB Hawaii in March for combat action in 2010 in Afghanistan.

Every engagement had extremely high chances for civilian casualties. He ensured and personally exhibited a high degree of restraint and tactical patience during the seven-month deployment.

Today, nearly three years after his deployment, Pinkerton still strives to make a difference in the Corps. "I don't plan on retiring anytime soon," Pinkerton said. "I love being around young Marines. Young Marines join the Marine Corps to better themselves. Helping those who want to grow as Marines and human beings is what I love."

> LCpl Nathan Knapke PAO, MCB Hawaii

He Cut Off the Enemy's Route And Destroyed Them



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Captain Aaron Awtry was awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V" for actions from Sept. 1, 2011, to March 27, 2012, in Afghanistan, and during one particular action on Oct. 30, 2011.

Awtry currently is a company grade monitor with the Manpower Management (MM) Division of the Manpower and Reserve Affairs Department, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., where he received his award, March 13.

"Like any good leader, Awtry will say that this award has nothing to do with him," said Colonel Jay Bargeron, the colonel's monitor for ground occupational

fields in MM. "However, men under pressure do not perform to the level the men of 'Fox' Company [2d Battalion, Fourth Marine Regiment] did without a strong, devoted leader. Awtry-though a man of few words-is that leader," said Bargeron.

Under Awtry's charge, the company occupied a blocking position east of Juz Ghoray in Helmand province. Under the



Capt Aaron Awtry is congratulated after being presented the Bronze Star with combat "V" at the Clubs of Quantico, MCB Quantico, Va., for combat action in Afghanistan with F/2/4.

cover of darkness on Oct. 30, 2011, Awtry navigated Fox Co into position on a seam between two identified enemy locations.

The following morning, the enemy found their reinforcement routes into Juz Ghoray cut off by a company of Marines. As a result, enemy units within the village had been isolated. Understanding their dilemma, the enemy began delivering heavy, accurate and sustained indirect fire from an AGS-17 (Automatic Grenade System) tucked away among buildings.

As explosions impacted the Marine positions, Awtry deliberately moved through the shrapnel-laced air, from one fighting hole to another, seeking to identify the AGS's location. According to his citation, his calm, composed demeanor encouraged his Marines, despite enemy rounds continuously pounding their positions.

Awtry identified the enemy's firing point and directed supporting assets against the threat, destroying both the enemy weapon system and its crew and eliminating the threat to his Marines.

"The caliber of men I have served with can't be matched," said Awtry. As an example, he described how one of the Marines, who had an unexploded rocketpropelled grenade lodged in his thigh, remained cognizant while his fellow Marines carefully treated his wounds, so as not to detonate the ordnance.

"This is for men like them," Awtry said. "Thank you."

> **Cpl Paris Capers** PAO, MCB Quantico, Va.

The Captain Ensured His Marines Always Had the Upper Hand

Captain John E. Nobles III, the Force Reconnaissance platoon commander, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, was awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V," Feb. 16, aboard the amphibious ship USS Kearsarge (LHD-3).

"Combat brings out the true character of a man or woman," said Colonel Matthew G. St. Clair, Commanding Officer, 26th MEU. "It is in that environment that Marines and sailors do things that many would have thought they may not have been able to do."

Awarded for the actions taken in Afghanistan while commander of 1st Platoon, Company A, 2d Reconnaissance Battalion, Second Marine Division (Forward), II Marine Expeditionary Force (Fwd), from Jan. 8, 2011, to June 7, 2011, the citation reads: "During this period, Captain Nobles demonstrated exceptional proficiency, courage, and aggressive leadership in the face of a relentless and determined enemy force within the Upper Sangin River Valley."

"Captain Nobles responded, led and saved lives," said St. Clair as he addressed the formation during the award ceremony. "It's a humbling experience for me to be able to present this award to Captain Nobles, and it's a humbling experience for me to stand here, beside him, wearing the same uniform he wears—the same uniform that each and every one of you wear."

The citation also states: "Captain Nobles served as a stalwart example of combat leadership and routinely moved to key locations despite the ferocity of enemy attacks encountered by him and his men. During numerous direct engagements with enemy forces, Captain Nobles exposed himself to accurate and sustained fires to emplace, coordinate, and direct the fires of his men, as well as supporting arms, onto the enemy."

Nobles said the key to his platoon's success always was having the upper hand by refusing to be intimidated by enemy forces. He also attributed his men's success to the ability of free movement. They were not restricted to certain patrol routes or areas of operation, so the enemy could not predict their movement and lay improvised explosive devices.

Once Nobles and his men were deployed, the tide of engagements in the area turned. His leadership and the proper emplacement of Marines saved lives.



Capt John E. Nobles III is awarded the Bronze Star with combat "V" by Col Matthew G. St. Clair, CO, 26th MEU, Feb. 16, 2013. Capt Nobles was cited for selfless acts of valor in the Upper Sangin River Valley during the first half of 2011 in Afghanistan.

"Once we felt like we worked one area enough, we pushed on to a different sector," said Nobles. "A lot of other units were restricted to certain areas due to the layout of the land. A bunch of good guys were down there. The battalion there at the time was 3/5, and we felt really fortunate because we got to take a lot of heat off of them once we got in place. The general came up and told us their casualties had gone down 68 percent once we got there and got the Taliban's attention focused on us. It always feels good helping out your fellow Marines."

Capt Nobles humbly thanked his team leaders for contributing to his success by their actions.

"We're very fortunate we had such a good platoon," said Nobles. "Our team leaders were absolutely phenomenal. Our company commander was also phenomenal. Everybody was always very aggressive and on the same page, which helped out a lot."

> Cpl Kyle N. Runnels Combat Correspondent, 26th MEU

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 March:

Silver Star HM1 Benn Expedition quarters G Marina Ex

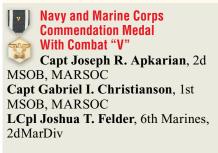
HM1 Benny Flores, I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group (Forward), I Marine Expeditionary Force



Bronze Star With Combat "V" Cpl Cecil D. Burkes Jr.,

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 161, Marine Aircraft Group 16, Third Marine

Aircraft Wing **Maj Andrew Christian**, 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion (MSOB), U.S. Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command (MARSOC) Capt Thaddeus V. Drake Jr., 2d Bn, Fourth Marine Regiment, First Marine Division Capt Christopher J. Mellon, 2d MSOB, MARSOC GySgt Jed M. Owen, 1st MSOB, MARSOC



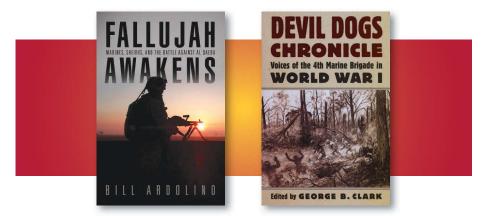
Sgt Jammie J. Hawkins, Marine Wing Support Squadron 373, Marine Wing Support Group 37, 3d MAW LCpl Steven C. Noyes, 6th Marines, 2dMarDiv SSgt Vincent C. Suetos, 1st MSOB, MARSOC



Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal With Combat "V" Cpl Derek J. Moore, 1st MSOB, MARSOC

Books Reviewed

Unless otherwise noted, these books may be ordered from *The* MARINE *Shop*. Subscribers may use members' prices. Include \$5.99 for shipping. Virginia residents add 5 percent sales tax; North Carolina residents add 6.75 percent. Prices may change. Make check or money order payable to: MCA, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134, call toll-free: (888) 237-7683, or shop online at www.marineshop.net.



FALLUJAH AWAKENS: Marines, Sheikhs, and the Battle Against al Qaeda. By Bill Ardolino. Published by Naval Institute Press. 320 pages. Stock #1612511287. \$33.26 MCA Members. \$36.95 Regular Price.

Fallujah—a city remembered for the slaughtered contractors and Marines and insurgents fighting house to house in November 2004's Operation Phantom Fury. But, as the conventional fight ended in 2004, the violence worsened, and by summer 2006 a Marine intelligence officer submitted his analysis that Anbar province was on the verge of being "lost."

The U.S. vs. Iraqi fighting in Fallujah was matched by such Iraqi vs. Iraqi bloodshed, that from winter 2006 through early spring 2007, the sheer number of attacks reached the highest level since the March 2003 U.S. and allies' invasion of Iraq. This was the climate in which Company A, 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment entered as it arrived in October 2006, tasked to "improve security" and defeat the Fallujah elements of al Qaeda in Iraq.

It's their story that first-time author Bill Ardolino tells in his superb book, "Fallujah Awakens: Marines, Sheikhs, and the Battle Against al Qaeda." His comprehensive effort describes how the Grand Rapids, Mich., reservists partnered with Fallujah's Albu Issa tribe and spearheaded the "turn away" from al Qaeda in Iraq.

It's also the story of how counterinsurgency, or COIN, as practiced by the Marines, is driven by personality, events and the guts to take advantage and build on whatever opportunities are presented.

A respected journalist who was embedded multiple times with Marines and U.S. Army elements in Iraq and Afghanistan, Ardolino "gets" COIN. "Fallujah Awakens" focuses on how the relations between the Marines and their Albu Issa counterparts became such an important part of the fight. His book describes how successful combat operations included treating Iraqi civilian casualties, negotiating with tribal leaders whose goals might not include an alliance with the Marines, arming Iraqi police, and why all were equally important in bringing peace.

Led by Major Dan Whisnant, "Alpha" Co, 1st Bn, 24th Marines was the typical Reserve outfit-a collection of older Marines with a variety of civilian backgrounds. Whisnant was a medical equipment sales manager, while many of the noncommissioned officers and enlisted had attended college or found careers in law enforcement, emergency medicine and firefighting. They also had Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jim Roussell, a 57-year-old who'd been retired after 37 years of combined activeduty and Marine Corps Reserve time. More important were his 31 years as a Chicago cop and his ability to instruct the younger Marines in determining the "good bad guys" from the "bad bad guys."

Ardolino is a fine writer, and he's at his best when describing how Whisnant and Roussell built their relationship with Sheik Aifan Sadoun Aifan al-Issawi, an important sheik, but still far junior to the paramount sheik. A hard-charger from the Albu Issa tribe, "Dark," as he invited Whisnant to call him, was eager to work with the Marines. Both an Iraqi patriot and opportunist, Dark asked Whisnant's support of an Albu Issa force to beat back the foreign fighters in Fallujah.

The Albu Issa was the leading tribe in the peninsula; and while not particularly religious, the members were fierce Iraqi nationalists and worried about losing their stature to the newly arrived moneyed foreign Islamic fighters. The Albu Issa goal, Ardolino explains, was to retain economic and political control of the Fallujah area.

Successful COIN is built more on trust than firepower, and "Fallujah Awakens" describes the series of events that brings the Marines and Dark's tribe closer, culminating with a horrific chlorine gas attack on Dark's village six months into the Marine unit's deployment. The Marine reservists, leveraging their civilian skills, responded unquestioningly and very quickly, saving all but three of the hundred-plus gassed locals. Word spread rapidly of how the Marines rushed to the aid of the locals after al Qaeda in Iraq's depraved attack, which spurred those still indecisive into joining Dark and 1/24 in the fight against al Qaeda.

For "Fallujah Awakens," Ardolino conducted 120 interviews with the 1/24 leathernecks, their interpreters and civilian augments. "Fallujah Awakens" is one of the better books on Marine COIN published to date. It's *the* book to read to understand how to work with the locals and having them "choose us."

Andrew Lubin

Editor's note: A frequent Leatherneck contributor, Andrew Lubin embedded numerous times with Marine units in Iraq and Afghanistan and accompanied units inside the United States on operational efforts, such as responding to Hurricane Sandy's aftermath in New York City, and also during training exercises.

DEVIL DOGS CHRONICLE: Voices of the 4th Marine Brigade in World War I. Edited by George B. Clark. Published by University Press of Kansas. 424 pages. Stock #0700618961. \$35.96 MCA Members. \$39.95 Regular Price.

Editor George B. Clark has favored us with a unique collection of reports offered up by the "devil dogs" who served in the 4th Marine Brigade during the Great War. In this 95th anniversary month of the Battle of Belleau Wood, he draws upon letters, diaries, survivors' memoirs and personal interviews to produce one of the more remarkable collections of first-person accounts written by individual Marines we've ever seen.

Clark's selected readings take the reader through the rigors of training in an everexpanding Marine Corps to the bloodbath of trench warfare on the Western Front. And then, on to the best attributes of any fighting Marine: assault and maneuver. Clark, a Marine, knows his subject. He has researched and written extensively on the war, and his "Devil Dogs: Fighting Marines of World War I" remains one of the finest of all resources for learning about Marines in the Great War.

The most pleasant surprise of Clark's new work is the fluidity and writing skills of these combat Marines. From the lowly private to the company and field grade officers, they speak with remarkable clarity on their war-related experiences.

During the Great War, those in the 4th Marine Brigade first caught the attention of their French counterparts, and the world, with their dogged defense of Paris. "Retreat Hell! We just got here," was Captain Lloyd Williams' famous response to the French before the Marines moved forward and attacked. One Marine private noted: "As I see it, the foxhole was America's most important contribution to World War One."

In the touchstone Battle of Belleau Wood, known to each and every Marine recruit, the fighting was indeed both desperate and deadly. Capt David Bellamy, with 3d Battalion, Sixth Marine Regiment (3/6), may have put it best: "[The] Boches fired machine guns 'til the last minute and then wanted to be *Kammarads*. But their cries met deaf ears." With their buddies cut down with each spray of deadly machine-gun fire, Marines had little sympathy for German gunners. A leatherneck private named Cords reported, "Many of our bayonets were bloody that day."

The book is dotted with the names of heroes of our Corps—the men wrote of seeing and fighting with many "Old Corps" legendary figures. Writing about then-Gunnery Sergeant Dan Daly, Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Wise, the commander of 2/5, recalled the motivational technique of the old sergeant when Daly bellowed: "Come on you sons-of-bitches." Wise continued, "The German machine-gunners are braver than the infantry. But when you once get within bayonet reach of any of them, they're eager enough to surrender."

After the carnage of Belleau Wood, the 4th Marine Brigade fought valiantly in the horrific campaigns right up to the Armistice hour on 11 Nov. 1918. Each of the hard-fought battles contained its own intense memories for the amazed, and sometimes shell-shocked, survivors. Mustard gas, the mud, the unending artillery and mortar bombardments, the rain and cold, the fog of war, attacks from the air and the loss of friends are well-recorded by Clark's efforts.

Of his experiences, Private Hemrick, 80th Co, 2/6, wrote of feeling honored to be a member of the Devil Dog Marine Club and of having the privilege to wear the eagle, globe and anchor. "What more should I want? What further reward was needed? None! I am happy, I am satisfied. I am proud of the part I played and envy no man. My cup runneth over."

If you wish to take a good hard look at the unvarnished truth of the Marine experience in our country's First World War, you can find no better place to start than by acquiring a copy of "Devil Dogs Chronicle: Voices of the 4th Marine Brigade in World War I." The words of these daring men tell the tale. And George B. Clark's notable book accomplishes the job of bringing the story of these Marines to the world.

Well done, sir; well done!

Robert B. Loring

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Editor's note: A prolific reader and Leatherneck contributor, "Red Bob" Loring is dedicated to supporting social programs that improve the lives of citizens in East Pasco County, Fla. He and his team of elves aided U.S. Marine Corps Reserve leathernecks in making this past Christmas one of the very best for the Toys for Tots program in his community.

Leatherneck Book Browser –

"Conflicting Loyalties: A Civil War Sea Saga." This gripping historical fiction account of USS *Jamestown* patrolling off the coast of West Africa, looking to capture an American slaver in the spring of 1861, and the subsequent action, will draw you in, completely engrossing you, so be sure you have the time when you open up to page 1. It's a quick read, but you won't want to put it down once you begin.

In his ebook debut, retired Marine Colonel Hibberd V. B. Kline III spins an action-packed tale matching his seamanship knowledge and skills with research on the American Civil War and the American slave trade to deliver this superbly crafted novel. He's been deeply committed to studying the Civil War and has been a re-enactor since 1962. He's worn the uniforms and fired the weapons of the period, landed from whale boats and learned the language of the day, and his meaningful experience is obvious.

Kline describes a strained ship's company, a long way from home, exploding when the captain is killed by a falling mast and the crew learns of the attack on Fort Sumter and the opening of the War Between the States. *Jamestown*'s crew splits along North/South lines. Each must decide his loyalty, and those crew members with a Southern leaning are abandoned in the British Crown Colony of Freetown. That's where the real tale begins to unfold as key characters emerge.

Focusing his readers on the story through the eyes and actions of a *Jamestown* Navy midshipman and Marine Detachment lieutenant, Kline writes of the two overcoming personal animosities to bring home those crew members loyal to the South, in spite of U.S.-presented diplomatic challenges, battles with the United States Navy and the tyranny of distance, relative to West Africa and the United States, and the sea.

"Conflicting Loyalties: A Civil War Sea Saga," at 2,110KB and an estimated 363 pages, is available for \$2.99 in digital format for Kindles from the Marine Corps Association & Foundation's *The* MARINE *Shop* at this link: http://astore .amazon.com/maricorpasso-1-20/detail/B00B7QV4ZQ. It also is available in digital format for the Nook from Barnes & Noble and from the iBook library at the same price.

Leatherneck Line

Edited by Clare A. Guerrero



From left: Sgt Kimberly Martin, Krista Ann deKryger and SSgt Brandon Meng display their awards at the annual Wounded Warrior Regiment recognition ceremony that was hosted by the Marine Corps Association & Foundation at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va., April 2. Award winners were selected by the Wounded Warrior Regiment based on their exceptional professional achievements.

Wounded Warrior Regiment Staff Recognized at Annual Ceremony

The Wounded Warrior Regiment, along with the Marine Corps Association & Foundation, hosted an awards ceremony to recognize the professional achievements of Marine and civilian personnel throughout the regiment. The April 2 ceremony at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va., was followed by a recognition dinner in celebration of the regiment's sixth anniversary.

"In the fast-paced and ever-changing world of wounded warrior care, it is appropriate to take time out to acknowledge the good work of individuals who make positive differences in the lives of our Marines and their family members," said Colonel Willard Buhl, commanding officer of the Wounded Warrior Regiment. "This is a valuable incentive and an appropriate means of recognizing staff that excel in their endeavors."

Three awards were presented: The Wounded, Ill or Injured Service Member Award was presented to Staff Sergeant Brandon Meng of Wounded Warrior Battalion East; the Wounded Warrior Regiment Leadership Award went to Sergeant Kimberly Martin, a section leader at Wounded Warrior Battalion West-Balboa Detachment; and the Wounded Warrior Regiment Civilian of the Year Award was presented to Krista Ann deKryger, a transition specialist at Wounded Warrior Battalion West.

Since April 2007, the Wounded Warrior Regiment has continually built upon its successes by refining care and, where appropriate, adding new support mechanisms. The regiment has a staff of nearly 600 (military, civilians and contractors) who are located around the globe to provide assistance where and when it is needed.

The Wounded Warrior Regiment staff helps Marines meet their first challenges when they transition from inpatient to outpatient and assists Marines with methodically crafting and executing their recovery plans. Together, the battalions at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., and MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., along with the regiment's headquarters in Quantico, Va., ensure Marines will enjoy productive and fulfilling careers outside the Corps or continue with their military service.

"On any given day, our staff members are coming together on behalf of our nation's wounded, ill and injured Marines and their families," said Buhl. "It is nothing short of awe-inspiring."

For more information about the Wounded Warrior Regiment, visit woundedwarrior regiment.org, or call the Sgt Merlin German Wounded Warrior Call Center at (877) 487-6299.

Courtesy of the Wounded Warrior Regiment

Arizona Teen Receives NROTC Scholarship

Leathernecks from Marine Corps Recruiting Station Phoenix paid a visit to Buckeye Union High School in Buckeye, Ariz., Feb. 15, to present senior high school student Sarah K. Lykins with a highly prized \$150,000 Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) scholarship.

Lykins, a multisport student athlete with a 4.0 grade-point average, was selected from among more than 130 applicants throughout the southwestern United States, based on her commitment to the classroom, her community and to physical fitness.

"Becoming an officer in the Marine Corps is both physically and mentally demanding, which is a big motivation for me because it combines my two favorite challenges into one," said Lykins.

Lykins found out about the scholarship program at the beginning of her senior year from a Marine recruiter, and with aspirations of becoming an aviator, she saw this as a unique opportunity.

"I've always loved airplanes and grew up around [them]," said Lykins, whose father was in the Air Force. "I love the thought of the thrill, and the fact that it is even more selective."

The Marine Corps NROTC scholarship program was established in 1932. It came into existence to develop young men and women morally, mentally and physically, and to instill in them the highest ideals of honor, courage and commitment. The program educates and trains young men and women for leadership positions in an increasingly technical Marine Corps.

"That's what makes college possible,"

she said of the scholarship. "That was when I realized I could do anything I wanted."

Lykins said she found out she was receiving the scholarship one afternoon when she was returning home from a soccer game, which her team won.

"I thought it was a joke," she said. "There aren't a lot of people from a small town like this who get this kind of opportunity, let alone a 17-year-old, 5-foot-1-inch female from Buckeye, Arizona."

Recipients of the Marine Corps NROTC scholarships are chosen during two nationally competitive selection periods each year, and Lykins is as qualified as they come, said Major Steven M. Ford, the commanding officer of Marine Corps Recruiting Station Phoenix, who presented Lykins the scholarship.

"She is what the NROTC scholarship program is about, rewarding the best and the brightest for their commitment to excellence," said Ford.

Lykins will attend a participating fouryear college or university of her choice, and during the summer of her junior year, she will attend Officer Candidates School at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Va. She will then return to school to complete her degree and receive her commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

She plans to major in aerospace engineering and minor in aerospace sciences with the goal of becoming a Marine Corps pilot.

"Doing things people think you can't is a big deal to me," said Lykins. "I am very excited for the new challenges and new places."

For more information about the Marine Corps NROTC scholarship program, visit www.marines.com/becoming-a-marine/ commissioning-programs/four-yearcolleges/nrotc.

> Cpl Tyler J. Bolken MPAR, RS Phoenix





MILITARY CHILDREN ARE OFFERED FREE ONLINE TUTORING—Military children face unique challenges on top of the everyday stress of school. Through the U.S. Military Families Program, children of active-duty military personnel are given access to free online tutoring and free homework help from live tutors who cover more than 16 subjects at Tutor.com. Children in military families who move frequently or are dealing with a deployed parent can rely on tutors for help to stay on top of homework or catch up on missed lessons.

DOD Programs Offer Educational Aid For Military Spouses

For military spouses who have bonded to the Corps not by oath and stripe, but by vow and band, there is a program in place to help the advancement of their education. Financial assistance through the Department of Defense is available through the Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts program.

"It's a needed thing," said Barbara West, family member employment assistance coordinator. "It's a great tool offered to spouses from the DOD."

This program is available to spouses

Sarah K. Lykins, a multisport athlete with a 4.0 gradepoint average at Arizona's Buckeye Union High School, was selected from among more than 130 applicants throughout the southwestern United States to receive a \$150,000 NROTC scholarship. Maj Steven M. Ford, C0 of Marine Corps Recruiting Station Phoenix, presented the scholarship to the senior during an assembly at her school in Buckeye, Feb. 15. of active-duty servicemembers from the grades of private to sergeant, warrant officer 1 to chief warrant officer 2, and second to first lieutenant.

The program can provide up to \$2,000 each year and a total of up to \$4,000 in benefits to those pursuing associate's degrees, certifications and licenses.

"It's beneficial because it gives access to tools that give portable careers," said Parisa Fetherson, program manager for personal and professional development. "It serves to create employment opportunities [for the spouse] wherever the servicemember is stationed."

The program is designed to motivate spouses to embrace career training that may open job opportunities wherever their family is stationed. It also serves as a way to keep servicemembers in the military by providing avenues where families can secure additional income and spouses can fulfill their career goals.

For information on the program, including how to apply, call your local base Career Resource Management Center, or the Quantico Career Resource Management Center at (703) 784-3232, or visit militaryonesource.com.

> PFC Samuel Ellis PAO, MCB Quantico, Va.

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, March 1-31, 2013 There are no casualties to report for this month.

Training Accident in Nevada Claims Lives of 7 Marines

Seven Marines with 1st Battalion, Ninth Marine Regiment, Second Marine Division were killed March 18 when a mortar shell exploded during a live-fire training exercise at Hawthorne Army Depot in Nevada.

Those killed were **Private First Class** Joshua M. Martino, 19, of Clearfield, Pa.; Lance Corporal David P. Fenn II, 20, of Polk City, Fla.; LCpl Roger W. Muchnick Jr., 23, of Fairfield, Conn.; LCpl Joshua C. Taylor, 21, of Marietta, Ohio; LCpl Mason J. Vanderwork, 21, of Hickory, N.C.; LCpl William T. Wild IV, 21, of Anne Arundel, Md.; and Corporal Aaron J. Ripperda, 26, of Madison, Ill.

Seven other Marines and one sailor were injured in the blast.

"The Marines and sailors' response to the incident to provide first aid for our injured was nothing short of heroic," Lieutenant Colonel Andrew J. McNulty, the 1/9 commanding officer, said in a written statement. "There were numerous acts of selflessness as our injured cared for each other and directed corpsmen to care for more severely injured before being treated themselves. The Marines and sailors on scene did everything possible to care for and save those affected by the mortar system malfunction."

The Marines had finished a cold-weather training exercise at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif., and were doing live-fire mortar training when one of the mortar systems failed, McNulty said.

As investigators tried to determine what caused the failure, the Pentagon suspended all use of the mortar system until further notice.

Three Marines Killed in Shooting At Quantico, Va.

A Marine shot and killed two fellow Marines, March 21, and then took his own life March 22, according to the commander of Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

The gunman, who committed suicide, was

identified as **Sergeant Eusebio Lopez**, 25, of Pacifica, Calif. His two victims were 19-yearold **Lance Corporal Sara Castromata** of Oakley, Calif., and **Corporal Jacob Wooley**, 23, of Guntown, Miss. At press time, a motive remains under investigation.

All three were active-duty Marines assigned to Officer Candidates School, according to Colonel David Maxwell, the base commander.

Jonathan Winters

Jonathan Winters—a high-school dropout, who enlisted during World War II, served with the Marine Detachment in the aircraft carrier USS *Bonhomme Richard* (CV-31) in the Pacific and went on to be an improvisational comic who kept audiences laughing for more than half a century—died April 9 at his home in Montecito, Calif. He was 87.

According to *New York Times* writer William Grimes, Winters broke into comedy "in the late 1950s and instantly made his mark as one of the funniest, least definable comics" with his staccato delivery of offbeat observations. "The unpredictable, often surreal quality of his humor had a powerful influence on later comedians like Robin Williams but made him hard to package as an entertainer.

"His brilliant turns as a guest on programs like 'The Steve Allen Show' and 'The Tonight Show'—in both the Jack Paar and Johnny Carson eras—kept him in constant demand. But a successful television series eluded him, as did a Hollywood career, despite memorable performances in films like 'It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World,' 'The Loved One' and 'The Russians Are Coming, the Russians Are Coming.'"

He was born in 1925 in Dayton, Ohio, where his father "was an investment broker and his grandfather, a frustrated comedian, owned the Winters National Bank." His parents divorced and his mother took him with her to Springfield where he impressed school friends with various impersonations, including the sounds of an Indianapolis race.

He enlisted in the Corps during World War II

and, while in the Marine Detachment, served as a gunner in USS *Bonhomme Richard*.

After the war, he completed high school, enrolled in college and in the Dayton Art Institute and, within a few years, married Eileen Schauder. They remained together until her death in 2009. At her urging, he entered a Dayton talent contest that eventuated in a job as a disc jockey at a Dayton radio station.

He moved on to New York looking for a better radio job and also took small parts in TV programs and performed as a stand-up comic. Grimes wrote: "A guest spot on Arthur Godfrey's 'Talent Scouts' led to frequent appearances with Jack Paar and Steve Allen, both of them staunch supporters willing to give Mr. Winters free rein. Alistair Cooke, after seeing Mr. Winters at the New York nightclub Le Ruban Bleu, booked him as the first comedian to appear on his arts program 'Omnibus.'"

Winters was especially adroit at creating sound effects—everything from aircraft and artillery to a UFO. He developed a number of characters, which he continued to expand when he had his own TV shows. He appeared in a number of variety shows and starred in "The Jonathan Winters Show," from 1967 to 1969, and in "The Wacky World of Jonathan Winters," from 1972 to 1974.

Many of his characters—such as Maude Fricket, a caustic grandmother with an eye for candy; B. B. Bindlestiff, a small-town tycoon; Piggy Bladder, football coach for the State Teachers' Animal Husbandry Institute for the Blind; and a military routine as a young Marine taking orders from his gunnery sergeant and always responding under his breath: "I hate you, Gunny. I hate, I hate you!"—were based on people with whom he grew up.

"I don't do jokes," he once said. "The characters are my jokes."

In 1961, *Variety* wrote, "His humor is more universally acceptable than any of the current new comics, with the possible exception of Bob Newhart, because he covers the mass experiences of the U.S. common man—the Army, the gas station, the airport."

In the 1970s and '80s, Winters made frequent appearances on "The Andy Williams Show," "The Tonight Show" and "Hollywood Squares." He played Robin Williams' extraterrestrial baby son, Mearth, on the final season of "Mork & Mindy." He also published a book of his cartoons, "Mouse Breath, Conformity and Other Social Ills," and a collection of "Winters' Tales."

Marc A. Moore

Major General Marc A. Moore, USMC (Ret), a former drill instructor who went on to become a decorated combat veteran of both the Korean and Vietnam wars, died April 3 in Escondido, Calif. He was 84.

Born in Dallas, he enlisted in 1946 after completion of one year of college. He served with the Guard Detachment, Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, and as an assistant drill instructor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

In 1948, he returned to college at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and became a member of the Platoon Leaders Class Program, attaining his commission on graduation in 1951.

In March 1952, he served as the junior officer of the Marine Detachment in the cruiser USS *Manchester* (CL-83) during two combat cruises in Korean waters. He also served as a naval gunfire aerial observer adjusting fires against North Korean and Chinese forces.

In 1954, as a captain, he served as the last aide-de-camp to Lieutenant General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, then a major general commanding the Second Marine Division.

Some of his other assignments include Officer Selection Officer, Dallas; Amphibious Warfare School, Quantico, Va.; Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, Honolulu; and aide to the Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific. He was promoted to major in March 1962.

Transferred to the 1stMarDiv in 1963, he served as Division Aerial Observer and then S-3 (Operations) Officer, 1st Battalion, First Marine Regiment. The battalion rotated through the transplacement system to Okinawa in November 1964 and was designated 2d Bn, 3d Marines. While serving with the battalion, then-Maj Moore landed at Da Nang, Republic of South Vietnam, as part of the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade in the spring of 1965. He was later transferred to the III Marine Amphibious Force as officer in charge of the command center.

Returning to the States in 1965, he entered the Advanced Degree Program and graduated from George Washington University with a Master of Arts degree in education. In 1970, he was ordered back to Vietnam and served as the Executive Officer, 1st Marines, then as CO, 3/1. He brought 3/1 back to the United States in May 1971 and assumed command of 1st Marines. He was promoted to colonel in April 1972 and completed his top-level schooling at the National Defense University.

He then was ordered to the U.S. Naval Academy as the Marine Corps representative and director of the Division of English and History. He was promoted to brigadier general in 1976 and assigned duty as Assistant Division Commander, 1stMarDiv. He was assigned duty as the deputy director for Operations, J-3 (National Military Command Center), Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C., and advanced to major general in 1978. He became CG, 4thMarDiv, New Orleans and subsequently was assigned as the Chief of Staff, U.S. Forces Japan in 1980, serving in that capacity until his retirement on Sept. 1, 1982.

MajGen Moore's personal decorations include the Legion of Merit with combat "V," two Bronze Stars with combat "V" and the Air Medal.

Jim Herbold

Brigadier General James E. "Jim" Herbold Jr., USMC (Ret)—a 28-year veteran who earned the Silver Star at Tarawa during World War II and also fought on Saipan and Tinian and later in Vietnam—died April 9 in Portland, Ore. He was 95.

Born in Pasadena, Calif., he attended the Officer Candidates Class and the Reserve Officers Class at Quantico, Va., and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve in September 1941.

He was with 3d Battalion, Second Marine Regiment at Tulagi, Solomon Islands in 1942 and also saw combat at Guadalcanal. Later, at Tarawa, he earned the Silver Star.

He eventually returned to the States in 1944 as a major. He served for the next five years in various assignments including administrative officer in the Personnel Department and planning and statistical officer with the Division of Plans and Policy, G-l, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. He was integrated into the regular Marine Corps in July 1946.

As a lieutenant colonel in 1951, he attended Supply School at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., and became Chief of the Supply Branch, Supply Depot, MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif.

LtCol Herbold was then assigned to the Marine Corps Supply Activity, Philadelphia as director of the facility's clothing factory operation, where all Marine uniforms were made at the time.

Again assigned to HQMC in 1956, he served as Head, Machine Accounting Branch and later became Head, Management Engineering Branch with the Administrative Division.

Overseas in 1958, he joined the 3dMarDiv on Okinawa, serving as Assistant G-4 (Logistics) and, later, the commanding officer of the 3d Service Bn. He was promoted to colonel in 1959.

He later attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, D.C., and returned to Philadelphia to serve as deputy commander of the Defense Personnel Support Center and was Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans and Readiness), Marine Corps Supply Activity, Philadelphia, and eventually that activity's chief of staff. While serving in this capacity, he was promoted to brigadier general in 1966.

In Vietnam, BGen Herbold was Commanding General, Force Logistics Command, Fleet Marine Force Pacific at Red Beach, Da Nang from 1966 to 1967.

Returning to the States, BGen Herbold served as CG, Marine Corps Supply Center Barstow, Calif. He retired in 1970.

His awards include the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit with combat "V" and the Joint Service Commendation Medal. **Hugh C. Audas**, 91, of Tyler, Texas. He was a WW II veteran and crew chief with VMF-223 who worked on F4U-1 Corsairs. He served on Bougainville, the Solomon Islands and took part in multiple Pacific campaigns.

He married, worked in Dayton, Ohio, and in the Chicago area before moving to Texas. He was an Oak Forest Baptist Temple deacon, youth leader and Sunday school teacher.

Robert Balentine, 89, in Glen Mills, Pa. He was a plankowner with the MarDet in the carrier USS *Intrepid* (CV-11) during WW II.

Cpl Donald O. "Don" Elliott, 86, of Alvo, Neb. He served from 1943 to 1946 and saw combat on Saipan, Tinian and Okinawa. He served in Nagasaki, Japan, during the occupation.

He and his brother operated Elliott Brothers Repair. Elliott also worked for John Deere in Waverly and served as fire chief and as water commissioner. He coached Little League and American Legion baseball.

Lawrence M. Farmer, 88, of Suffolk, Va. He served with Btry C, 1st Bn, 14th Marines in the Marshall Islands and the Marianas and was wounded in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

He later worked for the Secret Service.

LCpl Glen E. Hoffman, 65, of Oakdale, Calif. He was a Vietnam War veteran, 1968-69. He worked for the Department of Corrections in Oakdale.

Paul H. Holtsclaw, 91, of Baltimore. He enlisted in 1942 and was a Montford Point, N.C., Marine. He served as a drill instructor and became a charter member of Montford Point Association #17 in Maryland and served as the chapter's chaplain. In 2012, he was among those Montford Point Marines awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

He served as superintendent of the Sunday school at the Bethel A.M.E. Church in Baltimore.

Sgt Harlan C. Jeffery, 91, of Hingham, Mass. He was a WW II Iwo Jima veteran who won the Silver Star and earned two Purple Hearts. He later worked for Thompson Wire in Matapan and as a custodian at Randolph High School.

James "J.D." Newsome, 87, of Kilgore, Texas. He was a WW II veteran with 1/26, 5thMarDiv and saw action at Iwo Jima and later was recalled to active duty during the Korean War.

He was a salesman for 40 years.

Cpl Fred L. Pope Jr., 89, of Moline, Ill. He enlisted in 1942, made five landings in the Pacific and earned the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

He later worked 32 years as an industrial specialist at the Rock Island Arsenal.

Charles N. Wells, 87, of Baltimore. He enlisted in 1944 and was a Montford Point, N.C., Marine. He served in the Pacific and during the occupation of Japan.

He later worked as a printing consultant and designer to build Watkins and Wells Printing and founded Wells Printing. He became CEO of Wells Printing and had more than 60 years in the printing business.



SOUND OFF [continued from page 7]

individuals. Leadership, on the other hand, is something innate. This is why there are bonehead mistakes, not only in war situations, but in others as well.

To respond to, but not necessarily answer, Joe's question, I can offer only the following. When I was in Vietnam, 1967-68, we ran into some soldiers who related to us what they had to do in case their base was hit by enemy fire or enemy troops. The soldiers had to go to a storage locker box to check out their rifles. Why? Who knows? It was a war situation, but the necessity of being able to quickly defend oneself apparently wasn't uppermost in that base commander's mind. There is no answer, but I feel for Joe and his buddies with all my heart.

MSgt Peter Halle, USMC (Ret) Oceanside, Calif.

• I agree with most of what you said. Top, but leadership is not innate and must be taught. Some are better at it than others, primarily because some study and practice leadership more than others.— Sound Off Ed.

Can Careers Be Ruined By Close Order Drill?

Is a Marine truly disciplined just because he or she can march like a Clydesdale horse and perfectly execute the manual of arms? Is a Marine really an undisciplined thing just because he or she doesn't march so well?

I ask this because it appears to me that people often get overall discipline confused. I recall that in boot camp, oftentimes a senior drill instructor would choose a guide and the squad leaders based on an ability to learn drill quickly, but sometimes fire them for poor drill performance.

I view discipline as an overall picture. Yes, it is true that it does take a lot of discipline to master close order drill. But that does not always mean someone with precision drill skills is truly disciplined, and someone without those skills is not when that Marine does the job, can pass a physical fitness test, obeys orders, follows the rules on and off duty, is always on time for work, and shows his seniors the proper respect and courtesies.

A Marine who might be good at drill, but has none of the other qualities and is disobedient, has constant unauthorized absences or demonstrates a problem respecting superiors, is not a very well-disciplined Marine.

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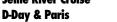
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I'll bet the brigs are filled with Marines who can drill flawlessly, yet the fact that they're in jail means they're not very disciplined! Yet, I'd venture to guess that several officers, staff noncommissioned officers and NCOs have exemplary records, meaning they are very disciplined, but are not perfect at drill. My point is, drill doesn't always mean you're disciplined; it just means you have good rhythm.

> Cpl R. V. Mowreader USMC, 1984-93 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

• So, tell me what was it about close order drill that you didn't understand? I have never, in all my years, heard of anyone being considered a failure for not mastering close order drill, and to be honest, it is not that hard. It requires concentration, and a lack of it may be an indication of other problems.—Sound Off Ed.

Medals for Non-Combat Deaths?

Seven Marines were killed at a Nevada military site in March, and what did they get for their sacrifice? There are no medals for them or their families to cover injuries or death in a non-combat situation.

Back in the mid-to-late 1990s, I designed a medal called the "Peace Heart Medal." It was to be used in place of a Purple Heart, which is awarded in combat situations. The medal I designed had a dove carrying an olive branch in gold over a white stone for purity, like the Purple Heart. The ribbon was white with thin red and blue borders representing the U.S. flag.

With the help of Congressman Floyd Spence of South Carolina, it was put into two bills and made it to President William J. Clinton, who signed it. It was passed on to the Department of Defense where it was shot down, supposedly because they had enough medals to cover all situations. Of course that was a lie.

After four years of trying, our military personnel and their families were left with nothing to honor their sacrifice. Being a Marine Vietnam veteran on the 100 percent disabled list after being wounded five times in that war, it is a sad commentary to say the least. My sympathies go out to the families.

> Cpl Gregory J. Topliff USMC, 1966-69 Warrenville, S.C.

• I agree with DOD. There are more than enough medals, ribbons and badges. Do you propose giving the medal to all injured in training accidents or just to those who die? I would be interested in knowing more about the proposed criteria. Readers, agree or disagree?— Sound Off Ed.

Hypothetical: If You Try to Do a Chin-Up, You'll Probably Drown

During my time at Parris Island, S.C., one of the recruits asked what the difference was between the chin-up and the pull-up. Our senior drill instructor, Staff Sergeant Lewis, responded with this question: "How would you pull yourself into a raft?"

With your hands in the usual "chinup" position, you'd never get in the raft. However, with your hands in the "pull-up" position, you'd be able to get into the raft. It made sense to me then and still does. The pull-up is harder, and you need more upper-body strength to accomplish one.

Sgt Ed Bowers USMC, 1953-61 Cranston, R.I.

• Things are not like they were back in the Old Corps. Back when you and I came in, there was only one prescribed way, and that was to do pull-ups.—Sound Off Ed.

Yellow Footprints and a Drink With "Maggie" Brewer

I am a 10-year U.S. Marine veteran (two tours in Vietnam), and I was promoted to gunnery sergeant before the end of my second enlistment. And, of course, I follow USMC publications.

The first comment is on the "Sound Off" item about the yellow footprints at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. They are certainly older than stated. When I arrived at Receiving Barracks in July 1959, they already were in place, and by no means new then. I remember them ever so clearly in what was a truly traumatic experience. So graduation photos notwithstanding, you can push them back at least four years from 1963. The second comment is relative to the "In Memoriam" on Brigadier General Margaret A. "Maggie" Brewer, who assuredly will be missed. She was a decade older than me, but we grew up a few blocks apart—same schools and more.

I actually met her later in the 1980s in Washington after she retired. We had a long and excellent lunch, and as we were leaving a Georgetown restaurant, we shook hands and I leaned over and gave her a kiss on the cheek. Her eyes widened, and I smiled and said something to the effect that as an old staff noncommissioned officer, I always wondered what it would be like to kiss a general. She laughed and, at her suggestion, we went back inside for a farewell drink before going our separate ways.

A great lady and a fine Marine, no doubt about it.

Dr. Alan Sabrosky Jackson, Miss.

<u>Reunions</u>

• 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.

• 4thMarDiv Assn. of WW II, Aug. 25-30, Savannah, Ga. Contact Jim Westbrook,

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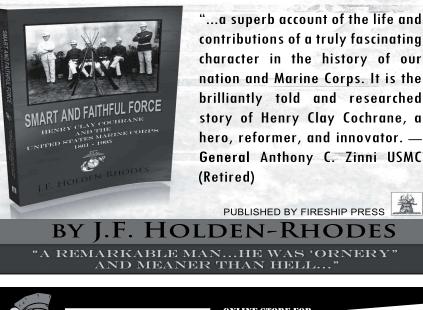
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· 6thMarDiv Assn., Aug. 15-18, Quantico, Va. Contact Sharon Woodhouse, (503) 642-2429, sjawoodhouse@gmail.com.

• 26th Marines Assn., Sept. 20-23, St. Louis. Contact Sonny Hollub, (512) 825-4730, www.26thmarines.com.

 First Marine Aircraft Wing Assn. (RVN), Aug. 23-25, New Orleans. Contact Al Frater, (201) 906-1197, teanal@opton line.net.

• USMC Combat Correspondents Assn., July 22-25, Joint Base Andrews, Md. Contact Jack T. Paxton, 110 Fox Ct., Wildwood, FL 34785, (352) 748-4698, usmccca@cfl.rr.com, www.usmccca.org.

• China Marine Assn., Sept. 18-22, Savannah, Ga. Contact William J. Parker Jr., 183 S. Waterlilly Rd., Coinjock, NC 27923, (252) 453-4124, bp095678@gmail .com.

 Moroccan Reunion Assn., Sept. 10-15, Daytona Beach, Fla. Contact Robert Sieborg, 2717 N. 120th Ave., Omaha, NE 68164, (402) 496-1498.

 USMC Vietnam Tankers Assn., Oct. 31-Nov. 4, San Antonio. Contact John Wear, (215) 794-9052, johnwear@ vahoo.com.

• 2d Recon Battalion Assn., June 20-23, Warwick, R.I. Contact Bob Moody, P.O. Box 1679, Westminster, MD 21158, sgtrecon73@gmail.com, www.2dreconbn .com.

• 7th Engineer Bn Vietnam Veterans Assn., Sept. 19-22, San Diego. Contact Norm Johnson, (989) 635-6653, delta1@ centurytel.net; Doug McMackin, (623) 466-0545, gunnymac@hotmail.com; or Jim Taranto, (518) 567-4267, tarantoj@ gmail.com.

• 11th Engineer Bn (RVN, 1966-69), postponed until 2014. 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.com, www.firstmarines.org.

• 2/4 (all eras), June 26-29, Philadelphia. Contact Bill Weise, (703) 866-7657, or Jay Brown, (856) 728-3196, 24 reunion

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Sergeant Jennifer M. Masters The PFC Herbert A. Littleton NCO Trophy for Electronic Maintenance Excellence

Marine Wing Communications Squadron 28 The LtCol Kevin M. Shea Memorial Unit of the Year Award







2013chairman@gmail.com.

• A/1/7, Oct. 13-18, Kerrville, Texas. Contact Roland or Iva Mae O'Con, 1018 High Point Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028, (830) 367-2801, rgocon@hctc.net.

• B/1/5 (Korea) "Baker Bandits," (includes A, B, C, Wpns and Hq companies), Sept. 9-13, Omaha, Neb. Contact Richard Large, 9505 S. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68512, (402) 423-6961, rc19505@ inebraska.com.

• D/1/26 and all battalions, 26th Marines (RVN), Nov. 4-11, Branson, Mo. Contact Jack "Monk" Kline, (414) 303-3534, onemonk1950@gmail.com, or James Fizer, (937) 644-2952.

• G/2/7 (RVN, 1965-70), Aug. 14-18, Kansas City, Mo. Contact Ron Myers, (916) 723-7324, rlmyers5@comcast.net, http://golf2-7vva.com.

• G/3/1 (Korea), Sept. 16-19, Dana Point, Calif. Contact "Bing" Bingham, 1453 Patricia Dr., Gardnerville, NV 89460, (775) 265-3596, bingbingham@ msn.com.

• 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. • H&S Co, 1/7 (Camp Sukiran, Okinawa, Japan, 1960-61), Sept. 26-29, Quantico, Va. Contact John T. Ward, (412) 371-3639, jtwardmarinel@yahoo.com.

• 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.

• M/3/7 (RVN), Sept. 4-7, Natick, Mass. Contact Jim Hastings, (508) 966-0364, snopymike@aol.com.

• Anacostia Naval Station Marines, Sept. 8-13, Branson, Mo. Contact Ron Bursch, (612) 499-0776, ronbur38@ gmail.com.

• Marine Barracks Sasebo, Japan, Oct. 22-25, Reno, Nev. Contact C. R. McCarthy, (515) 274-9110, coach430@ aol.com.

• Subic Bay Marine Barracks, Oct. 28-Nov. 1, Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Contact Col Rufus Bowers, USMC (Ret), 1021 Stagecoach Ln., Friendsville, TN 37737, (865) 804-1898, (865) 995-1950, polly21@ peoplepc.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.

• Yemassee Train Depot, Oct. 18-19, Yemassee, S.C. Contact Roy Hughes, P.O. Box 265, Yemassee, SC 29945, (843) 589-3385.

• 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.

• Point Mugu Marine Security Detachment (1946-60), Sept. 22-24, Dayton, Ohio. Contact Arthur Smallenberger, (816) 436-6493, pt.mugumarine@kc.rr.com.

• 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.

• ANGLICO, Nov. 7-10, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Contact Joe Luque, (661) 725-3415, jlluque@sbcglobal.net.

• MASS-2/MTACS-2 (all years), Sept. 23-26, Las Vegas. Contact George Macartie, (858) 566-5303, mass-2@sbc global.net.

• USMC Postal 0160/0161, Oct. 6-11, Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Contact MSgt Harold





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Wilson, USMC (Ret), 835 N. Wood St., Logan, OH 43138, (740) 385-6204, handk .lucerne06@gmail.com.

• Udorn 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, tcox95@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.

• **TBS Class 8-68**, June 6-9, Quantico, Va. Contact Terrence Arndt, (314) 434-6908, (314) 306-5002, tdarndt2@mac.com.

• Plt 170, Parris Island, 1963, Oct. 10-14, Parris Island, S.C. Contact former Sgt Pete Sayles, (772) 360-7347, petesayles@ yahoo.com.

• Plt 218, Parris Island, 1963, is plan-

ning a reunion for September in Philadelphia. Contact Tony DiStefano, (215) 438-3630, adister456@aol.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 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 1040, San Diego, 1968, July 26-27, Oklahoma City. Contact Stephen Norpel, (563) 451-8417, snorpel@yahoo.com.

• Plt 1066, San Diego, 1969, May 30-June 2, Branson, Mo. Contact Bob Deal, (443) 608-0008, robert.c.deal@gmail.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 2044, San Diego, 1973, July 19, San Diego. Contact Douglas Bower, (408) 876-8966, douglasbower@yahoo.com.

• Plts 4020/4021, Parris Island, 2000, July 12-14, Parris Island, S.C. Contact Elizabeth Rossi, (914) 315-1728, elizabeth annrossi@gmail.com.

• MACCS, Sept. 18-22, San Diego. Contact Tom Mulkerin, (703) 644-1724, tom.mulkerin@mulkerin.com. • MACS-6, Oct. 11-13, Havelock, N.C. Contact Gene Herrera, (757) 484-0091, geneathome@outlook.com.

• Marine Air Base Squadrons 43 and 49 are planning a reunion for September. Contact Col Chuck McGarigle, USMC (Ret), 23 Greenwood Dr., Bordentown, NJ 08505, (609) 291-9617, mabsreunion@ comcast.net.

• Marine Air Groups (WW II-present), Oct. 2-5, Branson, Mo. Contact James Jordan, (417) 535-4945, james.m .jordan@hughes.net, or Bob Miller, (636) 327-5854, mbobsue13@gmail.com.

• VMFP-3, July 12-14, NAS Pensacola, Fla. Contact David Marquardt, 8718 Robinwood Cir., Milton, FL 35283, (850) 400-1118, d_m98@yahoo.com.

Ships and Others

• USS Bremerton (CA-130/SSN-698), Sept. 8-12, St. Louis. Contact James Jensen, (406) 837-4474, jmbluff@century tel.net, or R. F. Polanowski, (585) 365-2316, rpolanowski@stny.rr.com.

• USS *Canberra* (CA-70/CAG-2), Oct. 2-6, Reno, Nev. Contact Ken Minick, P.O. Box 130, Belpre, OH 45714, (740) 423-8976, usscanberra@gmail.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.usshornet assn.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 *Philippine Sea* (CV/CVA/CVS-47), Oct. 24-29, Jacksonville, Fla. Contact USS *Philippine Sea* Assn., P.O. Box 496412, Port Charlotte, FL 33949-6412, (941) 743-5460, philsea@embarqmail .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 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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NETWORKING

Reader Assistance

Edited by Clare A. Guerrero

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<u>Mail Call</u>

• 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.

• MSgt Dennis King, USMC (Ret), 13666 Black Elm Ct., Moreno Valley, CA 92553, (951) 485-8882, kingvqk78@aol .com, to hear from members of **Plt 355**, **San Diego, 1959**.

• Marine veteran James Mazak, 201 W. 2nd St., Streator, IL 61364, (815) 822-9966, to hear from anyone who served with his late brother, **Cpl Joseph J. MAZAK**, in **Plt 359, San Diego, 1953**, or with the **1stMarDiv, Korea, 1954-55**.

• Marine veteran John Francoeur, 190 Turkey Creek Rd., Clyde, NC 28721, (828) 627-9440, fran_justice@yahoo.com, to hear from those who served in **Wpns Plt**, **Co G, 2d Bn, 8th Marines, 1974-76**.

• Marine veteran Rick Adams, 5828 E. Cactus Wren Rd., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253, (480) 216-7559, rickadamsjr@cox .net, to hear from Fred McCOLLUM, Don DAVIS, Gene HOLLOWAY and Bob HAWKE, who served with 2d Eng Bn, 2dMarDiv, 1956-58.

• GySgt Bruce M. Rebenstorf, USMCR (Ret), 6016 Stanton Ave., Highland, CA 92346, (909) 838-8340, to hear from members of **Plt 1043, San Diego, 1972**.

• Marine veteran Melvin Sherrod, (415) 236-0510, ncmel2009@gmail.com, to hear from members of Plts 3048-3051, Parris Island, 1985, or anyone with Co B, MCCES/MCAGCC Twentynine Palms, Calif., 1985, or anyone in Hq Co, 2d Marines, 2dMarDiv, namely Comm Plt, TOW Plt or Wire Plt, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4, 1/2, MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., 1985-87.

• Former LCpl Michael R. Merrill, 2 Ragged Hill Rd., Milford, MA 01757, (508) 478-3637, (508) 596-7126, to hear from anyone who served with **Co B**, 1st **Bn**, 3d Marines, 3dMarDiv, Okinawa, 1963-64.

• Sha-Londa Waterman, 311 Kent Rd. S.W., Marietta, GA 30008, (404) 462-7594,



Lena Thompson and Sgt Thomas L. Mitchell (formerly Thomas Hooper) in the 1960s.

on behalf of her mother, Lena Thompson, to hear from or about Sgt Thomas L. MITCHELL (formerly Thomas HOOPER), who was stationed at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., in the 1980s, and worked at a post office in Brooklyn, and resided at Graham-Windham Group Home in Hastings on Hudson, N.Y., 1960-70, prior to becoming a Marine.

• MSgt James E. Robertson, USMC (Ret), 5 Gentle Ben Path, Ormond Beach, FL 32174, (386) 672-8562, or Doug Mc-Swain, 54 Branscombe Rd., Waynesville, NC 28785, (704) 472-2296, dfmcswain@ bellsouth.net, to hear from family members of PFC George C. MILLER, a machine-gunner who served with the 11th Marines and was KIA on Oct. 2, 1944, during the Battle of Peleliu. • SgtMaj Pete Seagriff, USMC (Ret), (502) 570-0641, sgtmajsgt@roadrunner .com, to hear from members of Plt 258, Parris Island, 1962.

<u>Wanted</u>

• Marine veteran Joseph Wander, (626) 831-8906, josephdwander@gmail.com, wants a recruit graduation book for Plt 1065, San Diego, 1995.

• Former Cpl Carl R. Withey, (315) 689-3653, crwithey@twcny.rr.com, wants a recruit graduation book for Plt 193, Parris Island, 1966.

• GySgt Bruce M. Rebenstorf, USMCR (Ret), 6016 Stanton Ave., Highland, CA 92346, (909) 838-8340, wants a **recruit** graduation book for Plt 1043, 1972.

• Marine veteran Melvin Sherrod, (415) 236-0510, ncmel2009@gmail.com, wants a recruit graduation book and photos for Plts 3048-3051, Parris Island, 1985.

• 1stSgt Raymond W. Meaney, USMC (Ret), 101-28 117th Street Richmond Hill, NY 11419, (718) 849-0882, wants a **USMC virgin wool blanket** in excellent or very good condition with the letters U.S.M.C. printed on it.

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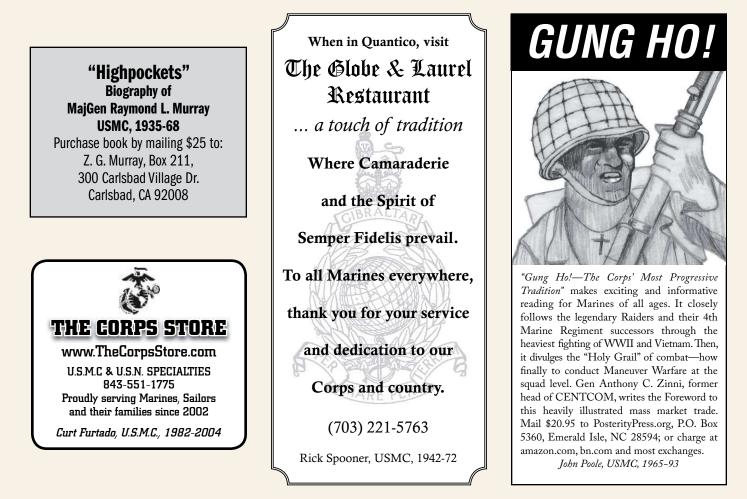
• GySgt Thomas Kendrick, USMC (Ret), (760) 961-0768, tomnann2@me .com, has a **photo of Plt 289, San Diego**, **1957**, for any interested member of that platoon.



PFC George C. Miller, foreground, a machine-gunner from Jersey City, N.J., is pictured with his assistant, PFC Yates, on Cape Gloucester. This photograph was taken by a Marine photographer and is on display at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va.



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Gyrene Gyngles

Edited by Clare A. Guerrero

Please submit copies of original poems with first publishing rights and author's permission to print granted to *Leatherneck*. Poems may be edited or shortened, as necessary. Due to volume received, submissions will not be acknowledged or returned.

Sands of Time

I hear the cadence ringing, The stamp of many feet, The echo of strong voices, Marching to the beat.

Time moves on and still they come, Mothers, daughters, fathers, sons— Marching on to keep us well, They choose to brave a living hell.

Their eyes behold unearthly sights, Yet still they will themselves to fight. For love of country, honor bound, Their footsteps beat upon the ground.

In far-off lands, through sands of time, Marines have held their battle line. In cold and heat and dust and sand, They brave that unknown foreign land.

Close your eyes; hear them sing, Still marching to the cadence ring. Janice M. McCann

The Greatest

They're passing by the thousands, Those brave and noble men, The flags upon the caskets Passed on to next of kin.

They landed on the beaches And died there by the score; More died crossing fields Their fathers crossed before.

They fought in the Pacific, Those warriors from the sea— Old Glory on the mountain, A sign of things to be.

The Navy cleared the oceans, In ships both large and small. The fleet rose up like a phoenix After Sunday morning's fall.

The airmen all were heroes, Their valor cheered the crowds, And those who died in battle Fly with Him who rides the clouds. The ladies also served, They worked both day and night— Their job to forge the tools of war And free a man to fight.

Soon more would answer another call, As all good men will do. Some were tested in the Valley And became "The Chosin Few."

Your sons, we fought a different war, And many more would fall. Too soon our turn would come around To join those on "The Wall."

The young who serve us now Think death is far away, But they, like these, have offered The terrible price to pay.

They're passing by the thousands, Those brave and noble men, God, grant that if we need them, You'll raise their likes again. Former Sgt Stanley Hanson

The Drill Instructors

They seemed like men of steel! Their word was tried and true. Each motion was the real deal; They were role models too.

They taught us how to drill And made sure we could shoot. We learned both grit and skill And grew tough with each salute.

At times it seemed so raw, And often it was pained. But very soon we saw Their lessons were ordained.

They formed us into men of means And shaped us into proud Marines! Former Cpl Chuck Parnell

X

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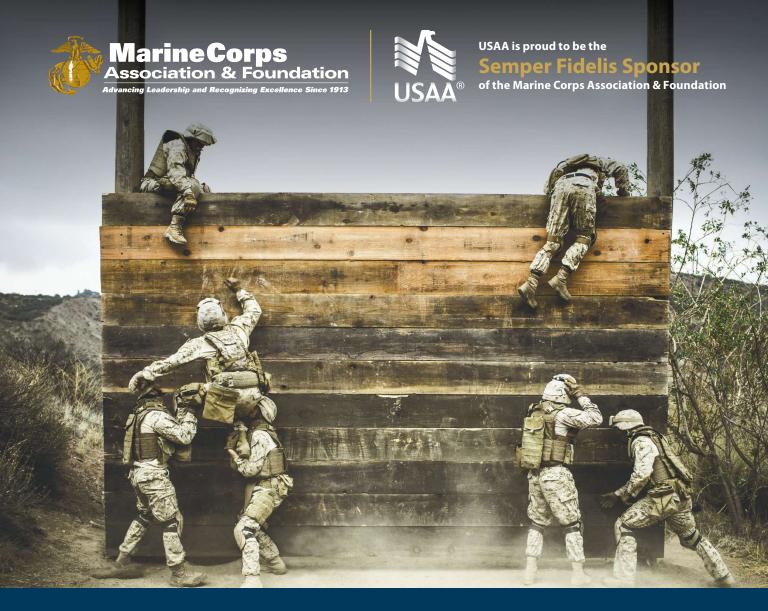
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