

SEPTEMBER 2017

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Contents

LEATHERNECK—MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES

SEPTEMBER 2017
VOL. 100, No. 9

Features

16 Ambush at Quilali Part II *By Maj Allan C. Bevilacqua, USMC (Ret)*
The conclusion of the fight in Nicaragua in 1927 has Marines pinned down in two separate locations by Augusto Sandino's rebel forces when Marine Corps aviation arrives with a little assistance.

22 Innovation: Corps Turns to Technology to Give Marines the Edge *Edited by Sara W. Bock*
From 3-D printing to virtual training, today's Marines are increasingly tapping into new technology to solve problems, streamline processes and prepare for combat. This year, Marine Corps Systems Command has introduced several new or improved systems that help fully propel the Corps into the 21st century.

30 Division in Motion *By SSgt Paul A. Berger, USMC*
On Aug. 29, 1942, the Commandant of the Marine Corps authorized the activation of the 3dMarDiv and this article from the archives describes the division in the 1960s. The division's presence on Okinawa remains part of the "forward strategy" of the Pacific Command.

36 Assault of Sugar Loaf Hill *By Dick Camp*
On May 12, 1945, Co G, 2d Bn, 22d Marine Regiment, engaged in a fierce and deadly battle on Sugar Loaf Hill during the Battle of Okinawa. Entire units were decimated over a period of 12 days.

46 Rocks and Shoals: Naval Discipline in the Old Corps *By COL Glenn M. Harned, USA (Ret)*
Between 1898 to 1934, more than 100 Marine colonels and generals were suspended from duty, confined or placed under arrest while 22 received at least one letter of reprimand from the Secretary of the Navy.

52 Belleau Wood *By SSgt Linda A. Scott, USMC*
This third-place winning article in the *Leatherneck* Writing Contest describes the unrelenting and unwavering fight by the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions at the Battle of Belleau Wood.

58 Task Force Southwest: In Sangin, U.S. Marines Facilitate as Afghan Forces Lead the Charge *By Sgt Lucas Hopkins, USMC*
Marines and Afghan National Army soldiers partnered for an advisory mission in Afghanistan to help coordinate combat missions, May 21-25.

COVER: Marines prepare Joint Precision Airdrop Systems (JPADS) during Weapons and Tactics Instructors Course 2-17, MCAS Yuma, Ariz., March 30, 2017. The JPADS uses GPS, a modular autonomous guidance unit, a parachute and electric motors to guide cargo to their drop zones. The Marines were with Landing Support Co, Transport Support Bn, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group and Landing Support Co, 2d TSB, CLR-2, 2d MLG. See page 22 for more about JPADS and other high-tech innovations. Photo by LCpl Roderick Jacquotte, USMC. Copies of the cover may be obtained by sending \$2 (for mailing costs) to *Leatherneck Magazine*, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134-0775.

16



Departments

- 2 Sound Off
- 8 In Every Clime and Place
- 14 Corps Connections
- 28 Leatherneck Laffs
- 42 We—the Marines
- 45 Crazy Caption
- 50 Sea Stories
- 56 Passing the Word
- 60 Books Reviewed
- 62 In Memoriam
- 68 Reader Assistance
- 72 Saved Round

Letter of the Month

(Leatherneck will pay \$25 for a "Sound Off Letter of the Month" submitted by an MCA&F member or provide a one-year courtesy subscription to a non-member whose letter is selected.)

I am a veteran Marine who served in Vietnam with "Golf" Co, 2d Bn, 5th Marines in 1966. Over the past 51 years I can't count the number of times I have said or heard the phrase "Semper Fi," but recently I met a veteran Marine who, in my opinion, is the embodiment of that phrase. That man is Bill Ivory of Kensington, Md.

On May 3, 1966, 3d Plt, Golf Co, was assigned to a small hill near Tam Ky, Vietnam. That morning a reinforced squad of 3d Plt went out on patrol. They were about a mile from the hill when the unit was ambushed by a much larger force of Viet Cong. In the opening minutes of the fight, several Marines were hit including Private First Class Steven Sherman who was hit in the throat.

Charles Trescott left his covered position to aid PFC Sherman along with another Marine who said they needed to move Sherman to a covered position. Trescott refused until Sherman was stabilized. A short time later Trescott was hit by small arms fire and died while working on Sherman.

Before the fight was over, several more elements of 2/5, as well as jets and helicopter gunships, were needed to drive off the VC unit. When all was said and done, PFC Sherman died and five members of 3d Plt were wounded along with a number of men from the responding units.

Trescott was awarded the Silver Star for his actions that day and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

Bill Ivory was a high school friend of Trescott's and attended his wake but not his funeral as he had enlisted in the Marine Corps and his first day of boot camp was the day of the funeral. After his enlistment ended, Ivory, like the rest of us, went on with his life. A number of years passed and Ivory took a job in the Washington, D.C. area. Knowing that his friend was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, he went to pay his respects.

When Ivory found Trescott's grave, he noticed that his headstone didn't reflect the Silver Star for his actions on that May 1966 day. Ivory contacted cemetery personnel in an attempt to correct the oversight and



HM3 Charles R. Trescott was given a proper headstone acknowledging his Silver Star for actions during the Vietnam War.

was informed that no changes could be made without the approval of the next of kin.

Ivory began the search for Trescott's next of kin and found that his parents had passed away. He knew that Trescott had sisters but didn't know their names or where they lived. He made repeated attempts to find any of Trescott's relatives but was unable to locate them.

In 2014 Ivory returned to the Detroit area for his 50th class reunion and told some of his classmates about his attempts to correct Trescott's headstone.

With the help of those classmates, Ivory was able to learn where Trescott's parents were buried and that information helped learn the name of one of his sisters. With consent from his surviving sisters, Trescott's headstone was changed to reflect the Silver Star.

On April 21, 2017, we met at Corpsman Charles Trescott's grave in section 51 at Arlington National Cemetery with Bill Ivory, four of Charles' high school classmates and three generations of his relatives. With the memorial service for

his friend, Ivory ended a 40-year effort to correct a mistake on the headstone of an American hero. If that isn't a living example of "Semper Fi," then I don't know what is.

Michael F. Rowan
Chebanese, Ill.

LCpls As Squad Leaders

The tone of the June *Leatherneck* article, "Squad Leaders in Afghanistan: The Lance Corporals Who Brought Their Marines Home," by Aaron Ferencik sounded like Aaron was surprised. I'm sure that's because he doesn't remember or possibly even know that until 1959 E-3 Marines were corporals. I was one of those Marines and looked forward to being sergeant in the not too distant future and then the Corps changed the rank system and I was promoted to corporal.

Corporals historically have taken on duties beyond their ranks; so have PFC's for that matter. I just think that lance corporal is so ingrained now that most Marines don't think of them as leadership. In my first duty assignment, Weapons 2/9, in Japan, a PFC was my squad leader.

I still remember one of my DIs, Sergeant Hill, telling us, "When you get to Lejeune, learn the BAR and make corporal and you won't do diddly squat from then on."

I was in charge of as many as 21 Marines at one time and it wasn't quite that easy.

Kent Mitchell
USMC, 1956-62
Stone Mountain, Ga.

Remembering My CO

I was very saddened to learn the passing of my last commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel James W. Rider, a few months ago. Our squadron was HML-268 at MCAS, New River, N.C. After my retirement from the Marine Corps, I saw him at several "Pop-A-Smoke" reunions.

I first served with LtCol Rider when he was a captain in VMO-2, Marble Mountain, Vietnam from 1966-67. He was a pilot and I was his crew chief aboard a UH-1 Huey helicopter on an observation mission. During the flight the captain asked me if I had any APCs. This is what the corpsmen referred to as aspirin. I thought, "Does he have headache?" I had no aspirins so I said, "No, Sir." He said, "Look down around that radio station. There are three armored personal car-

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Version A



Version B



Ribbon bars seen two different ways has caused some confusion.

riers,"—thus APC. I learned to be more observant after that and went on to earn 16 Air Medals that tour and four more on my second tour in 1969-70.

MSgt William T. Cummings Jr.
USMC (Ret)
Bell, Fla.

Protocol for U.S. Marine Corps Memorial

Every time I visit the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial, I expect to see the battles of the last 10 years honored. Not just an engraving for Iraq and Afghanistan, but even commemorating the major campaigns such as Fallujah and the invasion of Iraq.

What are the rules for new engravings on the Marine Corps Memorial? It's time to honor the Marine Corps' longest war. And it's not over yet.

SSgt Paul Hauschen, USMC
Latham, N.Y.

• *According to the National Park Service, the Corps' latest campaigns will be added during upcoming work on the Marine Corps War Memorial.—Editor*

Ribbon Bar Confusion

I'm no expert on ribbons but I saw a picture the other day that made me think of the early days of being a Marine. If I remember correctly, there was always mention of the proper colors of ribbons, and when worn correctly, the color blue is always closest to the heart. I am not sure I'm remembering this correctly.

Back in the day (early 1980s) when we wore our medals, did we wear our left-over ribbon awards in reverse order when

we placed them over our right pocket? Nowadays if you have eight ribbons but three have medals, you would wear your three medals on one side and place the five ribbons on the right pocket in the same order that they show on the current ribbon chart.

The picture showed a ribbon bar reversed in order on his right pocket. Am I over thinking this whole thing? Was there ever a record of what I speak of or did I just happen across a picture where a Marine made a small mistake and flipped his ribbon bar?

Sgt Ron Montgomery
USMC, 1985-97
Clearwater, Fla.

• *I think you just found a picture of a Marine who flipped his ribbon bar. Awards precedence does not change regardless of whether or not medals are also worn; "left-over" ribbons are still worn in the correct order.—Editor*

May Leatherneck Well-Received

I read *Leatherneck* regularly in the 1950s when my brother, who now rests in the National Cemetery in Beaufort, S.C., and I were both E-4s in peacetime. Graduate school and university teaching pushed *Leatherneck* into the background. A stroke and the retirement it brought have taken me back to my roots which include my years in the Corps and a subscription to my favorite magazine. I applaud the efforts of the editorial staff and writers for making every issue better than the one before. When *Leatherneck* arrives, everything else goes on hold while I read it cover to cover.

"A Legacy of Our Past: The Birth of Quantico," [May issue] was well-received. I hope we will see more about the development of that post and perhaps a series setting out the histories of the many bases manned by the Corps both at home and abroad.

My reason for writing is my question about the article, "Firefight at Outpost 3." The article is so well-presented both with narrative and photographs that the reader can feel the tension and try to imagine the pressure on that handful of Marines who performed in the finest spirit of their Corps. I can only thank them and salute them.

The surviving defenders, with their dead and wounded, were relieved after their trial by fire. When they withdrew they left behind hundreds of dead and dying Chinese soldiers. How was that field of dead and dying managed? It is a grizzly question but policing the battlefield is a part of an engagement and is not always an easy matter. I think after-action reports would reference the disposal of bodies. The dead would be decomposing and the wounded would remain a threat to the men policing the area.

David O. Whitten, Ph.D.
USMCR, 1957-63
Auburn, Ala.

The authors of the "A Legacy of Our Past: Birth of Quantico," place too much emphasis on the sinking of the *Lusitania* in 1915 as a seminal event driving the United States into a European war. Although 1,200 noncombatants died in the sinking, including 128 Americans, the *Lusitania* incident did not "turn the tide of public opinion." Although there was a general sense that Germany and Austria were responsible for this faraway conflict, the American public was adamantly opposed to any involvement, and it was two years before Congress would agree to a declaration of war.

It is an important distinction that the development of the base at Quantico, and the general military expansion, was not preparation for the impending conflict. It was because President Wilson and the Congress realized that American military strength was not respected, so was an inconsequential voice in the international conflict. Wilson could warn Germany against submarine warfare against American merchant ships, but he couldn't back it up.

Even then, this preparedness movement for a stronger military, which included the Marine Corps, faced great opposition, and Wilson was re-elected in 1916 largely because he kept us out of war.

Wilson did continue to assert that Ger-

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many should permit the right of U.S. merchant ships to sail international trade routes and to pass unmolested through the German U-boat blockade. For a short period, Germany did grant passage to American ships, but finally declared it would sink without warning all ships found in the area around England or France. Germany's warning was no bluff. In March 1917, three American merchant

ships were sunk with heavy loss of life. Then, the U.S. became aware of the Zimmerman telegram, an offer by Germany to Mexico that if Mexico entered the war against the U.S., Germany would help Mexico re-acquire the lost territories of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

Even today, the causes of how the U.S. was drawn into the war are subject to dispute, but Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare and the Zimmerman telegram shifted public opinion. Wilson's argument had been to maintain American neutrality, not that American security was threatened. Wilson justified the war in moral terms, declaring that the world must be made safe for democracy.

Capt Richard E. Dixon, USMCR (Ret)
Clifton, Va.

• *We showed your letter to Bradley Davis and Jennifer Collins, the authors of "A Legacy of Our Past: Birth of Quantico." Their response to your letter: "As you noted, it would take an additional two years after the sinking of the Lusitania for the United States to enter the Great War. It would take months, however, for the United States Marine Corps to undertake its own modernization efforts designed to fulfill the Advanced Base Force concept which was established earlier in*

the 20th century. This was done in anticipation and response to President Wilson's authorization of the National Defense Act of 1916, signed on June 3—just under a full year before we declared war on April 2, 1917. While unrestricted submarine warfare and the Zimmerman Telegram (itself a mystery and heavily scrutinized by historians of WWI) unquestionably contributed to America's march to war, the Lusitania is, and always has been, listed among the primary elements contributing to America's entry. Wilson did not speak for the entirety of the American public, but he almost certainly knew that failing to prepare our nation's forces for potential deployment would have been disastrous in the long run."—Editor

Childhood Friends Join the Corps

I would like to tell you of five Marines who basically grew up together in Paterson, N.J., in the early 1940s, who played baseball, basketball, and football and hung out at the local candy store—friends to the end.

In 1948, the five of us joined the Corps together. Walt Lysaght played basketball for Quantico and received a four year scholarship to the University of Richmond. After college he married his high school sweetheart and obtained a position with

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the phone company. Walt passed away on Dec. 15, 2015.

When the war with Korea broke out in June 1950, John Finley and Pat Petrone were shipped to Korea. Pat was an MP, and John, a ground pounder BARman and one of the Chosin Few. He ran into Pat directing traffic in Korea and what a reunion that must have been. John married a girl from our neighborhood and as a disabled vet got a job with the Clifton, N.J. school system. John passed away Dec. 20, 2015.

Pat's next Corps job was meeting planes carrying caskets of fallen Marines and accompanying them to their families. His next job was at Parris Island as a D.I. He also married a gal from the old neighborhood and went on to become a successful banker. He passed away June 10, 2009.

Paul Hatem went to college under the G.I. Bill and became a teacher in California.

Ed Welence, the last member of our group, went with the Post Office in Paterson, N.J.

I married my high school sweetheart in September 1951. Pat was my best man and Walt and John were ushers. They were still in but able to make the wedding, tuxedos and all.

I joined the Marines in February 1952, at the age of 20. My younger brother joined the Corps at age 18. My two other brothers, Richard and Alan, served in the Army. Mom and dad sure were proud. My brother, Ronald, passed away on March 10, 2008.

My daughter, Jeannie Lynn, joined the Coast Guard and was in the first all-women training class in Cape May, N.J. She served 20 years, retired and took a position at the Coast Guard training base. In 2013 she was selected as Civilian Coast Guard Person of the Year. All my shirt buttons are popping. What a wonderful time in Washington, D.C. for her award.

Cpl Andrew Sansone
USMC, 1952-54
Waretown, N.J.

• *Cpl Sansone, thank you for your service and the service of your family and friends. The city of Paterson, N.J., must have been doing something right for so many of its citizens to make the decision to serve our nation!—Editor*

Pickel Meadow Memories

I was reading an article in another magazine about the first Cold Weather Training for Marines from Camp Pendleton at Pickel Meadow. I couldn't help remembering that a year later I, too, was there. Our entire 16th replacement draft of 5,000 Marines, Navy doctors and corpsmen were bused from Camp

Pendleton, Calif., up into the Sierra Nevada Mountains. I didn't know then, but found out much later that we were only about 50 miles from Reno. The snow was knee-high on the level and waist deep in the drifts.

They just dumped us off and said, "See you in a week," and drove away. It must have been the first or second week of December 1951, because I "celebrated" my 26th birthday on December 8 at Pickel Meadow.

The Marines worked in skirmish lines against a mock attack by the enemy, the latter being a fleet of "weasels," early prototypes of the snowmobiles. They had enclosed cabs which were big enough to hold two or three Marines, but most had just one. Their mobility enabled them to represent a platoon of actual men. I never met any of the enemy. They did their work and left. I learned later that most were veterans of the Korean War so they'd been there, done that.

The corpsmen were assigned to platoons while we doctors did almost nothing. We did take care of the broken femur of a Marine who had fallen from a rope he was using to cross a gorge. And there were a few minor injuries, strep throats, and the like. But there were 16 of us doctors and

[continued on page 64]



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Compiled by Sara W. Bock

MARINE CORPS TRAINING AREA BELLOWS, HAWAII

Radio Reconnaissance Operators Rise to the Challenge

Marines with Radio Reconnaissance Platoon, Third Radio Battalion conducted various amphibious training events during the Radio Reconnaissance Operator Course at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, Hawaii, June 15. The training focused on safe surf passage with the zodiac inflatable craft; swimming; procedures for making landfall; and securing a beach.

"The exercise we just completed was an evaluated 2-kilometer fin," said Corporal Samuel Perry, a radio reconnaissance team operator with the platoon. "When we got to the shore, we worked as a buddy pair of two scout swimmers. One held security while the other took his fins off. Then we rotated and took the beach by force."

Marines were given an hour to make it to the shoreline from the insertion point, carrying their weapons, dry uniforms and a 50-pound sandbag. In addition to swimming more than a mile with approximately 65 pounds of gear, the Marines also had

the unpredictability of the ocean to consider.

"It's way different than the pool, that's for sure," said Cpl Ryan Ehlers, a radio reconnaissance team (RRT) operator with the platoon. "When you get out there, some of the swells get pretty big. You think you're just going to ride over the top of it, and all of a sudden you get a face full of saltwater. You just have to cough it up, spit it out and keep going."

Despite the high difficulty level, the Marines in the course rose to the challenge and felt privileged to have the opportunity.

"I'm exactly where I want to be," said Lance Corporal Collin Covington, an RRT operator with the platoon. "I've been pushed beyond a lot of limits, more than I thought I would be before joining. It's been tough, but I've learned so much, and it's the best job I could possibly have right now."

This training is critical to increasing the combat readiness and effectiveness of the unit, as well as positively impacting unit cohesion. It also serves to maintain the high standards that RRTs and reconnaissance elements are known to adhere to,

said Sergeant Antuan D. Martin, the lead instructor for the course. In addition to upholding individual standards, Martin aims to make his Marines understand each of their roles fully and be prepared for any situation they may face.

"I want them to grow as a team, as well as individually," Martin said. "When they are put in real-life situations, it won't be the hardest thing they've ever done."

LCpl Luke Kuennen, USMC

SAUDI ARABIA

Marines, Saudis Exchange Tactics, Subject Matter Expertise

U.S. Marines with "Charlie" Company, First Battalion, Seventh Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force—Crisis Response-Central Command, conducted a subject matter expert exchange with the Saudi Arabian Naval Special Forces, May 15-19. The event was designed to allow the two groups to exchange military knowledge and tactics, but the end result was something much more.

The U.S. Marines traveled from an undisclosed location in the Middle East,



LCPL LUKE KUENNEN, USMC

LCpl Shane Springstead, Cpl Ryan Ehlers and LCpl Armanie Singletary, RRT operators with Radio Reconnaissance Plt, 3d Radio Bn, give the "far OK" signal to team members on the beach during the Radio Reconnaissance Operator Course at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, Hawaii, June 15.



LCPL KYLE MCNAN, USMC

LCpl Bobby Cherries, a rifleman with C/1/7, SPMAGTF-CR-CC, assists a member of the Saudi Arabian Naval Special Forces in vaulting through a window during a subject matter expert exchange in Saudi Arabia, May 17.

and upon landing in Saudi Arabia, they joined the Saudis in kicking off the four-day event by exchanging infantry tactics, including room clearing and raid tactics. Assigned to small, integrated groups, they cleared houses room-by-room. The groups were evaluated at the end of each simulated raid based on their ability to work together.

"Getting the chance to train with the Saudi Arabian Special Forces is a great opportunity to get out and learn from a nation's most elite fighters," said Corporal Brock Legant, a scout sniper assist team leader with 1/7. "It's not every day you get to train with a foreign country, and I think this experience will not only help us refine our skills, but theirs as well."

After the first day of training, the Marines and Saudi Special Forces started to look less like two separate entities and more like one well-oiled machine. Communication was a struggle at first, but it didn't hinder the two groups from sharing their knowledge, expertise and military experiences.

"Fortunately, the Saudi officer corps and most of their senior enlisted spoke English pretty well," said Captain Jonathan Walaski, the commander of Weapons Company, 1/7. "Between the more junior Marines and enlisted Saudis, the language barrier was easy to break down over time, once they started working together. We share a fundamental knowledge on military training and tactics already, so it was just a matter of working together."

The final two days consisted of two

full mission profile raids, one during the day and one at night. The raid missions consisted of three different integrated teams of between 10 and 15 people, all converging on the same target in order to eliminate hostile forces and recover a simulated hostage. The joint teams set up security and swept through a makeshift training village to locate and capture a predetermined target. Once the target was captured, the teams quickly withdrew from the village using smoke grenades and suppressing fire for extraction.

At the end of the training, the Marines and Saudi Special Forces exchanged hats and coins in a show of camaraderie and friendship.

"It was amazing to hear them say how grateful they were to have us there," said Cpl Ian Miner, a scout sniper team leader with 1/7. "Having the time to sit down and talk with some of the Saudis about some of the things they've been through and hear how they fight against enemies living right outside their borders was just eye opening. I have so much respect for my new Saudi Arabian brothers."

LCpl Kyle McNan, USMC

AT SEA

MEU Marines Prove Endurance During Simulated Chaos

"Bang! Bang! Bang!" The last rifle rounds cracked through the ceaseless wind atop USS *Bonhomme Richard* (LHD-6). The smell of gunpowder lingered across the flight deck of the enormous amphibious assault ship while Marines with the 31st

Marine Expeditionary Unit awaited their next instructions, surrounded by Sailors scampering across the deck. Thirty-five Marines were called quickly to the firing line.

Lance Corporal Benjamin R. Cartwright, an infantryman, hustled with his full combat gear and M4 carbine to the first open target he saw. He was entirely unaware of the physical and mental conditioning he was about to endure.

Noncommissioned officers began yelling commands, one after the other—and chaos ensued. The Marines are with "Kilo" Company, the helicopter raid specialists of Battalion Landing Team, Third Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment, and their primary missions are raids and vertical assaults. Anytime they're given the opportunity to fire rounds downrange, they take it.

On this bright June day, the company's junior Marines believed they'd be conducting marksmanship drills at close quarters—a monthly ritual for the infantry rifle company. Cartwright described the surprise combat conditioning that followed as intense and vital.

"I really wasn't expecting the intensity of it," said Cartwright. "As soon as I put that weapon over my head, I knew the course was going to take a lot from me physically."

Cartwright looked through the scope of his rifle and shot two rounds to the



LCPL STORMY MENDEZ, USMC

LCpl Joshua Lecleir, a rifleman with Kilo Co, BLT 3/5, 31st MEU, participates in combat conditioning marksmanship training aboard USS *Bonhomme Richard* (LHD-6), while underway in the Pacific Ocean, June 24.



LCPL STORMY MENDEZ, USMC

Marines with Kilo Co, BLT 3/5, 31st MEU, fire M16A4 service rifles during combat conditioning marksman training in the Pacific Ocean on USS *Bonhomme Richard*, June 24. The training was designed to test the Marines' ability to physically and mentally endure the chaos of combat.

"chest" and one to the "head" of his simulated target. The first few seconds of yelling, firing noises and confusion caught Cartwright by surprise, but not off guard. He then sprinted about 50 yards to an M240B medium machine gun. A sergeant sprinted beside him, and while yelling in his ear, ordered Cartwright to hoist the 25.6-pound weapon over his head. Already breathless, he pumped it skyward 10 times.

The purpose of the conditioning was to give the Marines confidence in how they'd react in combat, where exhaustion, shortness of breath and uncertainty are the norm, said Sergeant Jordan D. Vicars, a squad leader with Kilo Co.

"No one can truly simulate combat," said Vicars. "That's something you experience when the time comes. We get as close as we can by putting the Marines in a stressful situation with loud noises, people screaming, physical exhaustion and having them react quickly and accurately so that in a real combat situation they can suppress the enemy."

As part of BLT 3/5, the Ground Combat Element of the 31st MEU, the Marines of Kilo Co can be called to combat at any time. Vicars is proud to know that he can rely on the Marines from his company when the call comes, he said.

"As a sergeant, they definitely met my expectations as infantrymen," said Vicars. "It's a good feeling when you see your Marines working hard, knowing that they love doing what they do."

As the Marine Corps' only continuously forward-deployed unit, the 31st MEU is

prepared to respond to a wide range of military operations, from humanitarian assistance missions to limited combat operations at a moment's notice.

Cpl Amaia Unanue, USMC

CAMP FUJI, JAPAN **MWSS-171 Proves Its Ability To Support MAG**

U.S. Marines assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 171, based at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, established forward operating bases

(FOB) and forward arming and refueling points during Exercise Eagle Wrath 2017 at Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, Japan, June 15-28.

The two-week exercise helped train the Marines to provide explosives, weaponry, fuel, security, logistics and personnel to a forward line of troops and aircraft.

"At any given time there are six or seven squadrons attached to [Marine Aircraft Group 12]," said First Lieutenant Frederick Holwerda, the combat engineer platoon commander with MWSS-171. "The forward operating base itself gives them a secure workplace to conduct maintenance for all the aircraft coming in. If they're under fire and dealing with defending the forward operating base, then they can't focus on maintaining the aircraft, and then there is a gap on coverage for whoever is receiving our support."

Holwerda said providing security for the squadrons gives personnel a chance to freely operate within the FOB and do what they need to do to accomplish their mission.

During the exercise, the squadron established two FOBs and two forward arming and refueling points that could support Marine Aircraft Group 12 during a real deployment.

Compared to previous annual training exercises, Holwerda said this year's Eagle Wrath has been the most successful.

"I think it was very successful because everybody was involved," said Holwerda. "We hit the deck and it was game on ... I think keeping people in that mentality is what really made this successful."

While this was the most successful



LCPL STEPHEN CAMPBELL, USMC

CWO-2 Christopher Miller, left, an engineer equipment officer with MWSS-171, and Cpl Adam Stenback, a refrigeration and air conditioning technician with MWSS-171, secure a ground expedient refueling system onto a truck during Exercise Eagle Wrath 2017 at Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, Japan, June 20.

CAMP PENDLETON, CALIF.



SGT RODION ZABLOTNY, USMC

INTO THE BLUE—Marines with 1st Marine Logistics Group participate in the water survival advanced course at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 14. The purpose of the water survival course is to strengthen the individual Marine's self-preservation and rescue skills in water. 1st MLG is home to multiple military occupations that work together to provide logistics support to each element of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force.

iteration of Eagle Wrath to date, there were still many challenges that the participants needed to overcome. The Marines and Sailors learned that they needed to establish a second forward operating base and were given only about four hours to do so.

"The hardest part was packing up, figuring out if you have space for gear and chow and making sure we had enough bed space for ourselves," said Sergeant Cassandra Gonzalez, a food service specialist with MWSS-171. "Once you get to the new FOB, it's the same thing. You need to set up your galley, you have to pack out your gear, make sure you have electricity and then make sure everyone on your team is on the same page."

Gonzalez said that she and her Marines were up until 2 a.m. setting up their second FOB, and then at 3:30 a.m. they had to start preparing breakfast for the squadron. Even though the Marines were sleep deprived from setting up during the night, they proved they were willing to accomplish the mission and did so seamlessly.

"We had the idea of the layout; utilities knew exactly how they were going to lay

their power grid out, and drafting and surveyors assisted in laying out the forward operating bases. Food service knew where to set up and from there we knew exactly where the tents and concertina wire went," said Holwerda.

Overall, the squadron's Marines and Sailors proved they are willing to do what it takes to accomplish the mission.

"We worked really hard," said Gonzalez. "They can be tired and can still make the best of anything no matter how tired they are. They work hard and they are always motivated because they know the mission and know what needs to be done."

Eagle Wrath 2017 concluded with a 2-mile hike back to base, and the squadron then held a mess night to pay homage to the Marines who came before them and build camaraderie within the squadron.

LCpl Stephen Campbell, USMC

THIES, SENEGAL **Promoting Peacekeeping:** **Marines Instruct Senegalese**

Senegalese soldiers and U.S. Marines with Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force—Crisis Response-Africa worked together to conduct theater secu-

rity cooperation peacekeeping operation (PKO) training in Thies, Senegal, May 15-June 16.

The training was designed to enhance the Senegalese soldiers' ability to successfully deploy in support of United Nations peacekeeping missions in Africa. Fewer than 40 Marines and Sailors with SPMAGTF—CR-AF Ground Combat Element were able to effectively train more than 550 soldiers in multiple areas of interest, including counter-improvised explosive device lanes, military operations on urban terrain, patrolling fundamentals, convoy operations and M16A2 rifle and M60 machine gun unknown distance ranges.

"We have carefully reviewed [the soldiers'] reports before we began instructing and oriented our curriculum to prepare them for what they may experience abroad," said Sergeant Timothy Kuklis, team one primary instructor with the unit. "This bilateral mission was extremely important for both the Senegalese and the U.S. Marine Corps. This allows us to work with our allies and demonstrate the positive things we are able to accomplish in a non-war-time environment."



SGT SAMUEL GUERRA, USMC

Cpl Hayden Garrett, a rifleman with SPMAGTF-CR-AF, coaches a Senegalese soldier through medial action of the M16A2 rifle during a peacekeeping operations training mission in Thies, Senegal, June 9. The training was designed to enhance the ability of the Senegalese to successfully deploy in support of U.N. peacekeeping missions in Africa.

U.S. Marines and Sailors assisted as instructors and monitored the Senegalese soldiers' progress throughout the different phases of training. With the help of interpreters, the two forces were able to communicate and ensured little was lost in translation. The Senegalese displayed a high level of trust in their instructors, some even approaching the Marines individually to absorb more information.

"It was a great experience to see some of my Marines who were in the fleet for less than a year become subject matter experts and take their lessons seriously," Kuklis said. "They were able to effectively pass on knowledge to the soldiers and demonstrated that Marines continue to [exemplify] proficiency."

The Senegalese soldiers were tested during the final exercise (FINEX), a series of scenario-based situations the Marines used to evaluate their performance. Throughout the FINEX, Marines were pleased to see their allies apply the fundamentals they recently learned. The extensive training afforded the Senegalese an opportunity to gain a realistic peacekeeping experience and determine their level of expertise.

"Based off our training, I'm very confident the Senegalese soldiers will have a successful deployment in Mali," said First Lieutenant Conor Bender, logistics theater security cooperation team leader with the unit. "They were skillful in their respective fields, proving they can retain knowledge and are capable of accomplishing their missions."

The PKO reinforced the Marine Corps' reputation as an expeditionary force in

readiness and as a dependable partner. This training also strengthened the bond between Senegal and the U.S. as well as established their presence as helpful allies in the region.

"We're building stronger relationships with African nations through this type of training," Bender said. "This is the brick and mortar for how we can further institute ourselves as a good friend in the region and build a sturdy foundation with partners we may work again with in the future."

Sgt Samuel Guerra, USMC

NORWAY

Defense Minister Announces 1-Year Extension for U.S. Marines

Norwegian Defense Minister Ine Eriksen Soreide announced June 21 that U.S. Marines are scheduled to continue rotational training and exercises in Norway through 2018.

"Our Marines in Norway are demonstrating a high level of cooperation with our allies," said Major General Niel E. Nelson, Commanding General, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe and Africa. "The more we train together alongside one another, the stronger our alliance becomes."

MajGen Nelson said the decision to extend the presence of the Marine rotational force in Norway is a clear sign of the U.S. and Norwegian commitment to NATO and the strong partnership between the two countries on defense and security.

Norway is an exceptional ally, one that is increasing its defense budget and is committed to acquiring critical capabilities. Both the U.S. and Norway are focused on strengthening the development of joint leaders and teams who understand the synergy of air, sea and land power as a potent asymmetric advantage in the battlefield.

About 330 Marines have been stationed in Vaernes, Norway, on a rotational basis since January. They will now continue to rotate beyond 2017, with two rotations per year.

EUCOM



CPL EMILY DORUMSGAARD, USMC

U.S. Marines and Sailors with Marine Rotational Force 17.1 and soldiers with Norwegian Home Guard 12 prepare to enter a building during a room-clearing exercise near Stjordal, Norway, May 24. Marines will continue to deploy as a rotational force in Norway through 2018.



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Corps Connections

Compiled by Sara W. Bock

Dumfries, Va.



COURTESY OF COL WILLIAM P. DAVIS, USMC (RET)

New Headquarters Opens for Young Marines

The Young Marines, a national youth organization that promotes the mental, moral and physical development of school-age children, recently moved its national headquarters from Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., to Dumfries, Va. The ribbon cutting and open house for the new headquarters brought together more than 50 people, including representatives from a variety of organizations that support the Corps.

From the left, Colonel William P. Davis, USMC (Ret), national executive director of Young Marines; Richard Gore, national commandant of the Marine Corps League; and William L. Smith, chairman of Young Marines' Board of Directors, cut the ribbon to officially open the organization's new headquarters.

Lieutenant General William M. Faulkner, USMC (Ret), CEO of the Marine Corps Association & Foundation, attended the event as did the chief executive officers of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, Toys for Tots Foundation, Marine Corps University Foundation and the Iwo Jima Association of America.

Submitted by Col William P. Davis, USMC (Ret)

Washington, D.C.



COURTESY OF BEN RICKLES

Active-Duty and Veteran Marines Run With Shepherd's Men

The Shepherd's Men, a team of 17 active-duty and veteran servicemembers and civilians—including six Marines—completed eight 22-kilometer runs (roughly a half-marathon length) over eight days across eight cities, May 22-29. The unique challenge, which they completed while wearing 22-pound flak jackets, was designed to raise awareness for treatment options and suicide prevention for veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The team raised funds to support the Shepherd Center's SHARE Military Initiative in Atlanta, a 12-week rehabilitation program for post-9/11 veterans who have sustained mild to moderate TBI and PTSD.

From the left, Staff Sergeant Jamie Terry, former Captain Lawson Brown, SSgt Tim McComis and GySgt Ernesto Juarez, four of the Marines on the Shepherd's Men team, stand together in Washington, D.C., May 23. The event began at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa., and continued in Washington, D.C., and through five other cities before ending in Atlanta, May 29.

Submitted by Ben Rickles



COURTESY OF DICK BIGGS

Minneapolis

Warsaw Marines Celebrate 50 Years of Friendship, Camaraderie

Fifty years after serving together as Marine security guards at the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw, Poland, in 1967, from the left, J.D. Taylor, Dick Biggs, Bob Hollenbaugh, Al Rupich and Tony Ranallo reunited in Minneapolis, May 18-21. Displaying special Warsaw Marines commemorative pins and wearing matching shirts, the veterans celebrated both their anniversary and the remarkable feat of staying in touch with each other for half a century.

Submitted by Dick Biggs



Cottonwood, Ariz.

Boy Scouts Earn Top Honors And MCL Recognition

The Marine Corps League's Good Citizenship Award recognizes the contributions of individuals to their communities—including those young men who earn Boy Scouts of America's highest rank: Eagle Scout. Three Eagle Scouts were recently recognized by the Verde Valley Detachment, Department of Arizona, Marine Corps League, whose commandant, Steve McCoy, presented them with the MCL Good Citizenship Award in Cottonwood, Ariz., May 10. From the left, Chaz Taylor, Steve McCoy, Daillin Gordon, Keith Vogler and Crue Taylor stand together after the presentation. Recognizing the values of honor, courage and commitment among today's youth is an exemplary way to pass the spirit of the Corps on to the next generation.

Submitted by Keith Vogler

COURTESY OF KEITH VOGLER

San Antonio

Veterans of 2/3 Remember the Hill Fights

Members of Second Battalion, Third Marines Vietnam Veterans Association gathered in San Antonio, April 26-29, to observe the 50th anniversary of the Hill Fights. During the four-day event, 90 Marines and Sailors of 2/3—more than half of them veterans of the battle on Hills 881 and 861—participated in a ceremony at the city's Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Also present were three other Marine veterans of the Hill Fights who served with Third Battalion, Third Marines: Austin Deuel, sculptor of the memorial; Don Hossack, the Marine model for the memorial; and David Rogers, whose poem, "Death at My Door," is inscribed on the base of the memorial. Speeches were given by author Ed Murphy; Hospital Corpsman Second Class Dennis "Doc" Lee, who served with "Hotel" Company, 2/3; and Major Charles Critten of "Foxtrot" Co, 2/3.

Accompanied by a Marine color guard from Fourth Reconnaissance Battalion and pipers arranged by the Alamo Chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America, members of the battalion lay wreaths at the memorial during the ceremony. Attendees were treated to



COURTESY OF DAVE SMITH

an outstanding speech from guest of honor Sergeant Major H.G. Overstreet, USMC (Ret), the 12th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, at an evening banquet. But perhaps one of the most special aspects of the event was that several of the Hill Fights veterans reconnected with buddies they had not seen since 1967—proving that Marine Corps family continues to flourish, even after 50 years.

Submitted by Dave Smith

"Corps Connections" highlights the places and events through which active-duty and veteran Marines connect with one another, honor the traditions of the Corps and recognize the achievements of their fellow leathernecks. We welcome submissions of photos from events like the ones featured here. Send them to: Sara W. Bock, *Leatherneck* Magazine, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134, or e-mail them to s.rock@mca-marines.org. Submission does not guarantee publication, and we cannot guarantee the return of photos.



Ambush at Quilali

Part II

By Maj Allan C. Bevilacqua
USMC (Ret)

"As an aviator Lt Schilt is a wonder and deserves the Flying Cross if ever a man did."

1stLt Thomas J. Kilcourse, USMC
Quilali, Nicaragua, Jan. 8 1928

As dawn breaks over Nicaragua's high country on the last day of 1927, two columns of Marines are giving more thought to surviving the day than celebrating the evening. Pinned down in two separate locations by the rebel forces of Augusto Sandino, outnumbered by more than five to one, they view the day with less than eager anticipation. Their thoughts are not with ushering in the new year, but with the distinct possibility that they may not be alive to greet it.

First Lieutenant Moses J. Gould, taking over the reins of command from the seriously wounded Captain Richard Livingston, has overcome an attempted Sandinista ambush to reach the sketchy shelter of the ramshackle village of Quilali. A scant 12 miles away, at the local landmark of Las Cruces Hill, 1stLt Meron Richal, blinded by the loss of his right eye but still carrying on, is surrounded on all sides. The outlook for both Gould and Richal is not promising.

As Moses Gould takes inventory of the situation he is confronted with, he has

little difficulty identifying three serious concerns. Foremost among these is the town of Quilali itself.

Quilali, with its single dirt street, is possibly the worst defensive position that could be found. Sitting in a circular depression, like a biscuit in a soup bowl, Quilali is slightly higher than the land immediately around it, but is surrounded by still higher ground on every side. Fortunately, that higher ground is not close in, and Sandino's men have in the past shown themselves to be less than dead shots at longer ranges. Gould and his men are relatively secure where they are, except for the occasional long-range potshot that might find a target.

That situation leads directly to the question of where Richal and his command are and how they will be able to reach Quilali to link up with Gould. Richal, 12 miles away at Las Cruces Hill, is faced with an almost identical condition, relatively safe where he is, almost certainly dead if he attempts to move out. While Gould can hear the sounds of Richal's firefight, that in itself isn't enough to tell him exactly where Richal is. That is something Gould must know, if he is to send reinforcements to Richal and concentrate both forces at Quilali.

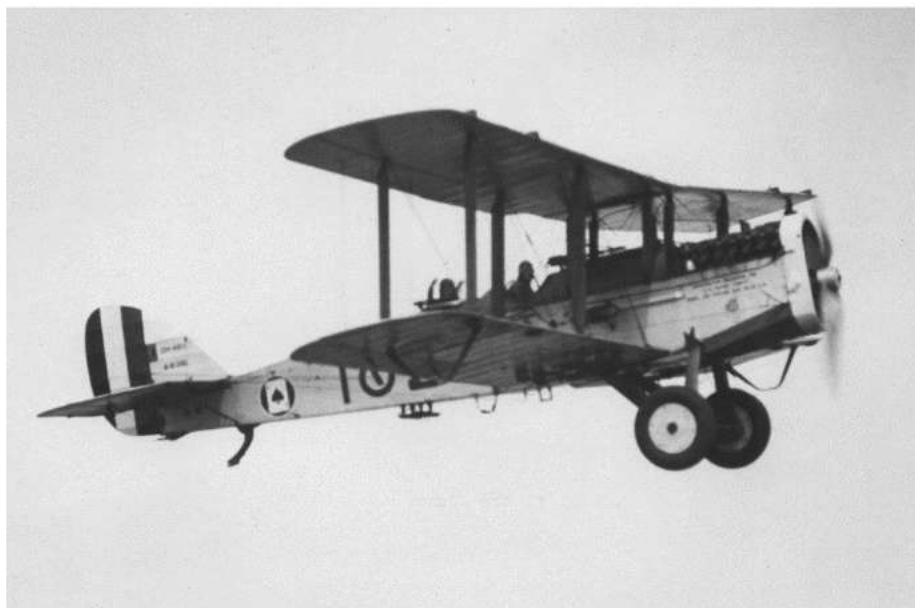
There also is the problem of the wounded. LT William T. Minnick, MC, USN, Gould's medical officer, has performed heroically, tending to those wounded Marines despite being wounded himself. The more serious

cases will require far more advanced treatment but where, other than the naval hospital in Managua, is such sophisticated treatment to be found? And by what means will Gould get his casualties there?

In the midst of the problems confronting Gould there is one ray of sunshine. That is the actual sunshine that is now beginning to appear above the jagged hills to the east. The sky overhead is clear; with luck it will remain clear and there will be air cover. Earlier, in July 1927, with Marines encircled by Sandinistas in the town of Ocotal, Sandino's followers had proven themselves unable to withstand the punishment dished out by the bombs and machine-gun fire rained upon them by the aircrews of Ross Rowell's VO-1M.

At noon, a pair of DeHavilland biplanes from VO-1M appear overhead as Gould's men work at preparing defensive positions. As one of the DeHavillands circles the trapped Marines, ripping the Sandinistas on the high ground with machine-gun fire, the other begins a pass at the town.

At treetop level, the pilot brings the DH-4 skimming overhead. A standard-issue Marine Corps message container dropped by the rear seat gunner lands almost at Gould's feet. The message it carries describes the location and situation of Richal's command as well as a sketch map of the dispositions of Richal's Marines and the Sandinistas besieging them. Now Gould knows Richal's location and can plan accordingly. Thanks to the field



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USMC

Maj Ross E. Rowell

Aircrews flying the DeHavilland DH-4 and the Vought Corsair from VO-1M provided much-needed air support to the Marines in Quilali, Nicaragua, in late December 1927.

A DeHavilland DH-4 flies over the mountainous, rugged Nicaraguan terrain, providing critical air support to Marines in remote locations. Inset: The Marine-trained and Marine-led Guardia Nacional de Nicaragua supported the U.S. Marines throughout their time in the Central American country. (Photos courtesy of National Archives)



expedient high-line pickup device developed and practiced during the year he can even send a response to Richal.

Marine air is also advised of the support that will be necessary for Richal to break out and link up with Gould at Quilali. Reinforcements will depart Quilali the following day. After arriving at Richal's position, the combined units will be of sufficient strength to break out at Las Cruces Hill and join up with Gould at Quilali. Support from the air will be critical.

The afternoon of New Year's Eve day is spent at what 1stLt Thomas J. Kilcourse records in his journal as a "sad ceremony." In a hasty burial ground at the south end of Quilali, Gould's force buries those killed the day before. Five Marines and one member of the Guardia Nacional de Nicaragua, who fought and died beside them, are committed to the earth of Nicaragua.

New Year's Day, Monday, Jan. 1, 1928, is a washout. Marines and Sandinistas alike huddle in what shelter there is to be found from a steady cold rain that penetrates to the bone. Sodden clouds that fill the sky shroud the peaks about them in every direction. It is a day for misery.

The weather breaks overnight and Tuesday dawns clear. At 0745 the DeHavillands are back, and Gould dispatches Second Lieutenant James Hunt to make contact



with Richal at Las Cruces Hill. Hunt's platoon of 34 Marines is strengthened by the addition of a dozen Guardias. Shepherded by the menacing DeHavillands, Hunt reaches Richal's position without incident, and after spending the night there, sets out with both forces at 0900 the next morning. The Sandinistas prove unwilling to face fire from the sky. By

late afternoon both units are united at Quilali.

Moses Gould may now have all of his eggs in one basket, but that basket is surrounded by 500 Sandinistas. There is no longer any question of uncovering Sandino's lair in the unlocated hamlet of El Chipote. Gould's concern now is simply one of getting out of Quilali. But how?

At treetop level, the pilot brings the DH-4 skimming overhead. A standard-issue Marine Corps message container dropped by the rear seat gunner lands almost at Gould's feet.



1stLt Christian Schilt stands beside his Vought O2U-1 Corsair. Schilt volunteered to conduct multiple flights into the embattled village of Quilali to evacuate wounded and resupply the Marines on the ground. Schilt received the Medal of Honor for his heroism. (Leatherneck file photo)

Foremost in Gould's mind is the condition of his wounded. Despite Dr. Minnick's best efforts, some of these wounded, men such as Private Charles E. Turner, who distinguished himself as a member of the advance guard, must be moved to a treatment facility.

Suffering wounds that might have felled most men, Turner single-handedly wiped out a Sandinista strongpoint with a rifle, bayonet and machete before falling unconscious himself. Turner and others in equally grave straits would not survive an overland march of more than a week to reach the medical care they need. The question is how to get the wounded to a medical facility, and the ideal solution is to evacuate them by air.

The procedure has never been tried and to get the wounded to a medical facility, the airplane will require a clear, level piece of ground to land on and take off from. In the entire vicinity of Quilali,

there is no such clear and level piece of real estate to be found. Quilali sits in the midst of a jumble of hills and ridges, folds and wrinkles, without a level stretch of land anywhere in sight, except Quilali's lone unimproved dirt street.

Quilali's sole street may be straight but it is not level. From its south end to its north end the street rises in a definite uphill grade. Hills filled with Sandinistas dominate each end. Run-down houses, from which the occupants have fled, line both sides of the street. While an ox cart may traverse the street there certainly is not enough clearance for an airplane.

Gould has only one choice, and he doesn't hesitate to take it. Using the high-line message pickup system that has proven its worth, he sends a message to brigade headquarters. Gould asks for an aerial delivery of tools, wrecking bars, saws, sledgehammers, axes and the like. If tearing down the town of Quilali will

save the lives of his wounded, Gould will well and properly tear down the town of Quilali.

At mid-morning the following day a Fokker tri-motor appears over Quilali. While the pair of escorting DeHavillands give the Sandinistas in the nearby hills something else to think about, the Fokker makes a series of low passes over Gould's position. Each time some of the tools Gould requested are dropped. Parachute delivery having been found to be erratically inaccurate, each packet of tools is encapsulated in thick bales of straw. They bounce a time or two, but all land on target.

For the next three days Moses Gould's Marines set about methodically demolishing the town of Quilali. When they finish, there isn't a stick still standing. Gould now has his airfield but in all of Nicaragua, the Marine Corps has but two aircraft capable of using that field.

Arriving in Nicaragua a few days before are the advance elements of a second Marine Corps squadron, VO-7M. The squadron flies the newest and best aircraft in the Marine Corps inventory, the Vought O2U-1 Corsair. Only the Corsair, a sleek two seat biplane, can successfully navigate

But what pilot is going to undertake what from all appearances would be a suicide mission?

Christian F. Schilt: Aviation Pioneer



During a chance meeting in 1956 with a Marine staff sergeant, LtGen Christian Schilt noticed that the Marine looked perplexed as he noted the distinctive blue ribbon above the general's gold wings. He gave the sergeant a friendly pat on the shoulder, and with a smile advised: "Nothing is worn above the Medal of Honor, Sergeant."

On June 28, 1928, in a ceremony on the White House lawn, the President of the United States, Calvin Coolidge, affixes the Medal of Honor to the blouse of 1stLt Christian F. Schilt's dress uniform. Known from coast to coast, the Marine Corps aviator receives offers of executive positions from commercial airlines that are just getting started and will in time be nationally known. He politely declines. His desire is to remain a Marine, and it is as a Marine that he is in the forefront of Marine Corps aviation development during the decade of the 1930s.

During World War II, noticeably older than the romanticized image of a fighter pilot, Schilt flies combat missions in the Pacific. He qualifies in jet aircraft, and later as Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing, old enough now to be the father of most of the men he commands, he flies a Grumman

F9F Panther in support of Marines on the ground in Korea.

At 60 years of age he qualifies as a helicopter pilot.

In 1957, after 40 years of service to country and Corps, Lieutenant General Christian F. Schilt, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps for Aviation, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, transfers to the retired list. Upon retirement he is advanced to four star rank.

He dies on Jan. 8, 1987, and is interred with full honors due a general officer in Arlington National Cemetery.

Baseball enthusiasts are firm in their belief that only Joe Dimaggio could make hitting a baseball appear so effortless, graceful and simple. Schilt could make flying an airplane look easy enough for a child.

Maj Allan C. Bevilacqua, USMC (Ret)

Quilali's primitive runway. Anything else is too big and too slow. The Corsair alone boasts an engine powerful enough to become airborne and clear the dominating hills. But what pilot is going to undertake what from all appearances would be a suicide mission?

1stLt Christian F. "Frank" Schilt examines the photographs of Quilali's field expedient airstrip, and in a matter-of-fact manner states his willingness to take on the job. He does not say he will *try* to get in and out of Quilali; he says he *will* get in and out of Quilali. This is not braggadocio.

Frank Schilt does not deal in bombast. After evaluating the facts he concludes that the mission can be successfully undertaken and makes his decision accordingly.

This straightforward manner has been an inherent characteristic of Schilt's personality since his days as an enlisted aircrewman flying anti-submarine patrols out of the Azores during the First World War. His driving desire to become an aviator led him to be accepted for flight training and become a designated naval aviator as a corporal prior to being commissioned. He is a natural pilot whose flying skills have

led him to be called a man who "could fly a bathtub, if someone put wings on one." If any man can fly in and out of Quilali that man is Frank Schilt.

During the next three days Schilt flies 10 missions in and out of Quilali. He does this all on his own. The rear seat of the Corsair carries no gunner; the space is needed for ammunition and rations going in and for a wounded Marine coming out. Schilt has even had the Corsair's forward firing machine guns removed to reduce weight. He is a sitting duck for the Sandinistas on the heights that dominate the

The Corsair, the most advanced aircraft of its day, has no brakes. Stopping it will be a matter of Marines on the ground gaining a firm grip wherever one can be found, digging in their heels and bringing the Corsair to a stop.

ends of the runway on each final approach and takeoff, and every trip in and out of Quilali is made through intense ground fire, which fortunately, is off the mark.

To further complicate matters, Schilt cannot make a straight-in final approach and must maintain enough altitude to clear those heights, then drop rapidly to touch down as close as possible to the beginning of the hastily made airstrip. He will need every foot of that airstrip.

The Corsair, the most advanced aircraft of its day, has no brakes. Stopping it will be a matter of Marines on the ground gaining a firm grip wherever one can be found, digging in their heels and bringing the Corsair to a stop before airplane and pilot slam into the high ground at the other end.

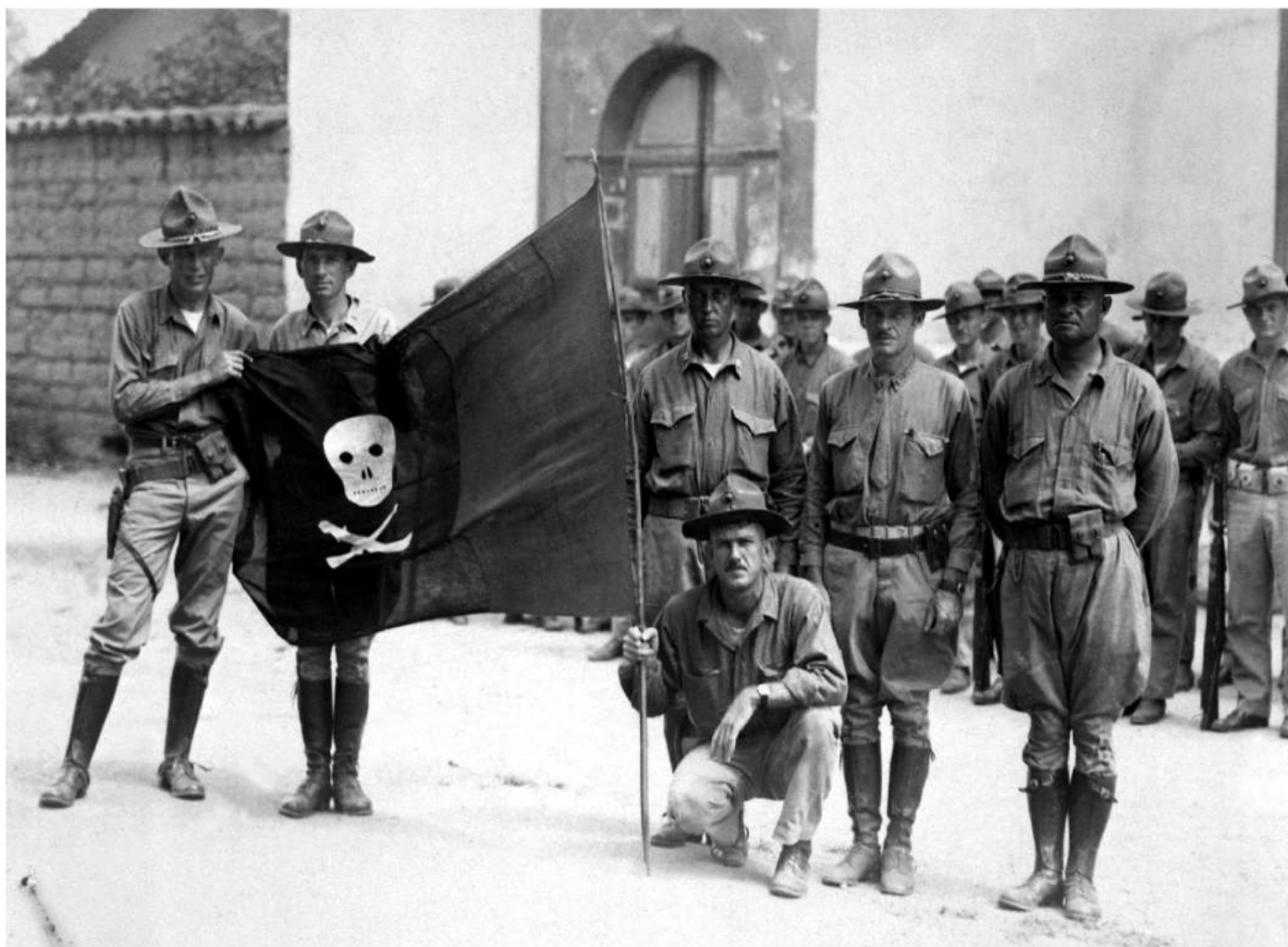
Ten times this is done. Each time the rations, ammunition and medical supplies in the rear seat are unloaded, and muscle power pulls the Corsair back until the tail skid is touching the very end of what once was Quilali's sole street. A wounded Marine is securely placed in the rear cockpit, and while other, healthy Marines once again dig in their heels to hold the Corsair in place, Schilt turns the Corsair's engine up to maximum revolutions, gives the signal to release, roars along the runway and is airborne.

Once in the air, Schilt delivers the patient to Ocotal, once a besieged outpost, now a Marine operating base. From Ocotal the wounded are transported to Managua; every wounded Marine evacuated from Quilali survives and eventually recovers. The last medical case Schilt

carries out is the wounded medical officer, LT Minnick, who refuses to be taken out before all of his casualties are cared for.

The Sandinistas, seeing the end fast approaching, throw in the towel in what they now view as a hopeless effort. Among the defenders of Quilali, seven Marines, Moses J. Gould, Thomas J. Kilcourse, Herbert D. Lester, Richard Livingston, Otto Roos, Charles E. Turner and Meron A. Richal are recognized for their courage and unswerving performance of duty by the award of the Navy Cross. The eighth recipient of the Naval Service's second-highest award for military valor is LT William T. Minnick. Frank Schilt received the Medal of Honor.

Author's bio: Maj Allan C. Bevilacqua, a Leatherneck contributing editor, is a former enlisted Marine who served in the Korean War and the Vietnam War as well as on an exchange tour with the French Foreign Legion. Later in his career, he was an instructor at Amphibious Warfare School and Command and Staff College, Quantico, Va.



U.S. Marines display a flag captured from Sandino's forces in July 1927.

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Innovation

Corps Turns to Technology to Give Marines the Edge

Compiled by Sara W. Bock

"We need to change where it makes sense, adapt as quickly as possible, and constantly innovate to stay ahead of our adversaries. Our ability to adapt more quickly than our enemies will be vital to our future success," wrote General Robert B. Neller, 37th Commandant of the Marine Corps in his foreword to the Marine Corps Operating Concept, published in September 2016. Across the Corps, Marines have risen to the challenge and continue to innovate and adapt to the demands of the 21st century. From virtual reality technology to 3-D printing, improved precision airdrop technology and emergency response systems, 2017 has been a year of evolution. Here are just a few of the most recent updates that are integral to the Corps' push to modernize, both in garrison and on the battlefield.



Rifle, M32A1 Multi-Shot Grenade Launcher and M72 Light Anti-Tank Weapons.

"In the evolution of this training system, it went from a specific one- to two-weapon system and now pretty much covers the full spectrum of small arms weapons that are used by the Marine Corps today," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Matthew Harris, ISMT III project officer for training systems, Marine Corps Systems Command. "ISMT helps to build fundamentals of muscle memory for Marines so that when they hit the range, they are ready to respond to real-life scenarios."

Harris also noted that ISMT III includes filters for the squad day optic and machine-gun day optic Marines use with the M27 and M240 to alleviate the problem of pixilation when shooting in a virtual environment.

"Before, if Marines used the optic inside the ISMT, they could see all of the pixilation because the optic would magnify what's on the ISMT screen. ISMT III incorporates a diffuser, allowing Marines to use the optic inside the simulation without a blurry

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pixilation of the screen," Harris said.

ISMT III also improves the user's experience by providing 3-D graphics and imagery that is consistent with the graphic capabilities offered by most gaming systems today, said Harris.

"The old system had very rudimentary, two-dimensional graphics," said Harris. "In the old system, if you were looking at a tree, it would look flat from any angle. ISMT III offers industry-standard graphic imagery. So, instead of having an outline of a figure, you can actually see the roundness of the shoulder, the front and back of them as he's moving to and from."

In addition to enhanced graphics, ISMT III improves the user's training experience with collective training mode capabilities and additional, enhanced training and judgment scenarios. The collective training mode is new to ISMT III and enables Marines to train side-by-side and work on a com-

From the left, LCpls Carlye Rehmann, John Broderick, Joshua Mickle and Alejandro Barragan, military police with Security Battalion, MCB Quantico, Va., fire wireless M4 and M16A4s fitted with upgraded rifle combat optics at the ISMT III, July 28.

New Marksmanship Simulators: Virtual Training for Real-Life Scenarios

The Marine Corps' next-generation marksmanship trainer has hit the fleet. The Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer (ISMT) III adds three new weapons, 3-D imagery and enhanced training modes, giving Marines a better, more realistic training experience as they prepare for the complexities of modern warfare.

The Marine Corps adopted virtual training in the mid-1990s to sharpen Marines' marksmanship skills. The first system, the Firearms Training Simulator (FATS), was designed primarily to train Marines for rifle and pistol qualifications. Over time, FATS evolved into ISMT, which added new weapons and video scenarios for Marines. ISMT III "ups the ante" by providing wireless connectivity to the M9 service pistol, M4 carbine and three new wireless weapons: the M27 Infantry Automatic



ASHLEY CALINGO

mon objective before heading to the training range.

“Say you’re going to Twentynine Palms and are going to run a range for a platoon-supported attack,” said Harris. “I can bring in a machine-gun squad and have them go through—in collective mode—training to work on communication, target identification and suppression, ammunition consumption. Marines can now go through some of the minor details that they typically couldn’t do unless they went out to the range and fired live.”

Perhaps one of ISMT III’s greatest training enhancements is the addition of several authorizing stations across the Corps that enable Marines, in conjunction with combat camera troops and other skilled video personnel, to film and upload their own scenarios.

“If Marines are looking for a specific training scenario that isn’t currently available, they can use the authorizing station to create that scenario,” said Harris.

The 10 new judgment scenarios enable Marines to immerse themselves in realistic environments and situations, such as a vehicle checkpoint, a room clearing, gate operations or an active shooter situation. Harris said the new judgment scenarios are not just infantry-specific but are situations in which any Marine could potentially find him or herself.

ISMT III can also simulate moving targets, one of the upgraded training enhancements from previous ISMT iterations, said Master Sergeant Jorge Carrillo, staff noncommissioned officer in charge, Marksmanship Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

“In this scenario, the target simulates movement, like it’s closing in on the shooter. In real life, the Marine closes in on the target, but you can’t really do that indoors. But because the screen simulates movement, you’re actually able to execute training as if you were doing it outside in the real world,” said Carrillo.

As of July 7, the Corps had fielded around 200 of the 490 ISMT III systems destined for major Marine Corps bases, reserve duty sites and amphibious assault ships worldwide. Land-based installations of ISMT III are projected to be finished by September 2018. Shipboard installations will occur concurrently, but may take more time to implement than land-based installations due to the need to retrofit the system onto designated spaces aboard each ship.

Cpl Noah Paul and Cpl Geovanni Martinez, combat marksmanship coaches and ISMT operators, fire M27 Infantry Automatic Rifles at the ISMT III training range at MCB Quantico, Va., Feb. 15. The M27 is one of three new weapons offered with the ISMT III.

The 10 new judgment scenarios enable Marines to immerse themselves in realistic environments and situations, such as a vehicle checkpoint, a room clearing, gate operations or an active shooter situation.

“Marksmanship is embedded in the Marine Corps,” said Carrillo. “As technology advances and weapons get better and more accurate, we need to teach Marines how to use those weapons and improve their marksmanship so that we can continue to be the best marksmen the military can offer.”

Ashley Calingo, MCSC



SGT IAN LEONES, USMC

Sgt Andrew J. Miller, an embarkation chief with the Command Element, Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force–Southern Command, inspects a 3-D printed line block during a 3-D printing training course at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., April 20. Marines from various sections of SPMAGTF–SC attended the training to gain hands-on experience with 3-D printers and receive instruction in computer-aided design, file creation and manufacturing.

Corps: 3-D Parts are Safe, Certified

From building drones to creating replacement parts for Amphibious Assault Vehicles, Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) is helping Marines stay abreast of innovative technology through 3-D printing.

The Marine Corps has greatly increased the exploration of 3-D printing (also known as additive manufacturing) and uses it to reduce maintenance costs, increase equipment readiness and improve combat effectiveness. Additionally, it offers the Corps opportunities to solve day-to-day and low-risk challenges, such as those encountered on aircraft, weapons, vehicles and communications equipment, by offering the capability to repair and replace individual parts onsite.

3-D printing uses a digital file from a computer to create three-dimensional solid objects. An object is created by laying down multiple layers of material consecutively until the entire item matches its digital file. Instead of waiting for a manufacturer to build a replacement part for broken equipment, Marines can print whatever customized item they need right away.

“An AAV that is sitting on a forward operating base or a ship waiting for a part is not doing its job, and Marines are less effective because of it,” said Capt Matthew Friedell, 3-D printing project officer in MCSC’s Systems Engineering and Acquisition Logistics. “3-D printing allows us to get that AAV back into the fight or even gets Marines the weapons they need.”

MCSC’s role is to validate that 3-D printed parts are safe and certified for use on the systems and

LCpl Vincent A. Smyth, MAGTF planning specialist with the Command Element, SPMAGTF–SC, calibrates a 3-D printer at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., April 20. (Photo by Sgt Ian Leones, USMC)



equipment it fields to Marines. Testing and experimentation is conducted to find new ways to use 3-D printing technology.

This summer, for the first time in Corps history, 3-D printing was used to create a new part for an AAV. The part was installed and driven at the AAV product director’s Engineering Maintenance Test Site in Ladysmith, Va. In partnership with John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, MCSC’s acquisitions team installed a 3-D printed steel yoke shifter onto an AAV.

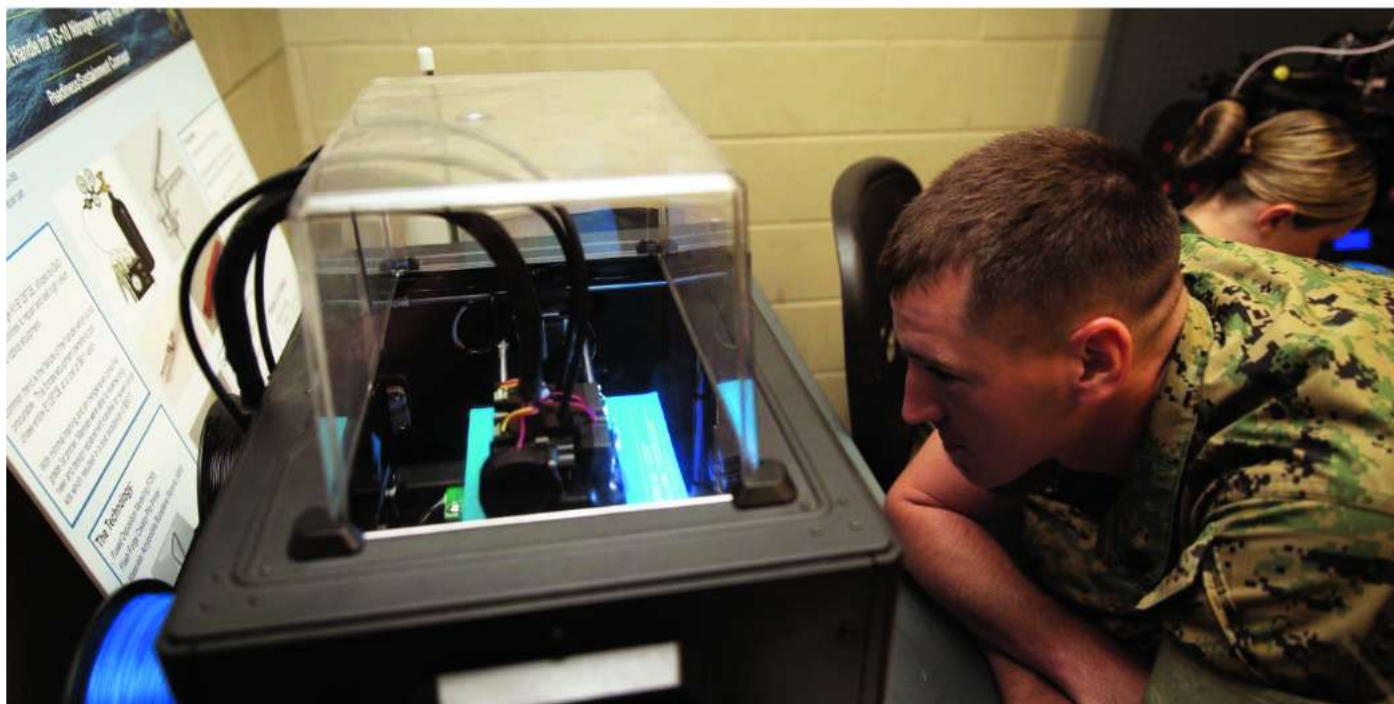
The yoke was redesigned for additive manufacturing and fabricated using a process called Direct Metal Laser Sintering. The yoke shifter is part of an assembly actuated by the driver of the AAV, and engages and disengages the power take-off from providing input to the Hydrostatic Steer Unit (HSU). When the AAV is being towed by another vehicle, the HSU, which is responsible for controlling the steering of the vehicle, must be disengaged to prevent mechanical damage.

“It’s an essential part to ensure the vehicle can steer and function properly,” said Craig Hughes, Marine Corps additive manufacturing project manager at John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

Marines have been embracing 3-D printing for several years now, Friedell said. There are more than 40 units using 3-D printers in the field to create replacement vehicle and weapon parts out of plastic.

“This capability totally changes the way logistics are applied in warfare,” said Friedell. “Not only can we now fix weapons and vehicles faster, we can adapt in real time to meet new requirements.”

Marines are using 3-D printing to build drones, buildings, vehicles and other items out of various materials, including concrete and metals. 3-D printing is especially promising in combat zones where Marines can “quickly reproduce essential parts that might otherwise have to be shipped from a stateside location or a distant Defense Logistics Agency hub,” said Lieutenant General Michael G. Dana, Deputy Commandant for Installations and



SGT IAN LEONES, USMC

Logistics, in a recent interview with Military.com. Because of the possibilities 3-D printing provides, Dana has become a vocal advocate for the innovative technology.

In the future, Friedell envisions that the Corps will have the ability to print customized vehicles to counter emerging threats right on the battlefield.

"The Marine Corps must adopt this concept at all levels to fully gain its benefit," he said. "If we do not, we will fall behind our enemies as they'll be able to repair their vehicles faster and with greater precision than us. We are delivering on our requirements from the commandant and embracing this rapidly growing technology."

Kaitlin Kelly, MCSC

Editor's note: To read more about the Marine Corps' use of 3-D printing, see "Printing the Future: MWSS-372 Tests 3-D Printing in the Field," in the December 2016 issue.

With JPADS Fielding Complete, Airdrop Capabilities Increase

Marine Corps Systems Command fielded the last of 162 Joint Precision Airdrop Systems (JPADS) to the fleet in April, turning the page from acquisition to sustainment of the system for the Corps.

When the JPADS 2K was introduced to the Marine Corps in 2008, it opened the door to a potentially life-saving capability for Marines on the ground and in the air. In 2013, the Corps upgraded to the 2K-Modular, which included an improved modular autonomous guidance unit called the MAGU. JPADS 2K-M improved accuracy over traditional airdrops while simultaneously enabling aircraft to conduct drops at higher altitudes and longer distances from the drop zone.

"JPADS brings an important capability to Marines," said Captain Keith Rudolf, aerial delivery project officer with MCSC's Ground Combat Element Systems. "It's not the answer for every

situation, but the main goal is to keep people off the roads in an [improvised explosive device] environment or when small units are in locations that are not easily accessible by traditional logistic means."

JPADS is ideal when it is easier and safer to deliver equipment and supplies to ground units from the air versus using a convoy, said Rudolf.

"An average combat logistics patrol in Afghanistan that's running behind a route clearance platoon may travel at only 5 to 6 miles an hour," he said. "Depending on how much supply you have on there, you may have a mile worth of trucks that are slow-moving targets. [JPADS] negates a lot of that."

The system also helps keep aircrews out of harm's way.

"From the aircraft perspective, [JPADS] can be dropped from up to 25 kilometers away from the intended target, while still landing within 150 meters of the programmed impact point," Rudolf said. "Throughout testing, the systems often averaged much greater accuracy. That means the aircraft does not have to fly directly over a danger zone where they could be engaged with small arms

Sgt Kenneth R. Storvick, a squad leader with the Logistics Combat Element, SPMAGTF-SC, watches a 3-D printer create his design during a 3-D printing training course at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., April 20. The Corps is increasingly utilizing 3-D printing as a means to reduce costs, increase readiness and encourage Marines to be innovative problem solvers.

"From the aircraft perspective, [JPADS] can be dropped from up to 25 kilometers away from the intended target, while still landing within 150 meters of the programmed impact point."—Capt Keith Rudolf

or enemy threats on the ground. They can fly outside of that and because the system is autonomous, it will fly its best path down to where it needs to go."

The improved accuracy the MAGU provides also means supplies land closer to the Marines on the ground who need to retrieve them.

The JPADS 2K originally was used by the Army and was upgraded by the Marine Corps as the 2K-M



LCPL JOCELYN ONTIVEROS, USMC

PFC Brad A. Clark inspects the rigged aerial delivery systems of JPADS during a Weapons and Training Instructor course at MCAS Yuma, Ariz., March 30. The JPADS systems use GPS, a MAGU, a parachute and electric motors to guide cargo within 150 meters of their target points.

for airdrops between 900 and 2,200 pounds. At the same time, the Corps began to pursue another variant, called JPADS Ultra Lightweight (ULW), capable of delivering smaller loads between 250 and 700 pounds. Fielding for the 2K-M and ULW variants began in September 2016 and included three aerial delivery units; three reconnaissance units; three Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command units; the Quartermaster School at Fort Lee, Va.; and four reserve units.

MCSC's responsibility now is to ensure the JPADS remains updated, upgraded and relevant for the remainder of its expected service life.

"We will continue to keep up the maintenance and operation of the system," said Rudolf. "This particular system includes a lot more technology [than traditional airdrop systems], such as software for the guidance unit and mission planner laptop that goes with it. That leads to block upgrades, which we're already planning for over the course of the current life cycle."

Specific plans for upgrades are still in the works, but as an example, the team may explore opportunities to use additional canopies to improve JPADS performance and enable reconnaissance Marines to "fly with their gear."

"The idea is to match the performance characteristics of the ULW, specifically with those of a new personnel canopy for reconnaissance and special operations Marines so they can bring their gear in without it being attached to them," he said.

As of June 29, MCSC's aerial delivery team had provided new equipment training to the units that received JPADS, and Marine-specific training on the 2K-M and ULW were incorporated into the aerial

delivery and field services courses at Fort Lee.

"There is a learning curve because it's vastly different and more technical than what we traditionally used," said Staff Sergeant Justin Myers, an air delivery specialist who will assume project officer duties for aerial delivery at MCSC.

Despite the learning curve, Marines and commanders in the field are excited about the new capability, according to Myers.

"Once they've gone through the course and learned about it, they're very eager to use it," Myers added. "We've gotten a lot of positive feedback on it."

Monique Randolph, MCSC

Emergency Response Systems Modernized Across the Corps

Marine Corps bases worldwide are gaining increased emergency response capabilities with the implementation of the Consolidated Emergency Response System (CERS). CERS standardizes emergency dispatching capabilities and provides emergency first responders with enhanced command and coordination to support all hazardous response missions on Marine Corps installations.

CERS was conceived following the 2009 shooting at Fort Hood, Texas, in which 13 people were killed and 43 wounded. A Department of Defense review of the incident highlighted opportunities for improved emergency response procedures and capabilities throughout the DOD. In response, the Marine Corps created the CERS program of record, a multifaceted system that integrates modernized equipment and software to expedite and streamline emergency response activities.

"The Consolidated Emergency Response System standardizes and modernizes emergency dispatching capabilities across the Marine Corps," said Major Mark Simmons, systems engineer for CERS and Enhanced 911 at Marine Corps Systems Command. "CERS aggregates multiple capabilities—E911, computer-aided dispatch, incident records management and fire station alerting—into a single workstation, giving emergency dispatchers the ability to quickly and more accurately dispatch the appropriate assets where necessary in the shortest time possible."

CERS was implemented in two phases. The first implementation phase involved the installation of the E911 system on Marine Corps bases worldwide beginning in 2014. E911 provides enhanced, GPS coordinate-driven caller location information to emergency dispatchers, enabling them to provide more precise location information to emergency responders. E911 also establishes 911 as the only number to call for emergencies on Marine Corps bases.

"Previously, a lot of bases had a standard base telephone number that they'd call for emergency, fire, law enforcement or emergency medical services instead of simply dialing 911," said Simmons. "Now, emergency calls are routed to a single place. Anytime there's an emergency on base, dial 911."

The second phase of CERS involved the installation of computer-aided dispatch (CAD), incident records management and fire station alerting capabilities. CAD, a computer application that allows dispatchers to accurately track and task available emergency responders to expedite response times, is the second major component of CERS.

"Essentially, CAD is going to help emergency dispatchers get the first responders to the incident in the quickest, most efficient manner," said George Berger, emergency dispatch services program manager at Marine Corps Installations Command. "CAD provides an incident records management system and will help emergency dispatchers provide resource management situational awareness."

The incident records management system enables dispatch center supervisors to easily retrieve data from past emergency events. Before the incident records management system, supervisors had to review logbooks and databases from different emergency response groups, such as law enforcement and fire, in order to collect all the details that occurred during an incident. Now, the supervisor may accomplish the research from their workstation, using a dedicated organized process not previously available said Berger.

Enhanced fire station alerts streamline dispatchers' ability to send emergency responders to the scene of an incident. Base fire stations are also outfitted with upgraded audio and visual cues that are deployable at the push of a dispatcher's button, decreasing the time it takes for dispatchers to alert emergency responders.

Together, the systems in CERS match the capabilities found in civilian emergency dispatch centers, increasing the effectiveness of operations and lowering response time to incidents aboard Marine Corps installations.

The Marine Requirements Oversight Council selected 13 of the 24 Marine Corps installations to receive CERS. Currently, phase two of CERS is being implemented in emergency dispatch centers at the 13 selected installations. Before CERS, each base had its own method of emergency dispatching, said Berger.

"CERS aggregates multiple capabilities into a single workstation, giving emergency dispatchers the ability to quickly and more accurately dispatch the appropriate assets where necessary in the shortest time possible."—Maj Mark Simmons

"In many cases, the older emergency dispatch system may have consisted of a pen and paper," said Berger. "CERS is a standardized solution, which will help coordinate all calls for service and support the moving parts of law enforcement, fire and emergency medical service activities."

CERS is part of the Supporting Establishment Systems portfolio at Marine Corps Systems Command. The CERS team provides critical information technology solutions to emergency first responders at Marine Corps installations worldwide, heightening the safety and security of Marines, Sailors, civilians and families who live and work on base.

"I want to say thank you to the Marine Corps Systems Command folks for going through this effort and fielding this solution," said Berger. "It's been a long time coming and the team has been working hard. As the headquarters advocate, I truly appreciate their efforts, as do each of the 13 installations."

Ashley Calingo, MCSC

Capt Mark Simmons, systems engineer for CERS, stands in front of a newly installed CERS emergency dispatcher workstation at MCB Quantico, Va., May 2. CERS aggregates multiple capabilities—Enhanced 911, Computer-Aided Dispatch and fire station alerting—into a single workstation.



ASHLEY CALINGO

Leatherneck Laffs



"The hardest part isn't getting around, it's the saluting."



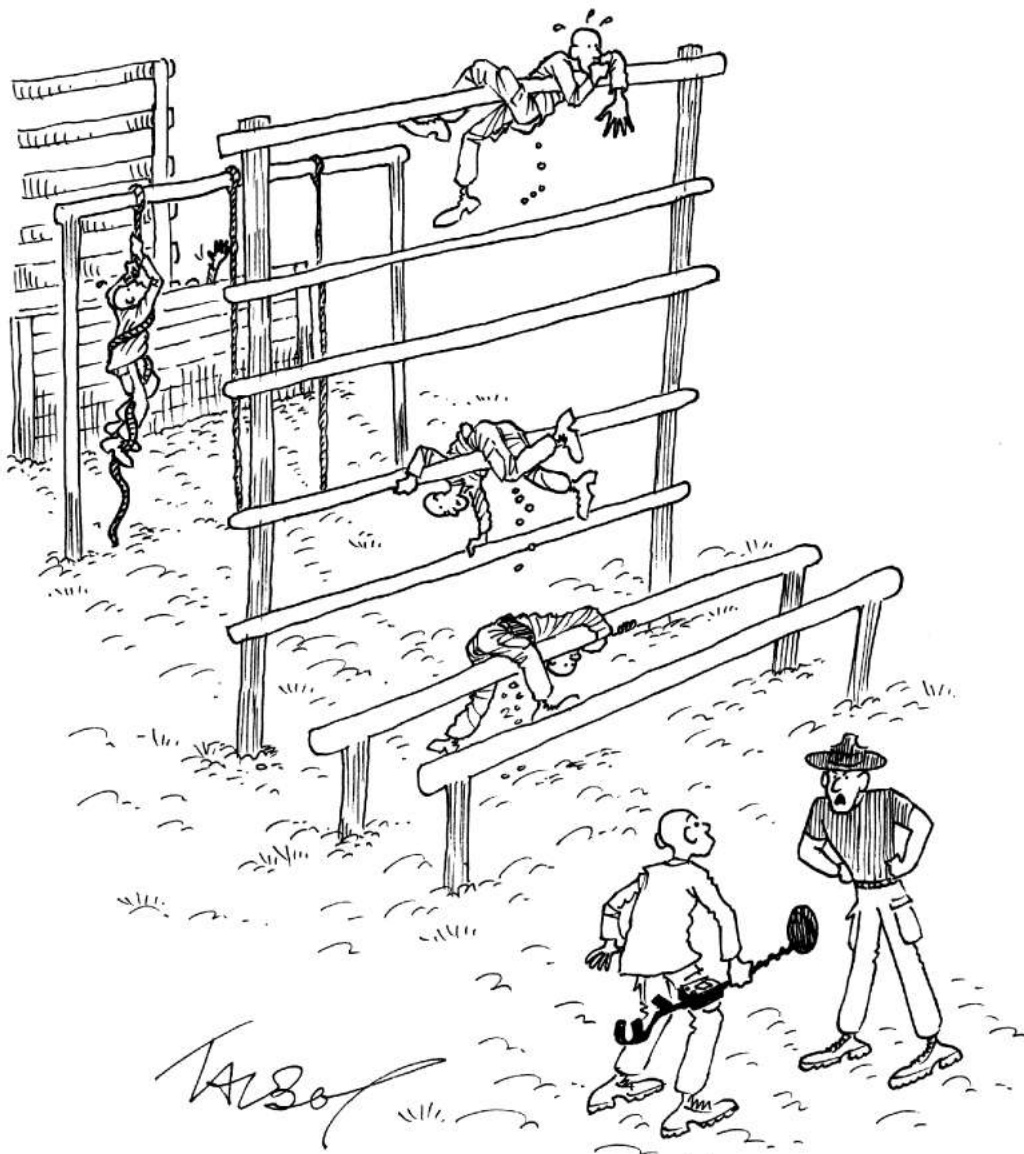
"This one is for convincing people to take me seriously."



The minute you realize the gunny has noticed your unbuttoned pocket.



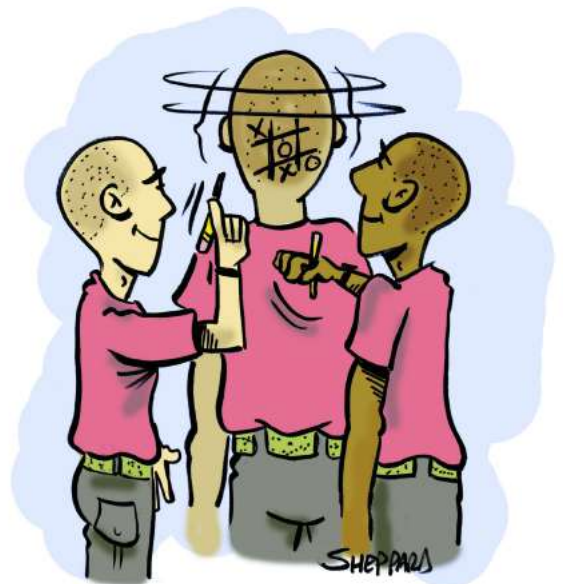
"You can memorize all 11 of your general orders word for word, yet you forget our anniversary."



"You would make better time on the confidence course if you weren't hunting for loose pocket change."



"We've got a 72 this weekend. Do you guys want to go hiking?"



Division in Motion

Story and photos by SSgt Paul A. Berger, USMC

Editor's note: August marked the 75th anniversary of the Third Marine Division.

"To execute amphibious assault operations and such operations as may be directed, supported by Marine aviation and Force Troop units."

"... And such operations as may be directed. ..." That's a broad statement, taking in almost anything. Here's why: It's the mission of a Marine division. All Marine divisions have identical missions on paper, although each has a mission modified by its location and by local and world situations.

The presence of the Third Marine Division on Okinawa is part of the "forward strategy" of the Pacific Command. Okinawa is strategically located. In conjunction with other U.S. and allied forces in the Western Pacific, the presence of the Division contributes to the policy of "Deterrence Against Aggression."

On Aug. 29, 1942, a confidential letter

from the Commandant of the Marine Corps to the Commanding General, Amphibious Corps, Pacific Fleet, authorized the activation of the Third Marine Division.

Although it was only recently tagged with the name, "Division in Motion," the Third Division has earned the title. It has done its share of moving, in and out of combat, and has served on foreign soil for all but 23 months of its existence.

The old Third Regiment of World War I was reactivated at Camp Lejeune, N.C. The First Division had left small cadres of officers and enlisted men at New River, and these had formed the 1st, 3d, and 5th Training Battalions. When the Third Marines were activated, these battalions already had been organized for some time.

At Camp Elliott, Calif., the 9th, 12th, 19th, and 21st Marines, as well as some special troop units, were formed.

The Division got together for the first time in New Zealand, where preparation

for the move to Guadalcanal began. From the Canal, the division would strike at Bougainville for a baptism of fire. It proved itself and played a major part in the campaign.

Third Division Marines who were there will remember the battle of the Koromokina, Puruata Island, Piva Forks, the beachhead at Cape Torokina, dozens of other places, and the nearly 40,000 enemy troops who were not in a willing mood to relinquish their stronghold.

The division returned to Guadalcanal in January 1944 to prepare for its next move.

Veterans of their first campaign, the men of the 3d were humble. They had learned the meaning of jungle warfare, battling an unseen enemy in strange, densely wooded territory amid rain, mud, sweltering heat and clouds of insects. They had found the enemy to be a crafty, determined fighter. They grudgingly respected him, but they knew they could beat him.

The Bougainville campaign set the pattern for the future. It was on to Guam, then Iwo Jima, and back to Guam for rest and training.

Training on Guam was intense, with the "big push" type of operation taking precedence. The next one was to be a big one, everyone thought, and there would be no relaxing on the beach.

At a parade of the Ninth Marine Regiment, Admiral R.A. Spruance, Commander of the Fifth Fleet, said, "That is the finest group of men I have had the pleasure of reviewing. The Third Marine Division is truly ready for combat!"

On the morning of Aug. 10, 1945, the Division was completing the last of its battalion-level exercises and preparations were underway for a Division exercise that was to be a rehearsal for the landing to come.

Then the news came on the radio, and it passed by word of mouth throughout the Division.

"We dropped a new kind of bomb on Japan ... a place called Hiroshima ... 20,000 times as powerful as TNT ... wrecked the whole city!"

The war ended, but the 3d was destined to stay on Guam. The men had a relaxed training schedule and began to suffer from island boredom.



The 3dMarDiv, including 3d and 9th Marines, landed at Bougainville in November 1943.

Eventually, units of the Division were broken off for occupation duty in former enemy outposts in the Pacific and in China, but the bulk of the troops remained on Guam.

On Dec. 28, 1945, the 3d Division commander sent a dispatch to the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Part of it read: "I regret to inform you that the Third Marine Division passed out of this world—for the time being at least—at 2400, 28 December, 1945."

But the 3d didn't stay out of the world long. The Korean War saw the Division reactivated, and after 19 months of training at Camp Pendleton, it was once again on the move. This time it was to Japan for back-up duty for the First Division in Korea. Its 19 months in California was the only real "stateside" time the 3d has ever had.

The training situation was good. Combat readiness grew to another all-time high, and the Third Division in Japan was ready for anything.

Duty and liberty in Japan have always been considered some of the finest in the world, and the 3d Division gained the reputation of being the Division to be in.

There was lots of moving during the stay in Japan. On the official, military

level, the moves were from one maneuver area to another, and aboard ship for skirmishes down in the Philippines, Okinawa, or Formosa.

While most of the Division Marines who were solving the "Mysteries of the Orient" did their studying in Japan, others took leave and traveled around the Far East. Hong Kong, Thailand, Okinawa and the Philippines were regularly visited by touring troops.

With Korea under its belt, the First Division returned to Camp Pendleton in 1955. A swap of personnel took place, with the newcomers to Korea joining the Division in Japan to finish their tour, and the short-timers from Japan going to Korea to return to the States with the First.

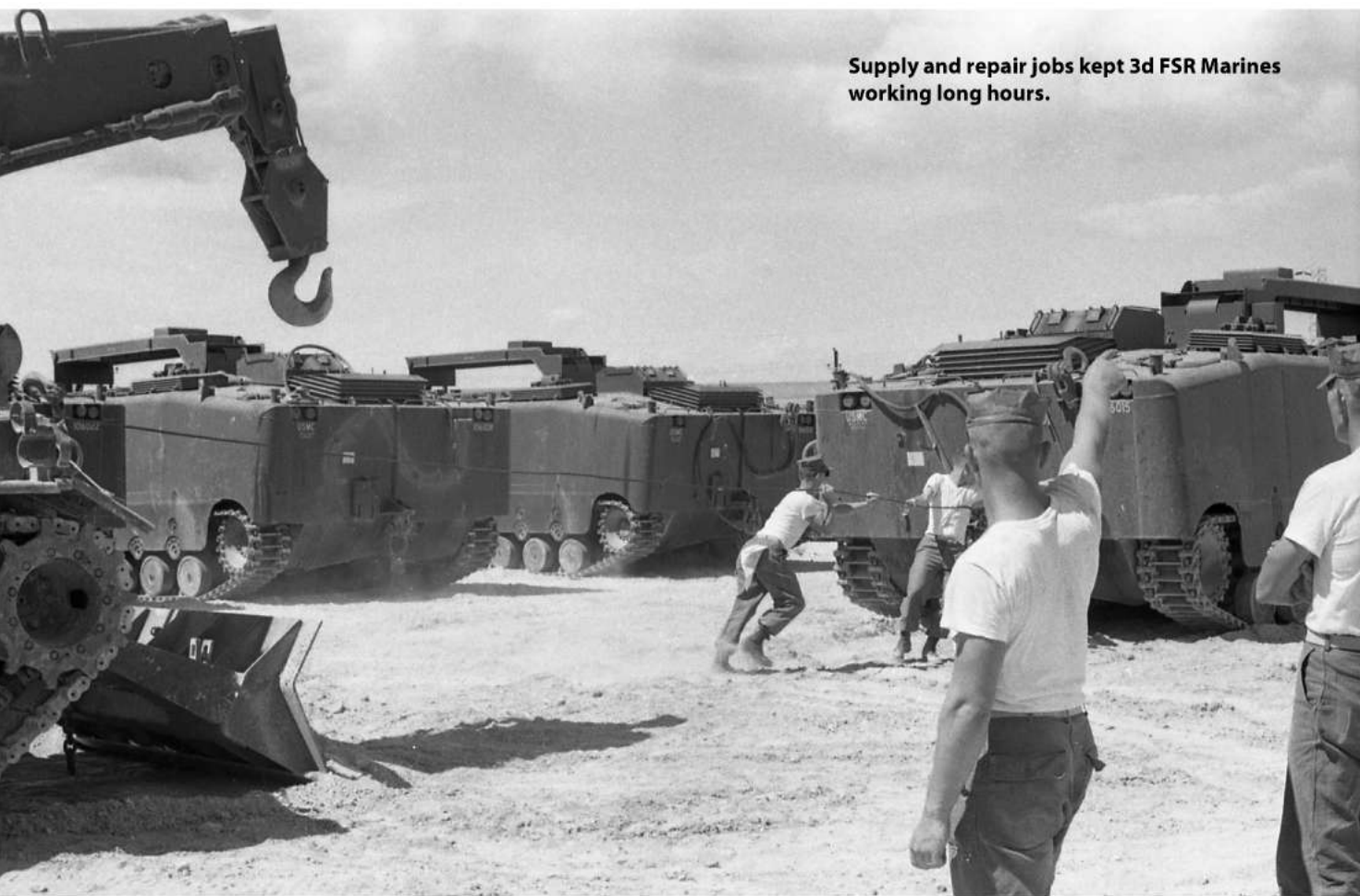
At the same time, advance elements of the 3d started to move to Okinawa. Engineers began refurbishing some of the old Army camps for the Marines. In June 1955, the 9th Marines, augmented by reinforcing units, left Camp Sakai, near Osaka, for Okinawa.

While the engineers had done a fine job with the areas they had worked on, it seemed that some of the metal huts that were to become barracks were not in the best of shape.

Right: Counter-guerrilla warfare training on Camp Gonsalves, Okinawa.

Below: On standby, these 9th Regiment troops can move out instantly.





Supply and repair jobs kept 3d FSR Marines working long hours.

Marines still recall the old camps and their original names. Today's Camp Courtney was Camp Tengan; Camp McTureous was Kawasaki; Camp Hauge was Napunja; Camps Butler and Schwab were nonexistent.

But, as always, things change, for better or worse. And, as always, in the Corps, for the patient Marine, things get better.

Division headquarters moved to Okinawa in March 1956, and the remainder of the Division followed in 1957.

The Division in 1965

A few lines about Okinawa will enlighten those who have never visited, and who know of the island only as the scene of one of the great battles of World War II.

Okinawa is the largest of the Ryukyu Islands. It is about 68 miles long and varies from 2½ to 12 miles in width. The capital city is Naha, a port city on the southwestern coast.

The official language is Japanese,

although the old Ryukyuan language and island dialects are still in use at the family-level throughout the islands. Contrary to popular belief, Japanese is an entirely different language from the old Ryukyuan language. The official monetary standard of the Ryukyu Islands is the U.S. dollar.

Okinawans are generally indistinguishable from Japanese, due to long association and intermarriage between the original islanders and the mainlanders up north.



Above left: Proficiency with individual weapons is required of all Division Marines.

Above right: Camp Courtney, Okinawa, originally known as Camp Tengan, opened as a Marine base in January 1956. The camp was named after Maj Henry A. Courtney Jr., who was killed on Okinawa.

Okinawa's weather leaves much to be desired. The island sits in the typhoon belt and gets buffeted occasionally. The influence of a warm ocean current makes temperatures below 40 degrees Fahrenheit extremely rare.

"Now, that sounds great," the uninitiated will say. "A tropical paradise." But while it doesn't get cold on Okinawa, the temperature does climb into the 90s frequently, and the humidity does the same.

An unhappy traveler-turned-poet wrote the following about Okinawa's weather:

"Dirty days hath September,
April, June, and November;
From February unto May
It raineth every day.

All the rest have thirty-one,
Without one blessed gleam of sun;
And if any of 'em had two and thirty
They'd be just as wet and
twice as dirty."

While all this is not strictly true, a couple of the points should be kept in mind. The average annual rainfall comes to 80 inches, and Naha averages 18 clear days a year. The humidity gets at just about everything. A pair of leather gloves left in a closed locker box may come out two weeks later with everything but mushrooms growing out of the fingers.

Rather than go on about the less-than-ideal weather, let's switch to the terrain. Southern Okinawa is generally hilly and rolling, with some ravines and some flat fields. Sugar cane is a major crop here. Northern Okinawa turns hilly, and although the highest altitude is only 1,650 feet, climbing these hills can be a real chore.

Each Division Marine camp on Okinawa, with the exception of Sukiran, is named for a man who was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously during the battle of Okinawa in the spring of 1945.

Camp Schwab, the northernmost of the Division's troop installations, was the first typhoon-proof Marine establishment on the island. It houses the Third Marine Regiment, 3d Motor Transport Battalion, 3d Reconnaissance Battalion, and the 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion.

About 10 miles to the south is Camp Hansen, another of the typhoon-proof camps. The 9th Marine Regiment, 3d Tank Battalion, 3d Antitank Battalion, 3d Medical Battalion, 9th Motor Transport Battalion, 3d Engineer Battalion, Division Schools, and the Division Rifle Range Detachment are located at this camp.

Camp Courtney is directly across Chimu Bay from Hansen. Opened in May 1964, it is the newest of the Marine camps and houses the Division Headquarters.

Within the boundaries of Camp McTureous are the headquarters of the 3d

Service Battalion and Camp Smedley D. Butler.

The 12th Marine Artillery Regiment and the 3d Force Service Regiment occupy areas and quarters at Camp Sukiran.

Camp Hauge was used to house Division headquarters during the construction of Camp Courtney, but it is being evacuated. Some small units still remain.

The infantry units of the Division are organized and trained at Camp Pendleton before they leave for Okinawa. They travel as units, which results in personnel stability and certain training advantages.

Each battalion spends about 12 months with the Division before it rotates back to the States. Under this "transplacement" system, a new battalion arrives about

every two months to replace a homeward-bound unit.

While with the Division, units receive continuous training at all levels. From squad and company problems, both on and off the island, training takes on a bigger scope until it reaches the Division level. In recent years the 3d Division has participated in large-scale operations in the Philippines, Thailand, Korea, and Formosa.

While at its peak of training, a battalion spends about two months afloat as part of the task group known as the Amphibious Ready Group. It is usually composed of a Marine battalion landing team, a Marine helicopter squadron, and ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet.



A battalion is welcomed to Okinawa by Ryukyuan dancers. Duty and liberty in Japan have always been considered some of the finest in the world.

Each infantry battalion with the Division takes its turn as a part of the Amphibious Ready Group, living aboard ship and conducting training, visiting liberty ports, and acting as a strategic deterrent force.

What rewards do the 3d Div Marines get for their efforts? What makes spending more than a year away from the family a little easier?

Nothing can replace the home fires, of course, but pleasant living conditions and good chow help.

The new camps are a joy to the eyes of a Marine who hasn't been on the island since 1957 or 1958. Concrete buildings, designed to take a typhoon in stride, have replaced most of the rusty old buildings. Built-in "hot-lockers" and dehumidified storerooms help fight the mildew problem.

Huge theaters, mess halls, splendid clubs, and exchanges that resemble small department stores, now decorate each camp.

The clubs offer their usual attractive prices, and entertainment from all over the world is out of this world. Steak and

seafood specials are nearly the plan of the day, and for the old salts, there are usually a few local dishes on the menu.

Liberty on Okinawa is as good as liberty anywhere. Off-base prices are higher than those on base, but that is usually the case anywhere. Many a Marine on his way to Okinawa has wondered what he will find to do for a year on a tiny island.

As small as it seems from the dimensions, the island isn't that tiny. It takes a lot of hiking around, riding the excellent bus system, and playing big spender by taking a 17 cent taxi, to see all of Okinawa.

Camera fans are in their glory, and probably expose more color film during a tour on Okinawa than they have in the past several years. The color is magnificent; the scenery truly beautiful. To this, add the interesting Asian culture which is all around, and the picture-taking possibilities are almost unlimited.

Hobby shops have photo labs for those who like to dabble in developer and hypo. Many other facilities are also available in the camp hobby shops, and recreational equipment is readily obtainable.

Boating on the clear, indigo waters of the Philippine Sea or the East China Sea is excellent. So is the fishing. Sky diving clubs are numerous, and the coral reefs offshore offer ideal underwater exploring conditions.

On the island, USO provides good entertainment, comfortable clubs, and they sponsor some excellent tours of interesting places.

For Marines who enjoy working with youngsters, one of the most rewarding pastimes is working with the Little League.

In 1959, Marine camps began sponsoring Little League baseball teams made up of Okinawan schoolboys. Marines serve as managers and coaches, and the teams have adopted names from the Marine teams.

When the Little League began, there were some who said the Okinawan youngsters would never play ball like American boys. Americans, after all, are born to the game. But the Marines, working through interpreters furnished by local schools, put their teams on the field against some of the American Little Leaguers on the island. They dealt out some severe thumpings. Few Okinawan boys are prouder than those who wear Marine Little League uniforms.

The Division has an active sports program of its own, of course. Their goal is 100 percent participation—every Marine engaging in some athletic event. Informed sources say this will be done, and there certainly is enough gear around with which to do it.

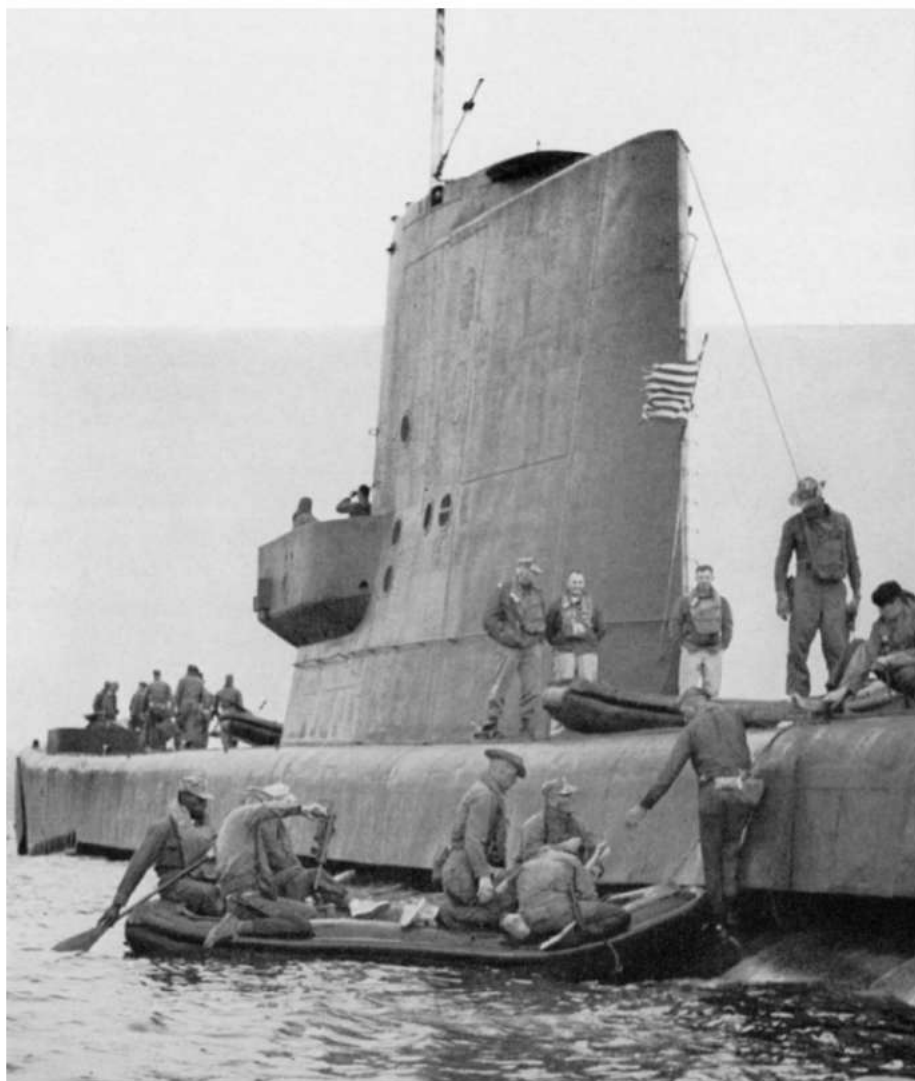
When the Division arrived on Okinawa, a People-to-People program was established. The Ryukyuan-American Community Relations Committee consists of Marines and local civilian officials, including mayors and town council members. They meet every month to discuss matters affecting either or both parties.

Frequently, a Marine can be training himself while doing a useful project for the Okinawan people. Many a school has a level playground, and more than one orphanage has a new roof or a coat of paint, courtesy of the Marines.

Open houses are held frequently with the Ryukyuan people visiting military camps to observe Marine capabilities firsthand.

Each Christmas, it is estimated that more than 20,000 children and adults are entertained. Included on the guest lists for all camps are Ryukyus from schools, orphanages, missions, homes for the aged, hospitals, deaf and blind institutions, as well as employees and their families.

After all the material benefits of the People-to-People program are listed, it seems that the most valuable product is really a byproduct of the creation of many



Marines practice reconnaissance missions from submarines floating off Okinawa.

Marines on the alert take a break if and when the chance arises.



The 12th Marines color guard shown at the “Country of Courtesy” gate.

warm and genuine friendships among Ryukyuan and Marines.

Some Marines have become proficient in the Japanese language, and others teach English at local schools.

With all these things to do, don't worry about the walls closing in around you on “that tiny island.”

A busy Marine is a good Marine, and a

busy man will find that time passes much faster when he's on the go.

By the time a Marine gets a few small maneuvers behind him, fires the range, does a stint at the North Training Area's Counter-Guerrilla Warfare School, and participates in a large-scale maneuver, he'll wonder where the time went. He's due for his two-month tour aboard ship,

and then he will be almost ready to return Stateside.

Many a Marine found his tour on Okinawa growing short, and kicked himself because he never got to Tokyo or Hong Kong, or visited the many scenic and historical spots on the island. He forgot to buy his souvenirs, thinking he had plenty of time.

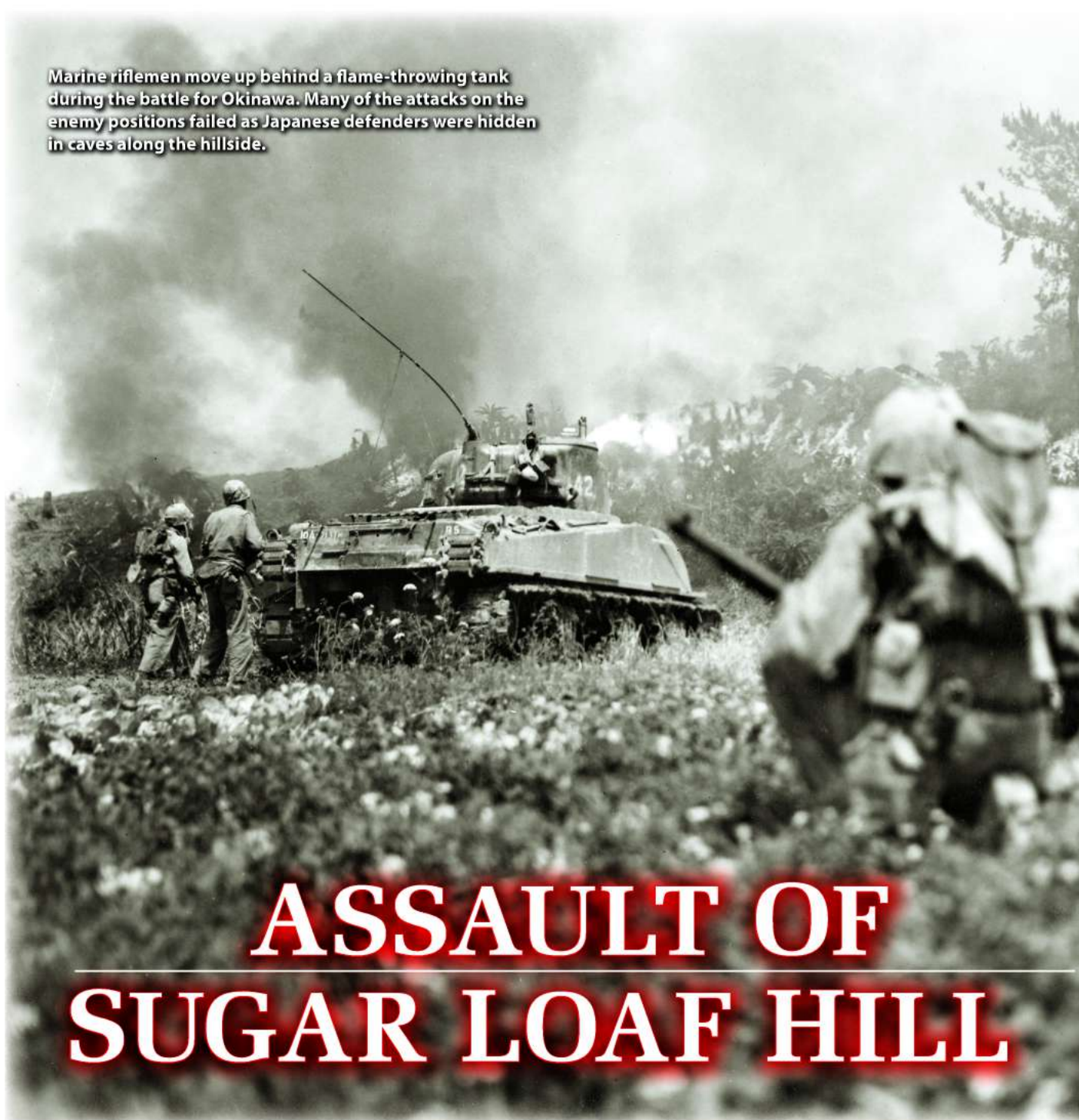
Even more are sorry that they didn't take a few language lessons so they could have better understood many of the people they met and the things they saw.

It's a proud Marine who serves in the Third Division. Proud of a Division that, in its relatively short history, can claim 10 Medal of Honor recipients and more than 60 Marines who were awarded the Navy Cross. Proud that someday people will refer to him as one of the old “Okinawa Marines,” just as we talk today of the “Horse Marines” and the “China Marines.”

Some Marines want to stay with the 3d. But, when the transplacement system says it's time for your outfit to go, you go. That's the way things work. Marines come and Marines go, and they seldom sit in one spot for long.

And that's the way it should work in a “Division in Motion.”





Marine riflemen move up behind a flame-throwing tank during the battle for Okinawa. Many of the attacks on the enemy positions failed as Japanese defenders were hidden in caves along the hillside.

ASSAULT OF SUGAR LOAF HILL

By Dick Camp

Prologue

*Company G, Second Battalion
22d Marine Regiment
May 12, 1945, Okinawa, Japan*

Captain Owen T. Stebbins studied the 300-yard rectangular-shaped mound that rose barely 50 feet out of the flat terrain in southern Okinawa. It was innocuously described as a “prominent hill” in Target Area 7672 G; however, the hill was so small that it didn’t show up on the standard military map with its 10-meter contour interval. The Sixth Marine Division ter-

rain analysis noted, “For tactical strength, it is hard to conceive of a more powerful position.” Nicknamed “Sugar Loaf Hill” by the commander of the Second Battalion, 22d Marine Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Horatio C. Woodhouse, it resembled a flipped over bowl. One Marine remembered, “I guess the best way to describe it was if you took a watermelon and cut it in half, the upper half would be similar to the type of hill it was ... it really wasn’t all that high.”

The steep slope of the coral and volcanic rock hill had been blasted by artillery and mortar fire. It was dotted with

clumps of shrub growth, tree stumps, and pockmarked by shell craters. “It looked no more ominous to us than other draws, ravines, or steep inclines faced in previous combat actions,” Capt Stebbins said. “We didn’t think we were going to have too tough a time.”

To support Stebbins’ supposition, a captured enemy document indicated that the area was defended by “a network of small group positions organized for antitank defense.” What the report didn’t say was that Sugar Loaf was the western end of Lieutenant General Mitsuru Ushijima’s 32nd Army’s Shuri Defense

Line, garrisoned by Colonel Seiko Mita's 15th Independent Mixed Regiment, some 2,000 defenders, who had fortified the area with pillboxes, a maze of tunnels, interlocking automatic weapons, and high velocity antitank guns that covered its approaches.

Into the Attack

Co G's commanding officer, Capt Stebbins, a veteran of the Marshall Islands and Guam campaigns, roused the company before daylight on May 12 to issue rations, ammunition and water. Just as the supplies were distributed, the company was hit by a mortar barrage, killing three runners in the command post and wounding two other Marines. Co G, now reduced to six officers and 151 enlisted men, out of an authorized strength of seven officers and 236 enlisted men, reorganized and jumped off in the attack at 8:07 a.m.

Stebbins oriented the attack along a slight draw that provided some protection from enemy fire from the Japanese-occupied Half Moon Hill on the right and Horseshoe on its left rear. The three hills

supported one another, and any attack on Sugar Loaf would bring fire from the others. First Lieutenant Dale W. Bair, the executive officer, remained in the command post (CP) to coordinate supporting fires. Second Lieutenant Robert L. Nealon's Second Platoon advanced on the left of the draw, along a slight rise, while First Lieutenant Edward Ruess's First Platoon worked its way along a slightly higher ridge on the right. Platoon Sergeant Edmund DeMar's Third Platoon, Stebbins and two runners/messengers, and four Sherman tanks—Circle 1, Circle 2, Circle 3 and Square 1, led by Captain Phil Morell, Company A, Sixth Tank Battalion—moved up the draw between the two platoons.

The 6th Tank Bn was equipped with the 33-ton, gasoline powered, M-4A3 Sherman tank, mounting a 75mm gun and a .30-caliber coaxial machine gun. The Shermans' thin armor (1.5 inches on the sides and rear) and the lethal effects of the Japanese antitank weapons prompted the crews to harden the vehicles. Tanker Harold Harrison explained, "We lost so many tanks right away that the guys were

USMC

FIRST LIEUTENANT DALE W. BAIR, USMC



First Lieutenant Dale W. Bair, the 6 foot 2 inch, 225-pound former enlisted man, received the Navy Cross for his gallantry that day. According to his citation, "Despite the pain of his wounds, and aware that he must soon be evacuated because of them, he advanced in the face of the enemy fire and, firing his weapon into the probable location of the hostile positions, risked his life to draw the enemy fire and permit his men to be led to safety. On one occasion, he took a machine gun from a wounded Marine and fired it into the hostile position to cover the withdrawal of the trapped unit."

Sugar Loaf was a nondescript hill on Okinawa with significant tactical importance—it was the western end of the Japanese 32nd Army's Shuri Defense Line.

USMC

putting track blocks on the front of the slope plate and on the side of the sponson, then piling sandbags on that." Tactically, the Shermans were used to support the infantry and vice versa to keep Japanese "human bullet" suicide squads at bay. PltSgt DeMar promised the Circle tanks, "We'll stick to you like flies on crap." There was, however, a problem with being close to the tanks—they drew fire. Capt Morell recalled, "We would go up there [front lines] and the infantry would say, 'Ah, you tanks draw fire.' And I'd say, 'No [fooling]. You bet we do.'"

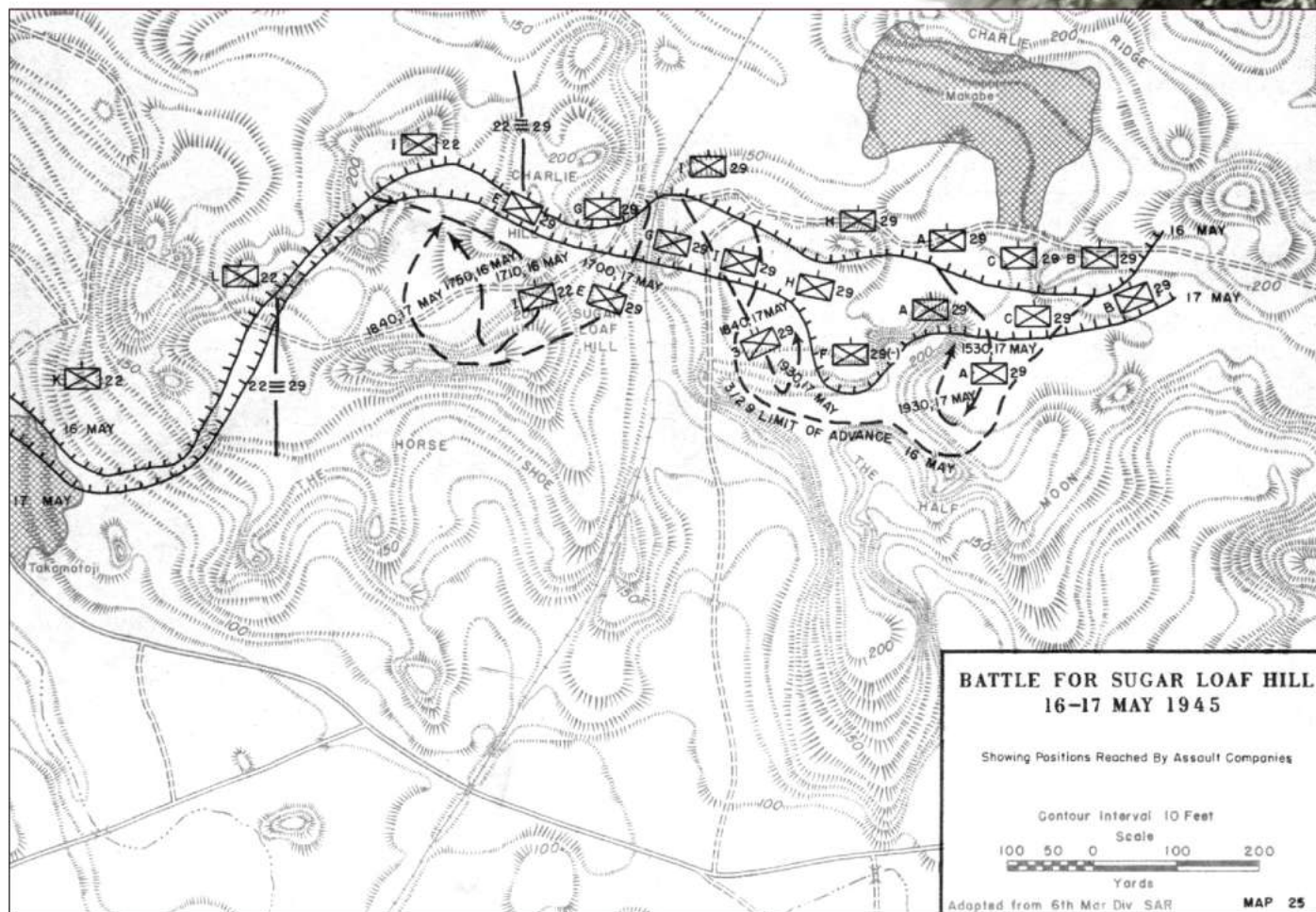
For the first 900 yards, the company came under fairly light mortar fire, inflicting several casualties. As the lead platoons emerged into open terrain, they encountered increasingly heavy fire. Despite the intensifying incoming fire, the company continued to push forward. Artillery and concealed high-velocity 47 mm antitank fire targeted the tanks, which were forced to dodge from cover to cover, trying to shelter behind rock outcroppings. "The [Japanese] seemed to have every inch of terrain zeroed in," Private First Class Cliff Mezo said.

An antitank round knocked out Circle 2 and a mine put Circle 1 out of action. The explosion lifted the tank about 2 feet off the ground. "The whole world exploded

underneath us ... it hit the engine compartment, and just blew it up," tanker Harold Harrison declared. The crew managed to escape unharmed, but Square 1 wasn't so lucky. The Sherman bogged down in a hole. Platoon Sergeant George F. Beranek, the tank commander, bailed out to hook up a towing cable. Capt Morell watched him through his tank commander's periscope. A bullet took Beranek in the throat, "and he gushed blood as if from a garden hose ... [it] squirted up all over my tank and everything else," according to Morell.

Japanese fire continued to rain down on the 1st and 2d platoons. With very little cover, casualties were heavy and the platoons were held up. Stebbins, worried about his right flank, moved DeMar's 3d Plt up behind the 1st Plt. The attached machine-gun section tried to support the assault platoons, but Japanese knee mortars killed and wounded many of the gunners before they could fire even a few short bursts.

The 1st Plt had five wounded men who were trapped on the slope of Sugar Loaf. Ruess ran back through the heavy fire to ask for tank support to evacuate them. Stebbins promised help and the young lieutenant returned to his platoon. Before Stebbins could act on the request, he was



Marines use a 37 mm gun to pound the Japanese pillboxes that dotted Sugar Loaf Hill in May 1945 during the Battle of Okinawa. (Photo by Cpl John W. Saunders)



PFC JAMES J. CHAISSON, USMC



Thirty-four year old PFC James Chaisson was a one-man army according to the Navy Cross citation: "Volunteering to assist a Marine unit which was pinned down by intense hostile fire emanating from a well-defended enemy position on commanding ground, Private First Class Chaisson located the source of enfilade fire that was taking a heavy toll on the attacking Marines and destroyed it by leading a flame-thrower assault which killed approximately twelve of the enemy. Observing that his unit was in grave danger of being fired upon by friendly supporting aircraft, he dashed up a hillside and, though painfully wounded by hostile fire, succeeded in rolling out panels to mark the

position of his unit. Upon returning, he discovered that three seriously wounded Marines were lying in front of friendly lines. Unhesitatingly, he hung on the back end of a tank and allowed himself to be dragged forward along the ground to the positions of the wounded men. Under covering fire from the tank, he assisted the casualties back to the lines. When his small attacking force was ordered to a new location, Private First Class Chaisson seized an automatic rifle from a fallen Marine and in the face of heavy hostile fire, rushed ahead in full view of the enemy, drawing the fire to himself. Although suffering painful wounds, he courageously and determinedly engaged the enemy."

A corpsman uses a rifle to hold blood plasma as he treats a Marine wounded during the Battle of Okinawa. (USMC photo)



shot in the right leg and his runner was killed. Unable to walk and without a radio, Stebbins started crawling back toward the company CP to inform 1stLt Bair that he now was the company commander. "Fortunately, partway back, an alert tank commander spotted the low crawl and [sent] stretch bearers," Stebbins said, and he was evacuated from the field.

Meanwhile, Ruess made it back to his hard-hit platoon and attempted to push the attack along by trying to locate the fire hitting his men. He made a target of himself. "Watch my tracers," he called out and opened fire. A Japanese machine gun immediately targeted him. Dirt kicked up around him. Private First Class Mezo watched as Ruess "started skipping back and to his left, now firing from the hip instead of the shoulder." He moved to another position. This time Ruess was not so lucky and he fell. "He had three gunshot wounds in the lower abdomen and seemed in extreme pain," PFC Mezo recalled. "His face began to turn ashen and I didn't feel he would suffer long." Ruess was evacuated and died two days later in a field hospital. He received the Navy Cross for his heroic action.

FIRST LIEUTENANT EDWARD RUESS, USMC



According to his Navy Cross Citation, First Lieutenant Edward Ruess "suddenly encountered intense hostile fire from concealed Japanese emplacements, which seriously wounded him and resulted in numerous casualties among his men. Unable to determine the sources of enemy fire, he deliberately exposed himself to the Japanese in order that covering fire could be effectively directed."

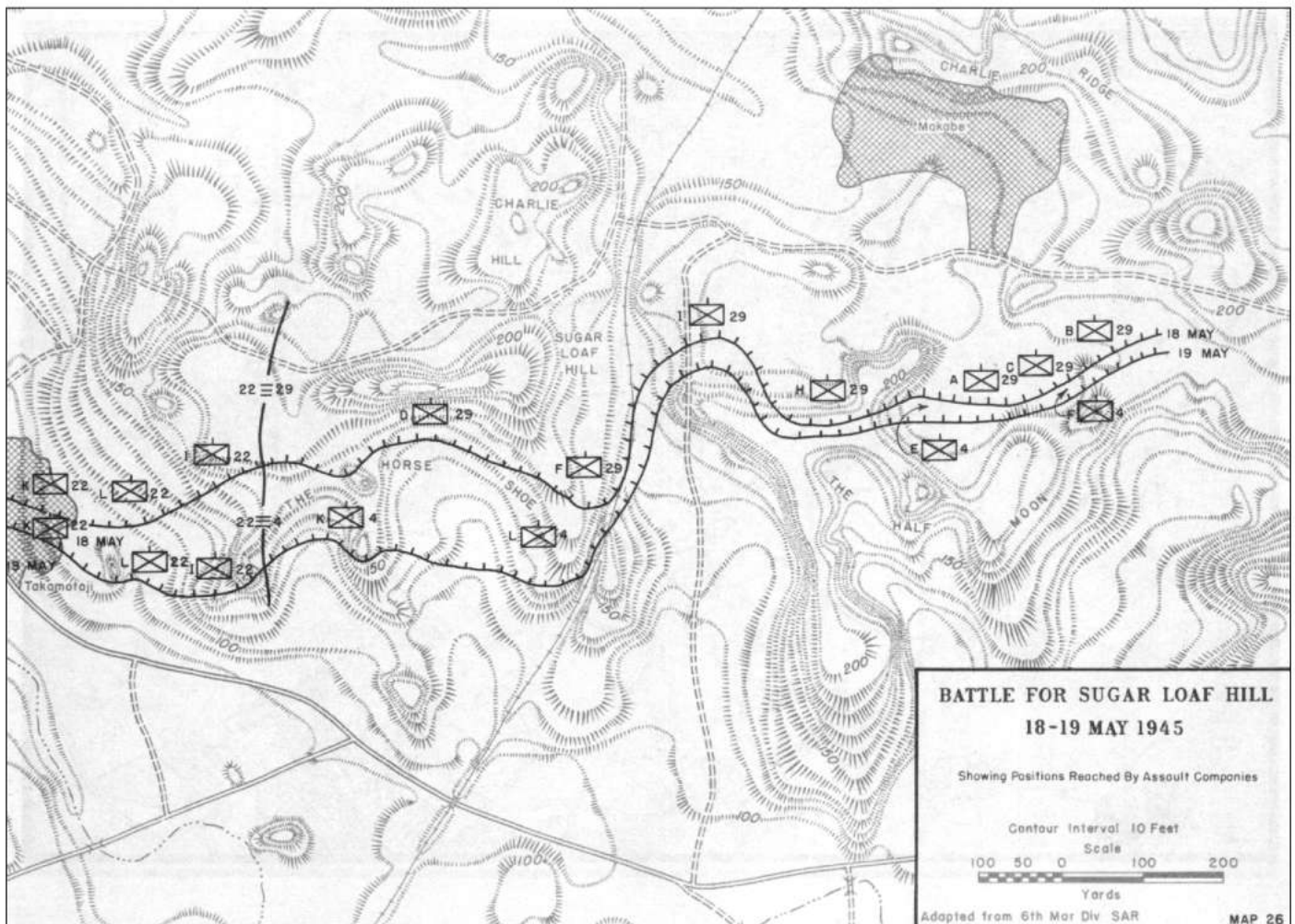
Continuing the Attack

1stLt Bair rushed forward to organize an attack. "We've got to take that hill," he said. "No one knows what we'll find up there, but we've got to go up ... it's up to us." Stebbins explained that, "Bair picked up part of the 3d Plt and its light machine-gun section and started up the draw with about 30 men and the surviving tank." Bair split the men into two groups: he took the group on the right and PltSgt DeMar took the group on the left. A machine-gun squad was placed on each flank.

"As we advanced, enemy weapons of all kinds opened up," DeMar said. "Their fire, already intense, now increased in volume ... men were going down everywhere." The Japanese were firing from tunnel apertures cut into the face of the hill. Capt Morell said that if "you got in their path

of fire, boy, you were a dead duck." A Japanese officer reported, "The garrisons on Hill 52 remained quietly in their caves while we took the fire of enemy barrages. When enemy guns stopped firing, our men dashed from their caves and engaged the enemy in hand-to-hand fighting."

DeMar spotted 1stLt Bair standing beside the tank firing a .30-caliber machine gun that he had picked up after its gunners had been killed. Extra ammunition boxes were stacked on the tank. "With the gun cradled in his arms and the ammunition belt over his shoulder, he fired burst after burst at the Japanese positions." Completely disregarding his own safety, Bair stood on the crest of the hill, a perfect target. PFC James J. Chaisson said, "It was impossible to be afraid when you saw him standing up



there.” Suddenly, Bair spun violently around, as a bullet hit him in the left arm, another plowed a furrow across his chest, and a third bullet hit him high up between his legs. “He was still standing, firing his machine gun defiantly at any movement on the slopes,” according to a Stebbins account, “and in a hole beside him his runner lay dead, and nearby another man was now broken and crying.”

Chaisson attempted to treat Bair’s wounds. “Will you sit your ass down so we can get to the holes in your legs?” he pleaded. As he started to take off Bair’s pants, the officer protested. “Go to hell. You’re not taking my damn pants off!” Chaisson and a corpsman slit open the trouser leg and doused the wound with sulfa powder. After his wounds were bandaged, Bair continued to provide covering fire. “With his sawed off trousers,” Chaisson recalled, “it looked like he was in a bathing suit.” He got hit again. “Down he went. He just couldn’t take any more.”

Lieutenant Hugh T. Crane took command of the company as its third commander.

PltSgt DeMar worked his way to the crest of the hill. Suddenly, something slammed into his leg and he collapsed, unable to get up. “Enemy fire was tearing

up the ground around me,” he explained. “My rifle stopped firing ... then it occurred to me that I was alone on Sugar Loaf with a bum leg. Behind me, someone called my name.” Corporal Howard Perrault, the driver of one of the knocked out tanks, crawled out to get him. The two made it back to the surviving tank. As DeMar was being loaded aboard, Perrault was hit in the leg and placed alongside him.

“With the wounded on the tank and the small band of survivors seeking protection alongside,” DeMar said, “we started to withdraw.” Enemy machine-gun and small-arms fire raked the area. Several rounds splattered the tank. A round hit Perrault in the neck, and he died before reaching the aid station.

As darkness fell, the last of the survivors made it off the hill. Co G had taken a terrible beating. Of the 151 men who had initiated the assault, only 72 were left by nightfall. Both the 1st and 3d Platoons were without platoon leaders and platoon sergeants. PFC Jack Houston recalled, “We’d been shot up so bad that the 3d Plt no longer existed, and our squads and fire teams were gone because the company was short people.” One veteran described Sugar Loaf: “It wasn’t a mountain, it wasn’t even a hill. It was a piece of [crap].”

As the battle raged, the Japanese garrison on Okinawa intercepted a news report: “The 6th Marine Division fought a bitter battle at Sugar Loaf Hill and had 250 casualties in one company. Only eight soldiers survived.” According to Colonel Hiromichi Yahara, the Senior Staff Officer of the 32nd Army who survived the battle, the report was sent immediately to Colonel Mita, whose troops held Sugar Loaf Hill. Mita responded ... “I find this kind of news even more encouraging,” and hardened his resolve.

Eleven attempts were made over a 12-day period before Sugar Loaf was taken; entire units were decimated in the fight for the key piece of terrain. The battle for Okinawa continued to rage for another month and extract a huge cost in the number of lives lost including more than 170,000 civilians.

Author’s bio: Dick Camp, a retired Marine colonel, is the former director of operations for the National Museum of the Marine Corps, former deputy director and director (acting) of the Marine Corps History Division and a prolific author. He is a frequent contributor to Leatherneck.



We—the Marines

Compiled by Sara W. Bock

Balancing Physical, Mental Health Is Key to FFI Course

Instructors with the Force Fitness Division from Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., visited Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, June 14, as part of a Fitness Road Show.

The road show helped the developers of the Force Fitness Instruction (FFI) course critique the course as well as their former students' teaching methods. They also were available to answer any questions the force fitness instructors and participants in the course had.

"We are looking for coaching, the biomechanics, movement of the body of the people and we make sure they're making corrections. That lets me know they're moving in the right direction," said Gunnery Sergeant Dimyas Perdue, staff non-commissioned officer in charge at the Martial Arts Center of Excellence, MCB Quantico. "It's one thing to be able to do it in a controlled environment back at the schoolhouse, but when you can get here and have a group of Marines out here and

you see it going as well as it does in the schoolhouse, that's what I like to see."

FFI is a course designed to help Marines who participate in the Body Composition Program, Remedial Conditioning Program or Marine Appearance Program improve their fitness. The course builds morale and allows them to set goals.

"I'm here to cut weight and improve my PFT, CFT and my overall fitness," said Lance Corporal Austin Green, a reconfigurable transportable consolidated automated support system technician with Marine Aircraft Group 12. "It's diverse and there's always a different challenge. It gives me something to look forward to if I'm having a tough day."

Green also said the course wasn't what he expected when he joined a month ago, but as the class progressed, it surprised and challenged him.

FFI doesn't just help Marines with physical fitness, but also with mental health.

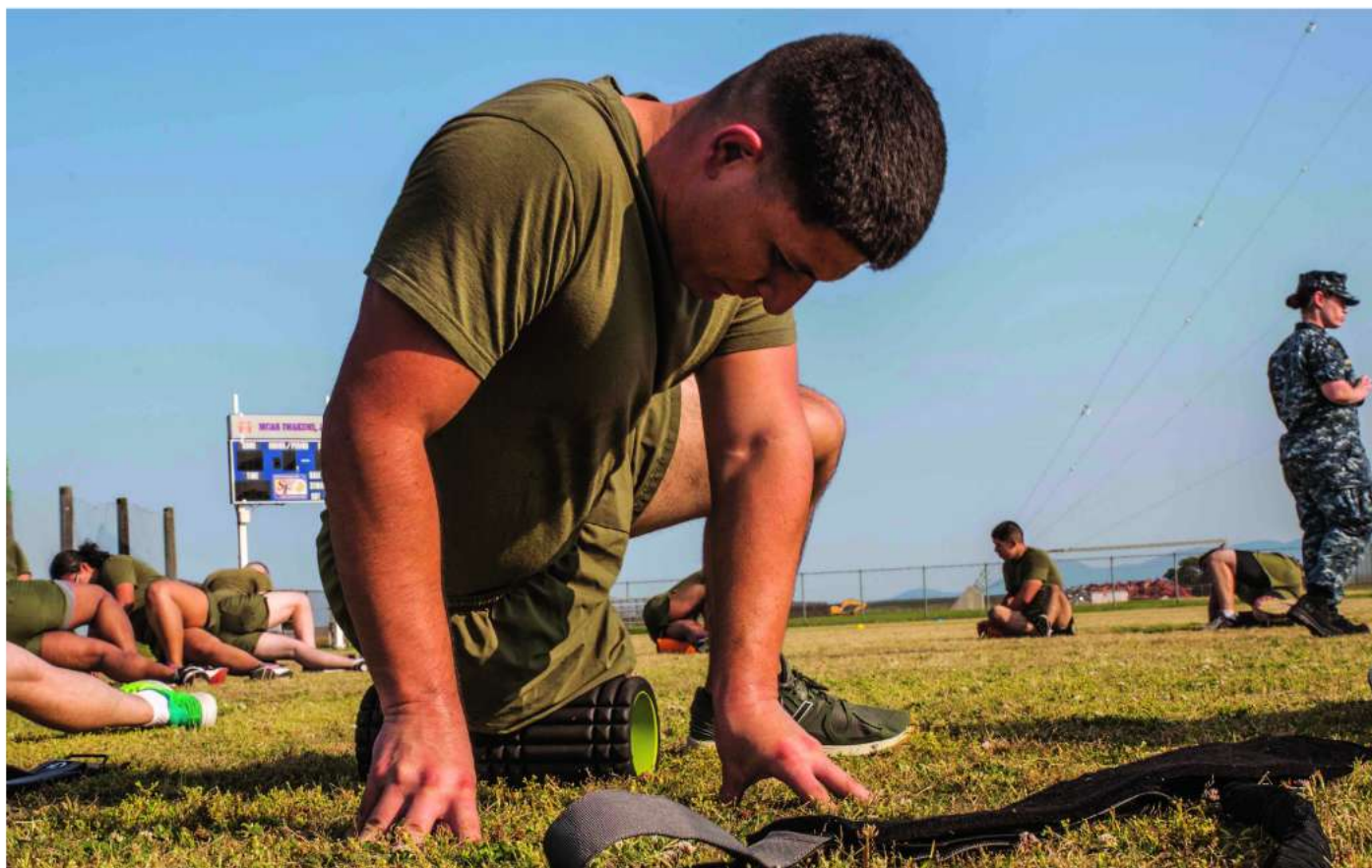
"This is my third cycle of the force fitness program. Three Marines have told me they

were suicidal and are no longer suicidal," said Staff Sergeant Charles London, the lead force fitness instructor at MCAS Iwakuni. "Fitness is not just physical. It means you're improving something. You're taking the time to challenge and improve yourself. Emotional fitness is being able to put yourself in the worst situations and control your emotions. Because of the camaraderie built in the class, those Marines are no longer suicidal. They know that there is more to life than their problems. That's why FFI is so important."

The course is constantly being improved and being able to recognize what FFI is about is important to its progression.

"Today was very successful. He's obviously had this group for quite some time and they understand force fitness," said Perdue of SSgt London. "No matter where he would go, he'd be able to conduct this program successfully because of the way he has the program structured, from the information that he puts out to the way he does the demonstrations."

LCpl Gabriela Garcia-Herrera, USMC



LCpl Daniel Ruiz, a flight equipment technician with MALS-12, rolls out his iliotibial band during a Fitness Road Show at MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, June 13. Instructors with Force Fitness Division, from MCB Quantico, Va., visited the air station to critique the FFI course and its instructors and to answer questions about the new program.

Warrior Games Marine Medalist Credits Family for Wins

On July 6, 2011, while on a foot patrol in Kajaki, a village in southern Afghanistan, Sergeant Mike Nicholson was hit by a 40-pound roadside bomb. The blast took off his right leg at the hip, his left leg through the knee and his left arm below the elbow. He suffered a traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress.

But at the 2017 Department of Defense Warrior Games in Chicago, held June 30-July 8, the medically retired former artilleryman didn't focus on the 33 surgeries he's undergone but instead, concentrated on his recovery.

Nicholson said joining the Marine Corps was appropriate for him because the military was part of his heritage.

"My whole family's military," Nicholson said. "My grandfather on my mother's side was a machine gunner in World War II during the Battle of the Bulge in the Army. My great-grandfather on my dad's side was a Navy submariner, so he captained a submarine. My dad was Navy intelligence; my uncle was Navy ordnance on an aircraft carrier in Vietnam, so it's in the blood."

Nicholson said his wife, Katie, pushed him to get involved with adaptive sports. The couple recently had a baby boy, Sawyer, and have a 12-year-old daughter, Callie.

"She started getting me out and being more active," he said of his wife. "She took me and my family to the Invictus Games in Orlando, and I got tapped into the program with the Wounded Warrior Regiment, and I've been coming out to the camps. There were definitely dark days with recovery, just kind of holed up in a room, not really wanting to be around anybody, angry at the world—but then you get out."

He said one of the challenges he faced was that he wasn't used to being a civilian.

"But if you've got a really good support system and a will to wake up in the morning and take care of the day, then you'll be all right. It takes a little bit of everything. It's definitely people all around you, organizations around you, military, everybody," Nicholson said. "Adaptive sports definitely helped me pull out of it. My wife said the other day that I wake up with a smile on my face every day now; that's a pretty big accomplishment for somebody in my particular position."

Nicholson said his daughter is active in sports—volleyball and soccer—and helps keep him active. "She plays sports for her school so it's really good to get out and play with her and be active," he said. "It's nice to be able to help her grow and watch her grow in her own sporting



Sgt Mike Nicholson, USMC (Ret), prepares to start a wheelchair race during the 2017 DOD Warrior Games in Chicago, July 2. Nicholson, who brought home seven medals from the games, credits his family for his recovery and victories. (Photo by E.J. Hersom, DOD)

world because that's what I did growing up. Being able to watch her do the same thing, it's a good reason to get up in the morning."

In high school, Nicholson excelled in soccer and golf, but played volleyball, basketball and any other sport he could. At the Warrior Games, he took home a gold medal in the 200-meter racing chair and a silver medal in the 100-meter racing chair; and five more medals in swimming—a gold medal in the 50-meter freestyle, a silver medal in the 50-meter backstroke, a gold medal in the 50-meter breaststroke, a gold medal in the 100-meter freestyle and a silver medal in the 200-meter freestyle relay.

Nicholson said his favorite sport is swimming, and his daughter enjoys racing him in the water. His family was foremost in his thoughts as he competed in the Warrior Games.

"Those three are my main motivation in the world," he said. "They're who I get up for. I just want to make them proud. I want to show my daughter it doesn't matter how hard you get knocked down, you can always get back up. There's always something you can do. We don't like to use the word 'can't' in our house."

Nicholson was especially happy his family was able to see him compete because his wife is the one who helped get

him in the gym and push him out of that dark place in his recovery. "I didn't even want to go to the gym. She started pushing me to go out and be comfortable out in public during the daytime. It was a big step for me to be able to go out with the civilians and act fine and not worry about how I look ... She's the main reason I compete. I want to show her that it wasn't for nothing," he said.

About 265 wounded, ill and injured servicemembers and veterans representing teams from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, U.S. Special Operations Command, United Kingdom and the Australian Defence Force competed in the 2017 Warrior Games, which included competitions in shooting, archery, cycling, track and field, swimming, sitting volleyball and wheelchair basketball.

Shannon Collins, DOD News

In Latvia, Marines Show Readiness To Reach Out, Establish Trust

Marines with 2d Civil Affairs Group, Force Headquarters Group, Marine Forces Reserve, partnered with Latvian soldiers to host a "Big Brother Day" for the orphans of Liepaja, Latvia, June 9.

A group of 11 Marines and 10 Latvian soldiers took 15 orphans out for a day full of activities. To start the day, the Marines gave the children Marine Corps T-shirts.

The group played games, ate lunch outside of the orphanage and took a tour around town.

"We started off the day with the Marines and Latvian soldiers splitting up into pairs and they got to meet each other," said Latvian Private Nils Students, the lead organizer of Big Brother Day. "Most of them have become friends over the course of the day," he said.

After the servicemembers became acquainted with each other, Pvt Students paired a Marine with a Latvian soldier, and each pair teamed up with a child. After the groups were established, the day kicked off with some activities.

"We started with some electric go-karts and some laser tag at a local amusement facility here in Liepaja," said Students.

After a few hours, the group had lunch and continued the day with tours of a Latvian naval ship, visiting the Amber Concert Hall in Liepaja and sightseeing around the city. The children enjoyed getting out and seeing the town with the servicemembers.

"The younger kids have been completely enamored by the soldiers," said Pvt Students. "You really see a lot of bonding, fun and happiness going on around between everyone. It is very special. The kids really need a good mentor or a soldier to spend the day with outside of the orphanage and getting the direct attention they need."

The Latvian soldiers and U.S. Marines enjoyed spending time with the children

and acting as mentors for them. Both countries benefited from participating in the event and working with one another to create bonds between the two NATO allies.

"NATO is very important to the U.S. and Latvia," said Captain Chris Markham, USMC, a civil affairs team leader with 2d CAG. "We developed bonds between the American military and the Latvian military as we learned about each other's cultures—it establishes long-term trust on and off the battlefield."

Events like Big Brother Day show that the Marine Corps is more than just a strong fighting force; the Marines are always ready to reach out.

"It's important for us to show that when we reach out our hand of friendship, that means something too," said Markham. "For us to be able to walk around the community, in uniform, shake peoples' hands and smile. That is important."

Cpl Devan Barnett, USMC

Georgia Native Carries Legacy As Family's Seventh Marine

The white school bus sat idling as its passengers eagerly awaited what was outside its folding doors. No one was certain what time it was, but the completely black skies outside the bus hinted that midnight had come and gone. Despite all the nervous men on the bus, one sat calmly with his head down, staring at his legs.

The entire situation had a ring of déjà vu for Sean G. McCool—the late-night bus

ride, the fluttering heart, the uneasy wait and butterflies before facing down a challenge. It felt like another football game. But on that night, there was no stadium awaiting him outside the bus and no stands filled with scores of supporting family members and friends—no cheerleaders to encourage him to do his best. All that awaited him outside the bus was a pair of yellow footprints and 12 challenging weeks of training.

The gravity of recruit training dawned on the 19-year-old as a drill instructor climbed aboard the bus and ordered the new recruits of "Golf" Company onto the yellow footprints. While rushing to his place, McCool felt slightly reassured knowing that this was not the first or second time a McCool came to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., in hopes of earning the title of United States Marine. He would be the seventh in a long line of proud Marines dating back to 1925, his father and brother among them.

For the Sharpsburg, Ga., native, simply coming to Parris Island to carry on family tradition would not be enough. From the initial week in receiving, when the majority of recruits are blindsided by the sudden lifestyle change, McCool took charge and did everything in his power to assist those around him who needed help. His initiative didn't go unnoticed by his superiors and he was designated as guide of Platoon 2044.

McCool said his upbringing is what prepared him to take on the role of leader during boot camp. "I have always been around Marines since I was little, and the two things they taught me that got me ready for this was to respect authority and never accept my current limits," he explained.

This attitude toward authority is in part what earned him recognition from his senior drill instructor, Staff Sergeant Devon A. Luevano. Early in the first phase of training, after a long day of drilling and impromptu physical training, the platoon kept failing to follow directions. Recruit McCool passed a test of character from Luevano.

With the platoon exhausted and frustrated and tempers running high, Luevano sat the platoon down and asked why they could not perform on the drilling field. Without missing a beat, they began blaming each other. The tall recruits blamed the shorter recruits for falling behind during the marching formations. The short recruits blamed the tall recruits for taking large steps and leaving them behind. Nearly everyone blamed the squad leaders for taking right turns when the orders were clearly for the left.

McCool did not take part in the "blame



CPL DEVAN BARNETT, USMC

Marines with 2d Civil Affairs Group, Force Headquarters Group, MARFORRES and Latvian soldiers enjoy building relationships during a "Big Brother Day" event for children from a local orphanage in Liepaja, Latvia, June 9. The Marines were in Latvia for Exercise Saber Strike 17 and made time to volunteer within the local community.

game.” When he was personally asked for the cause of the problems, he blamed only himself. He was the platoon’s guide, after all.

Afterward, Luevano said that seeing a recruit accept responsibility for the platoon’s failures was a first for him as a drill instructor.

“I’ve never had anyone say that before,” Luevano said. “That was the honest answer I always wanted to hear from a recruit.”

“It was like on my high school football team,” said McCool, who played right guard and was the lead blocker. “It’s not the team’s fault for losing games; it’s the leader’s fault.”

After graduating from recruit training June 9, McCool said he believes what he gained from the experience was the leadership skills that will be necessary in his career in the Marine Corps.

As he walked off the parade deck toward his cheering family in the stands, he was excited to be reunited with his family as the newest in a long line of Marines.

LCpl Joseph Jacob, USMC



PFC Sean G. McCool, platoon guide, Plt 2044, Golf Co, 2d Recruit Training Bn, waits before leading his platoon in its final drill evaluation at MCRD Parris Island, S.C., May 31. McCool is the seventh member of his family to earn the title “Marine.” (Photo by LCpl Joseph Jacob, USMC)

Crazy Caption Contest

Winner



CPL ANGELICA I. ANNASTAS

“You had better pray and pray good, because in 10 minutes you are mine!”

Submitted by
LCpl W. R. Trent
Morganton, N.C.

This Month’s Photo



LCPL ZACHARY M. FORD, USMC

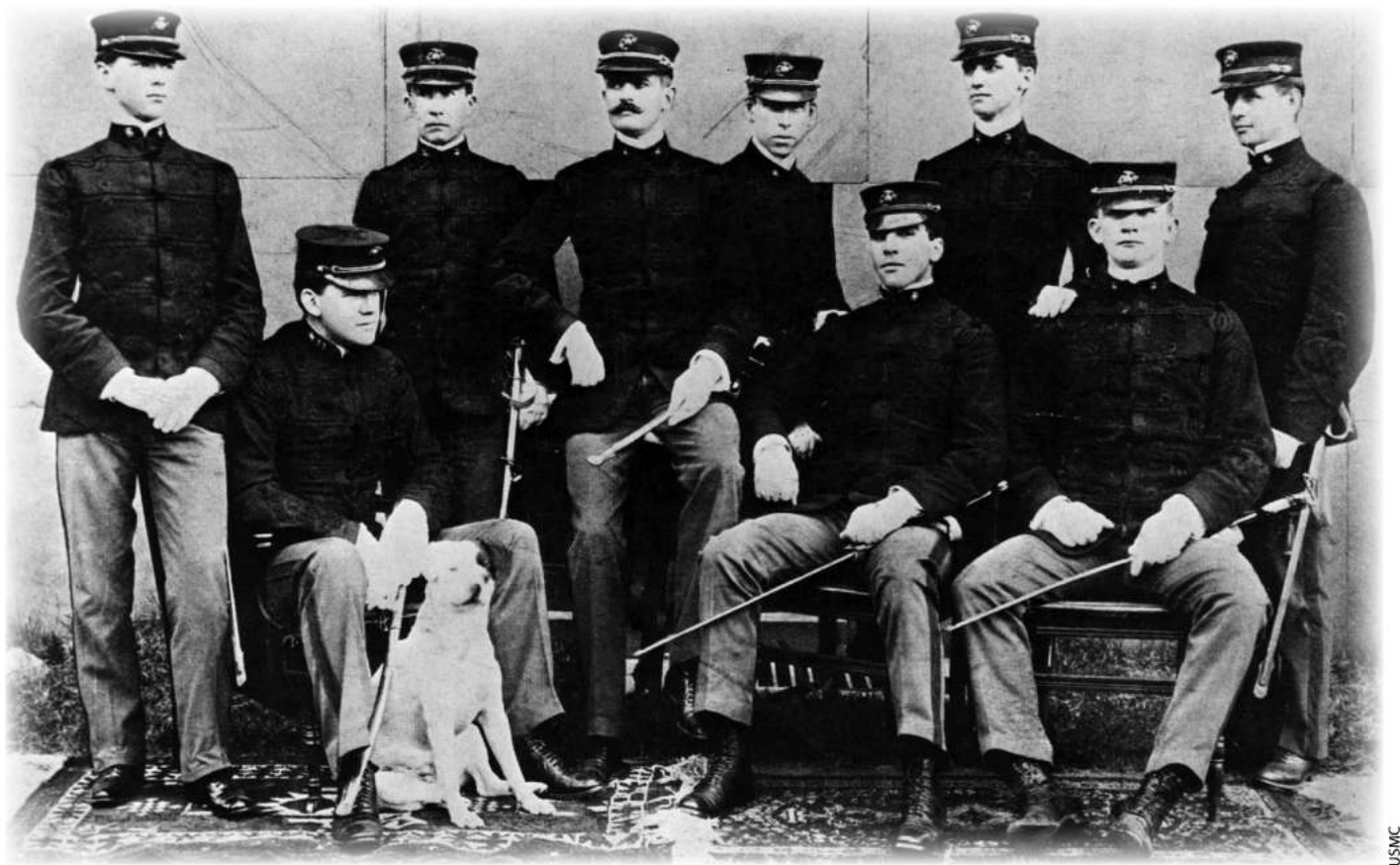
Dream up your own Crazy Caption. *Leatherneck* will pay \$25 or give a one-year MCA membership for the craziest one received. It’s easy. Think up a caption for the photo at the right and either mail or email it to us. Send your submission to *Leatherneck* Magazine, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134,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

(Caption) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ ZIP _____



This photo was taken at Marine Barracks New York. Marine officers of the time were subject to the "Articles for the Government of the United States Navy." William C. Harlee, seated right, received three non-judicial punishments and was tried twice by court-martial but was subsequently promoted to brigadier general.

ROCKS AND SHOALS

Naval Discipline in the Old Corps

By Col Glenn M. Harned, USA (Ret)

Before Congress established the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) in 1951, the Department of the Navy maintained good order and discipline in the naval service using the "Articles for the Government of the United States Navy." Equivalent to the Department of War's "Articles of War," the Articles were nicknamed "Rocks and Shoals" as a metaphor based on Article 4, Section 10, which reads: "The punishment of death, or such other punishment as a court martial may adjudge, may be inflicted on any person in the naval service ... [who] suffers any vessel of the Navy to be stranded, or run upon rocks and shoals ..."

Compared to the UCMJ, naval justice under the Articles was harsh, colorful, and quick. For cases regarding ill discipline, as opposed to those involving major crimes, the Articles were more forgiving, but 20 offenses were punishable by death under Article 4.

These included mutiny, disobeying the lawful orders of superior officers, unlawful failure to "report any message or letter from an enemy or rebel," desertion in time of war, sleeping while on watch, leaving station before being regularly relieved, unlawful destruction of public property, "striking the flag to an enemy or rebel without proper authority," "treacherous yields or pusillanimous cries for quarter in battle," "cowardice, negligence, disaffection, or withdrawal from danger," failure to prepare and clear a ship for action, failure to use "utmost exertions to join in battle," failure to encourage "inferior officers and men to fight courageously" and failure to afford "all practicable relief and assistance to vessels belonging to the United States or their allies when engaged in battle." The Articles were, first and foremost, a code of conduct for naval warriors.

Under Article 8, there were 22 non-capital offenses, including such colorful things as "profane swearing, falsehood,

drunkenness, gambling, fraud, theft, or any other scandalous conduct tending to the destruction of good morals;" quarrels, strikes, assaults, or use of "provoking or reproachful words, gestures, or menaces toward any person in the Navy;" "endeavors to foment quarrels between other persons in the Navy;" "treating superior officers with contempt or disrespect in language or deportment;" conspiracy to weaken the lawful authority of, or lessen the respect due, a commanding officer; utterance of "any seditious or mutinous words;" negligence or carelessness in obeying orders, or culpable inefficiency in the performance of duty; and violation of any lawful general order or regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy.

Courts-martial tended to be speedy for several reasons. Under Article 38, the Secretary of the Navy could extend general court-martial convening authority down to commanders of naval divisions, squadrons, flotillas, and other naval forces afloat; commandants or commanders of naval districts, bases, and stations; and commanders of any other naval force or activity not attached to a naval district, base, or station. Under Article 26, summary court-martial (now special court-martial under the UCMJ) convening authority extended down to commanders of any naval vessel, commandants or commanders of any Navy yard or naval station, and commanders of any brigade, regiment, separate or detached battalion, or Marine barracks. No independent trial judiciary or judge advocate general corps existed—the convening authority appointed the members and officers of the court from within the command. There were no pre-emptory challenges of court members; challenges for cause were rare. Only a simple majority vote was required for conviction in all but capital cases, which required a two-thirds majority.

Courts-martial were not the only means available to commanders to maintain good order and discipline. Under Article 24, officers with general and summary court-martial convening authority, including the commanders of any naval vessel, could inflict minor non-judicial punishment upon commissioned or warrant officers as well as enlisted men. Non-judicial punishment for naval officers could not exceed private reprimand and suspension from duty (with or without total or partial loss of pay), arrest, or confinement for not more than 10 days.

Another factor played a major role in Marine officer discipline. Before 1934, officer promotions were based on seniority, not selection. When a Marine officer died or retired, the most senior officer in each lower grade was promoted unless a Marine Examining Board found the officer unqualified for promotion.

A general court-martial could punish an officer by reducing his rank (seniority) in grade, thus delaying every subsequent promotion up to and including colonel. As we shall see, loss of numbers in rank was a common punishment for officers whose misconduct stranded them upon the "rocks and shoals" of the Articles. Officers were also subject to a public reprimand by the Secretary of the Navy, who typically issued the reprimand in general orders that made entertaining and humiliating reading among their fellow naval officers.

In a study of the archived personnel files of 110 Marine colonels and generals during the time frame 1898-1934, amazingly, 25 were suspended from duty, confined or placed under arrest as non-judicial punishment at least once, and 22 received at least one letter of reprimand, censure or admonition from the Secretary of the Navy. Eleven were found guilty by one or more general courts-martial, three were found not guilty, and four others avoided a trial after charges had been filed. Unlike the current zero-tolerance environment in which Marine officers serve today, the punishment of minor officer misconduct under the Articles was swift and harsh, but it was designed to modify an officer's subsequent behavior, not to ruin his career. Let us examine some historical examples.

■ BRIGADIER GENERALS CHARLES DOYEN AND JAMES MAHONEY

Charles Doyen and James Mahoney were among the first 10 U.S. Naval Academy graduates to be appointed as Marine second lieutenants on July 1, 1883. On Sept. 21, 1896, while commanding the Marine Guard on the receiving ship *Vermont*, First Lieutenant Mahoney was tried by general court-martial and found guilty of "scandalous conduct tending to the destruction of good morals" and "drunkenness." He was sentenced to loss of half his pay for one year, loss of two numbers in rank and a public reprimand by the Secretary of the Navy.



BGen James Mahoney

On July 4, 1901, Major Doyen, then a Fleet Marine Officer of the North Atlantic Fleet, underwent medical treatment on the battleship USS *Kearsarge* (BB-5) for the effects of an "alcoholic debauch" ashore. On July 26, he was tried by general court-martial and found guilty of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline." He was sentenced to the loss of two numbers in rank and a public reprimand by the Secretary of the Navy.

In 1905, two vacancies occurred for promotion to lieutenant colonel. The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Brigadier General George Elliott, wanted to promote Doyen and Mahoney, but their loss of numbers made them too junior. BGen Elliott persuaded President Theodore Roosevelt to pardon both officers on March 18, 1905, restoring them to the seniority they would have occupied had they not been reduced in rank. They were promoted to lieutenant colonel instead of the two officers who had been senior to them before the pardons.

Those officers were promoted in 1906.



BGen Charles Doyen

Subsequently Colonel Doyen was the last commander of the First Brigade in the Philippines from 1913 to 1914. In May 1917, he was selected to assemble and take command of the Fifth Regiment, the first Marine unit to serve under Army jurisdiction in France during World War I. That October, he was promoted to brigadier general. He organized and took command of the 4th Infantry Brigade (Marine) and the 2d Division, becoming the first

Marine officer to command an Army brigade and division. He was posthumously awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal.

Col Mahoney commanded provisional Marine regiments on temporary expeditionary duty in Nicaraguan waters and Panama from 1909 to 1910 and Cuba in 1912. He commanded the First Regiment at Vera Cruz, Mexico in 1914. In December 1917, he organized and took command of the 3d Provisional Brigade for expeditionary duty in Cuba and potential expeditionary duty in Mexico during WW I. He was temporarily promoted to brigadier general in August 1918.

■ BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD P. WILLIAMS

R.P. Williams was appointed a Marine second lieutenant on Oct. 7, 1899. In 1900, he failed the professional examination for promotion to first lieutenant and was suspended from promotion for one year. He lost 27 numbers in rank before being promoted in 1902, one year behind his former peers. He was promoted to captain in 1906, three years behind his former peers. During WW I, he was promoted with his former peers to major in 1917 and temporary lieutenant colonel in 1918, but he still remained 12 numbers behind them. He served as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, of the U.S. Army Sixth Division in France during the war and was rewarded with an assignment to the first post-war class of the Army General Staff College (later renamed Army War College). He did not complete the course. After an incident leading to his arrest, Williams was detached on Sept. 23, 1919, and tried by general court-martial. He was found guilty of "drunkenness" and "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline," and sentenced to lose 10 numbers in rank. Ordered to the 2d Brigade in Santo Domingo (now Dominican Republic), he served as brigade chief of staff and then executive officer of the 15th Regiment, which was fighting against banditry in the Eastern District. Subsequently, on Oct. 1, 1920, Williams was tried by another general court-martial, found guilty of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline" for discharging seven shots from his pistol into the ceiling of



the officers' mess and sentenced to lose three numbers in rank.

One would expect this to be the end of the story, but it is not. On May 5, 1921, a Marine Examining Board found Williams qualified and recommended him for permanent promotion to lieutenant colonel. The Secretary of the Navy suspended final action on the board finding and recommendation for six months and required special monthly reports from Williams' commanding officer regarding his efficiency, habits and general conduct. All of the special monthly reports were favorable. On Dec. 5, 1921, Williams was promoted to lieutenant colonel with rank from June 4, 1920, the same date of rank as his former peers, but 19 numbers behind them. He was promoted to colonel in 1928, five years behind them. He commanded the Second Regiment in Haiti from 1929 to 1930 and then served as Chief of the Haitian Constabulary with the Haitian rank of major general from 1930 to 1933. He was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal for his Haitian service. On Sept. 6, 1933, he assembled and took command of the Seventh Marine Regiment for potential expeditionary duty in Cuba. The regiment was the first to be assigned to the new Fleet Marine Force on Dec. 8, 1933. Williams was promoted to brigadier general in 1934, one of two out of 11 eligible colonels selected by the first Senior Selection Board that replaced promotion by seniority. He commanded the 1st Marine Brigade, Fleet Marine Force from 1937 to 1939, and then the Fleet Marine Force from 1939 to 1940.

■ COLONEL HENRY DAVIS

Henry Davis was temporarily appointed a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps on May 20, 1898, during the Spanish-American War. He was permanently appointed a first lieutenant on April 8, 1899. From 1903 to 1906, he received six non-judicial punishments for minor offenses resulting from a lack of self-discipline. In 1910, the Adjutant and Inspector of the Marine Corps compiled a long history of Major Davis' personal indebtedness dating back to 1905. He was tried by general court-martial in January 1911, and was found guilty of being "disrespectful in language to his superior officer while in the execution of his office," "violation of a lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy," and "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline." He was sentenced to lose 10 numbers in rank.

In 1915, while commanding the Marine Barracks Guam, Maj Davis became involved in a dispute with the Naval Governor of Guam and Commandant of the naval station. The dispute escalated to the Navy Department, and Davis was relieved from command. On July 8, 1915, the Secretary of the Navy issued Davis a letter of censure for lack of appreciation of the obligation of



loyalty and dependable judgment in military administrative matters. In Davis' defense, the Navy captain later was found to be "insane."

In July 1916, a Marine Examining Board found Davis professionally and morally unqualified for promotion to lieutenant colonel, citing his lack of financial responsibility and the occurrences on Guam. The Secretary of the Navy suspended Davis from promotion for one year. As a result of the Marine Corps expansion during WW I, Davis lost 14 more numbers before he was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1917, when the Marine Corps needed every field officer it had. During the war, Davis commanded the U.S. Naval forces fighting German-sponsored insurgency in the eastern provinces of Santo Domingo from 1917 to 1918. He was temporarily promoted to colonel with his former peers in 1918 and permanently promoted to colonel in 1923, two years behind them. In 1927, he assembled and took command of

the China Composite Expeditionary Force to reinforce the 3d Brigade in China. He later commanded the Provisional Regiment, 3d Brigade, and then the Fourth Regiment at Shanghai from 1927 to 1928.

■ COLONEL RUSH WALLACE

Rush Wallace was appointed a Marine second lieutenant on Dec. 29, 1899. On Nov. 3, 1904, while commanding a company of the Marine battalion at Camp Elliott, Isthmian Canal Zone, Panama, Captain Wallace was confined to the limits of the post for 10 days for "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline." On April 8, 1913, while commanding the Marine Detachment on the battleship USS *Nebraska* (BB-14), Capt Wallace was suspended from duty for being under the influence of alcohol aboard ship. He was placed under arrest on April 24. On April 28, a general court-martial found him guilty of "drunkenness" and "scandalous conduct tending to the destruction of good morals," and sentenced him to lose five numbers in rank. During WW I, he was promoted with his former peers to major in 1917 and temporary lieutenant colonel in 1918. He was promoted to colonel in 1925, almost two years behind his former peers. During the Second Nicaraguan campaign, he commanded the Fifth Regiment and Southern Area from 1928 to 1929 and was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal.



■ BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM HARLLEE

William "Bo" Harllee was appointed a Marine second lieutenant on Feb. 28, 1900. From 1900 to 1902, while serving with the First Brigade in the Philippines, he received three non-judicial punishments for minor offenses. In September 1901, a general court-martial found him guilty of assault and battery and sentenced him to suspension from duty for six months, loss of half pay for six months and a public reprimand by the commander in chief of the Asiatic Station. He survived to become the captain of the Marine Corps Rifle Team and was known as "The Father of Rifle Practice in the Marine Corps." He was regarded in his own time as the pre-eminent U.S. authority on small arms marksmanship training. During 1919 to 1921, he worked to establish the Marine Corps vocational training program and served as the first director of the Marine Corps Institute.

In 1921, Lieutenant Colonel Harllee took command of the 15th Regiment in Santo Domingo. He conducted a successful campaign against banditry in the district, but the military governor and brigade commander relieved him from command on March 13, 1922,



and convened a court of inquiry from March 23 to June 19 to investigate the morale, discipline and performance of the regiment. There is evidence that the court heard false testimony motivated by the political influence of a great American bank

that profited from continued banditry. Allegedly, the bank felt threatened by Harllee's investigation into the complicity of the sugar industry with the bandits. Based on the findings of the court of inquiry, Harllee was tried by general court-martial from Oct. 1-10, 1922, and found not guilty of disobeying the lawful order of his superior officer (10 specifications), and conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline (two specifications). Whatever the truth behind the allegations against Harllee, he was reassigned to Haiti as second-in-command of the Eighth Regiment from 1922 to 1923, then served at Headquarters Marine Corps as executive officer of the Division of Operations and Training from 1923 to 1925. Col Harllee returned to Haiti for duty as chief of staff of the Haitian Constabulary with the Haitian rank of brigadier general from 1926 to 1927.

Today, it is unimaginable that any sample of 110 Marine generals and colonels would find this kind of disciplinary record. None of these officers would have been promoted under the current system, yet they all performed well in duties of great responsibility. Perhaps the Marine Corps would benefit from a more forgiving naval justice system that allows officers to sur-

vive minor indiscretions and lapses in judgment if they also demonstrate the potential for greatness.

Author's bio: Col Glenn M. Harned is a retired Army Infantry and Special Forces officer now working as an independent defense consultant. A distinguished graduate of the Marine Corps War College, he

has written military concepts and doctrine, and articles in military journals. His first book, "Marine Corps Generals, 1899-1936," received the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's 2016 Colonel Joseph Alexander Award. His second book, "Marine Corps Colonels, 1892-1928," is a companion work published in March 2017.



SEA STORY OF THE MONTH

Day of Destiny

From the 500-yard line the target looked like a saltine cracker with a black pinhead for a bull's-eye. I wasn't scared; I was terrified.

My future, my honor, my dignity, possibly my life hinged on one last round of .30-caliber ball ammunition.

It was August 1951. Qualification day for Platoon 308 at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. I needed to shoot a four to qualify as a marksman. Suffice it to say that I was not the pride of the regiment. My only consolation was that I was already in the prone position and wouldn't have far to drop into a dead faint if I fired a three or less with my final round.

As I lay there in an agony of uncertainty, I slowly became aware that my rifle coach was handing me the black-tipped bullet that would determine my fate. It was time to lock and load.

He spoke to me and the conversation went something like this:

Coach: "What do you need to qualify?"

Terrified Recruit: "A four, Sir."

Coach: "What are you shooting for?"

Terrified Recruit: "A four, Sir."

Coach: "Not in my Marine Corps. We don't settle for 'good enough.' We always go for perfect. Forget the four. Give me a five."

He rose and stepped back. I tugged the M1 to my shoulder, sighted, squeezed the trigger and hit the bull's-eye dead center. In my exuberance, I dared to look around. My coach and my DI were both grinning. I had become a Marine.

I never forgot that lesson. Since that day I have always followed the philosophy that "good enough" is not good enough. And I am still a Marine.

R.A. Gannon
Rochester, N.H.

Home Free ... Or So I Thought

It was the summer of 1984 and those of us at Second Force Recon Company were enduring the boredom of barracks life on a Sunday night at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Someone from our group managed to produce a

He emptied all of
the contents of my
laundry bag.
I figured for sure I
was done because I
had rolled the spent
canister in a towel.

white star cluster. I can't remember if my services were volunteered, but I ended up being the one to discharge the projectile.

Still celebrating the success of "our" launch, we received a knock on our door. Upon opening it, before us stood the duty officer from ANGLICO, whose barracks was located next to ours. The duty officer entered our room and dislodged everything in search of the spent canister. At one point he emptied all of the contents of my laundry bag. I figured for sure I was done because I had rolled the spent canister in a towel and placed it into my laundry bag. After the contents of my laundry bag were dumped on the

deck, my towel somehow miraculously stayed rolled up. The spent canister was not discovered and I thought I was home free.

Apparently word of the previous night's stunt of illuminating Camp Lejeune had made it to the CG the next morning, and I was told to appear before my first sergeant who asked if I had been the culprit of the previous night's activities. Not being able to lie, I volunteered all.

That same day I appeared before my commanding officer. I will never forget his words. "The only reason why you are not in the brig is because your OIC spoke very highly of you," he said.

Then he produced the corporal warrant I did not know I was to receive, and promptly ripped it in two.

Cpl Stephen Bly
USMC, 1982-85
Rochester, N.Y.

A Doctor's Best Salute

In 1966 I was an intern at Philadelphia General Hospital. In the Vietnam-era essentially all new physicians were drafted into the military. I had beaten the draft by signing up with the Navy during my senior year in medical school. I knew nothing about Navy duties but the Navy had mailed me a pink reserve ensign ID card, not laminated, and with no photograph.

One day my roommate and I decided to visit the nearest Navy facility, the Philadelphia Navy Yard. My Volkswagen bug delivered us down Broad Street to the main gate. There was a Marine guard, who looked about 7 feet tall, at the gate. We stopped and the Marine asked us what we wanted. I explained to him that, "we just wanted to look around." He asked us

for identification and after thinking about that strange (for a civilian) request for a few moments, I reached for my billfold and pulled out my pink ID card. He examined it, then seeing that I was an officer, saluted. My right hand was on the car's gearshift, and not knowing what else to do, I gave him my best left-handed salute.

Only after driving a few yards, almost under the bows of the gray moth-balled warships, did I realize the inappropriateness of the whole encounter. We did look around, and I imagine the Marine guard is still talking about the Medical Corps and their lack of military courtesy.

CAPT Henry J.C. Schwartz
MC, USN (Ret)
Fredericksburg, Va.

Rack Issue

Upon returning to CONUS in February 1969, after a tour in Vietnam, I reported to H&S Company, Second Battalion, Second Marine Regiment, Second Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C. After my first week I "swooped" home for the weekend.

When I arrived, my father asked how my first week went and I told him it would get better once I was assigned a rack and wall locker. I told him I had the rack at night and another Marine who worked in the mess hall had the rack during the day. He said nothing else and I headed back to Lejeune on Sunday. The issue of me having a rack went no further, or at least I thought so.

Both my parents were veterans of World War II. My father was a private first class in the Army and my mother was a sergeant in the Marine Corps.

I arrived back at Lejeune

just in time for morning formation. I was singled out by the company gunny and followed him to the commander's office. In the office were a major and a chaplain. I knew right then this was not good news, assuming someone back home was sick or injured. The major informed me he was there to ensure that I had my own rack and wall locker and knew where they were located. No one else would use the rack.

I "swooped" home the following weekend and, when I walked through the front door there sat my father, reading his newspaper. He lowered the paper and asked how my week had been. I told him "things had improved." He winked then went back to his newspaper. The rack issue never came up again.

Sgt Leonard Armstrong
USMC, 1967-70
Westminster, Md.

at the foot of the stage and noticed a piano player tuning up the piano and a Marine sweeping the stage near the piano. I jumped up on the stage and said to the Marine that the gunny told me to relieve him—lie #1. He said, "Great!" and handed me the broom.

I continued to sweep and moved closer to the piano player and asked him if it was possible to get a picture of Betty since I had gone to high school with her—lie #2. He said, "Sure, just go around back after the show," he was certain she would oblige.

The show was great and after it was winding down, I moved around the rear of the stage area. What I saw posed a problem. The stage was completely surrounded by an 8-foot cyclone fence with a coiled barbed wire topping. There was a path from the stage which led to a tent where the troupe could

troupe as they left the rear exit of the stage. The music ceased, and it was followed by humongous applause.

Betty was among the first girls out, then the piano player and a MP came out the door; the group proceeded to follow the path. As they were about 10 feet from my position, I swung down from the limb, directly in front of the file. My action startled the troupe, as well as the MP. I noticed he was preparing to draw his weapon.

The piano player immediately recognized me and said, "Oh, Betty, this Marine said he went to high school with you and would like a picture with you." She gave me this weird look and said, "I went to an all-girls high school."

I took that opportunity to grab her around the shoulder and took the photograph. We had a few moments for a chat and I knew I was suddenly \$10 richer.

Joe Ade
Haddonfield, N.J.

Chesty's Pet

In the early 1950s I had minor eye surgery at Camp Pendleton, Calif. The doctor warned me not to go outside for at least an hour after the procedure. I decided I'd be able to make chow formation if I left right away so I started hitchhiking.

Suddenly, I heard a deep voice, "Marine, don't you know how to salute officers?" It was Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller. I said, "Sir, I just had eye surgery and can't see, Sir!" Chesty ordered me to climb aboard. I said, "Sir, if I can get a ride to 13 area, I'll be all right. I have a light duty chit and some pain pills." Chesty said, "You are going to the hospital, old man." When Chesty called you old man, he liked you.

Upon arriving at the hospital, Chesty yelled, "Who was the idiot that sent this Marine to the barracks after eye surgery? I don't

want any Marine leaving this hospital until he is fit to fight!" Within two minutes I was in a hospital bed. I asked the corpsman if I could have another blanket. He said, "You're supposed to be cold, this is a hospital not a damn bakery!"

I could still hear Chesty yelling so I started to get up. The corpsman asked me, "Where the hell are you going?" I said, "I am going to go ask Chesty if I can have another blanket."

That was the most stupid thing I could have done. From then on, they called me "Chesty's Pet." They accused me of flagging down Chesty and fat-mouthing the staff at the hospital.

The next morning the corpsman told me to open my mouth. He stuck a long glass thermometer in and about 20 minutes later, came back and said, "Gee, my goodness we have to do it all over again. I got the wrong thermometer. I used a rectal instead of an oral one."

After two days I had the stitches removed and the other eye operated on.

Those corpsmen went out of their way to give me a hard time the entire time I was there.

GySgt Manuel R. Espudo
USMC (Ret)
Banning, Calif.

Do you have an interesting story from your time in the Corps that will give our readers a good chuckle? Maybe it's a boot camp tale or a good old sea story that will have us in stitches? We would love to hear your stories. Write them down (500 words or less) and send them to: Patricia Everett, Leatherneck Magazine, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134, or email them to p.everett@mca-marines.org. We offer \$25 or a one-year MCA&F membership for the "Sea Story of the Month." Spread the word!



COURTESY OF JOE ADE

Joe Ade and Betty Hutton were photographed after she performed at Camp Tripoli, Korea, January 1952.

\$10 Bet

As a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment in January 1952, we learned we would be entertained by a USO troupe at Camp Tripoli, Korea. I told another member of our squad I would like to get a picture of Betty Hutton who would be featured in the show. He bet me \$10 I would not get within 5 feet of her. She was, at that time, a well-known actress and dancer.

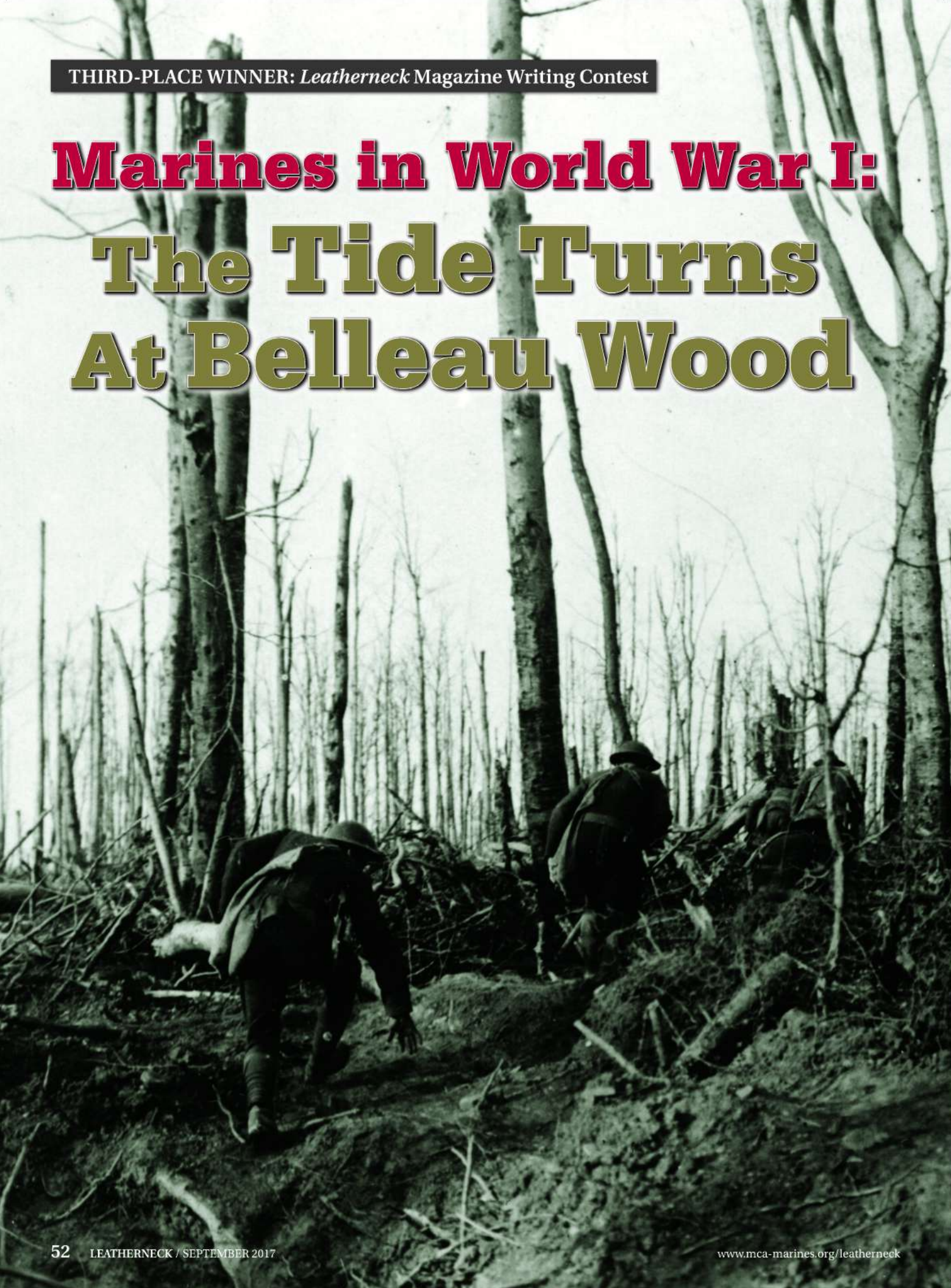
Prior to the show I was


change and wait for the chopper that would transport them to the next unit. Security was rather heavy with a number of MPs. I needed a plan.

I noticed a large tree outside of the fence and a limb that went over the fence that was ideally positioned and might permit me access to accomplish the mission at hand. I climbed the tree, crawled out on the limb over the fence and lay there prepared to ambush the

THIRD-PLACE WINNER: *Leatherneck* Magazine Writing Contest

Marines in World War I: The Tide Turns At Belleau Wood





By SSgt Linda A. Scott, USMC

Editor's note: The following article is the third-place winner of the Leatherneck Writing Contest. Maj Richard A. "Rick" Stewart, USMC (Ret) sponsored the contest, which is open to enlisted Marines, through the Marine Corps Association & Foundation. Upcoming issues of Leatherneck will feature other submissions.

Nearly four years after the outbreak of World War I, the United States took part in its first major battle of the war. It was a ferocious battle that cemented the reputation of the U.S. Marines as an unrelenting and unwavering fighting force. Approximately 50 miles north of Paris, the Fourth and Fifth Marine Divisions fought the Battle of Belleau Wood.

WW I was separated into two sides: the Central Powers and the Allied Powers. Initially, the Central Powers only consisted of Germany and Austria-Hungary. Subsequently, the Central Powers were joined by the Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria. The major hitters in the Central Powers were located between Russia to the east and France to the west.

The Allies initially only consisted of France and Russia—both of which had similar territorial aspirations regarding the land that separated them. It was not until the Germans invaded Belgium that Great Britain agreed to side with France to fight the Central Powers. The U.S. attempted to remain neutral during the onset of the war, but eventually joined the Allies when war was declared on Germany. The U.S. was not a member of the Allies during the war, but instead considered itself an Associated Power. Initially, Belgium also attempted to remain neutral, but was drawn in when it was invaded and occupied by Germany.

Disputes between Austria-Hungary and Serbia acted as the ignition source of a large powder keg. Germany had an interest in annexing parts of Russia, and France wanted to annex territories to its east. The Russians began mobilization efforts as a security measure due to mounting issues between Serbia and the Central Powers. Seeing this great mobilization as a threat to the Central Powers, Germany vowed to help its ally, Austria-Hungary, and began to mobilize for war. Russia promised it had no intent of going to war, but that it was simply preparing for the increasing conflict between Austria-Hungary and Serbia.

The mobilization of both Russia and Germany led the German government to inform Russia that they were in a state of

war. Upon declaration of war on Russia by Germany, France declared war on Germany in order to support its ally. Germany found itself fighting on both the Eastern and Western Fronts. To put a quick end to the dispute with France on their Western Front, Germany attempted to move through Belgium to create a shortcut to Paris. The invasion of Belgium led Great Britain to also declare war against the Germans. Several smaller states followed suit and declared war on Germany and Austria-Hungary in support of Allied efforts.

Upon America's entry into the war, President Woodrow Wilson was cautious. Though he believed WW I was the result of actions by both Central and Allied Powers, he sided with the Allies and made attempts to aid them economically. He had no interest in changing the German regime. Wilson felt that Germany's current Reich would be the most influential and had no intention excluding the Reich during post-war negotiations, politically or economically.

As the war progressed, the Germans managed to break through Allied lines and move into France. A Russian surrender on the Eastern Front led to an increase of German soldiers taking offensive positions. The soldiers who had fought in Russia were now in a position to use their experience on the Western Front. Once the U.S. joined the war, the Central Powers knew they needed to advance before the U.S. was able to fully deploy their troops to Europe. The German Army reached the Marne River at Château-Thierry, roughly 60 miles north of Paris. When Château-Thierry fell, the Germans continued their advance to France's capital and moved into Belleau Wood, a 200-acre forest where the German troops met the U.S. Army's 2d Division, which had Marines under its command.

Prior to the official start of the battle, the Germans were able to break through the French lines near the location of the Marines. To fill the hole created by the German advance, the Marines conducted a forced march throughout the night, which put them in a position to help establish a 12-mile line of defense north of the highway that led to Paris.

Moving through the shattered woods, Marines kept low as remaining German gunners looked for targets.

COURTESY OF MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

The U.S. had two options at this point in the war. As they were not yet fully deployed, the U.S. forces were not at their full strength or potential. The Germans had overcome fighting on two fronts and still were advancing. The Allied line could either dig in or make aggressive offensive movements to push Germany back.

The American troops were under the command of Army General John Pershing, whose vast military experience was gained in a variety of different situations and environments. GEN Pershing had learned the importance of knowing one's enemy, which later came in handy during his assignment as the commander of the American Expeditionary Force.

French and British numbers had been heavily depleted and they requested American troop reinforcements to strengthen their thin lines. GEN Pershing refused to allow his men to fill the empty spaces among the Allies' lines. He believed the full force of the U.S. troops needed to be present and established before spreading them all over the battlefields. He did allow British generals to command some groups of U.S. military and allowed all-black units to be integrated into the British and French ranks. He believed the training of the U.S. troops was vastly different than that of the Allies, and therefore the effectiveness of U.S. forces would be depleted through full integration. GEN Pershing also believed that a unified front of American troops would be intimidating to the German soldiers and would weaken enemy morale. During his initial command and establishment of the American Expeditionary Force, Pershing was able to increase the initial count of 130,000 American troops into a well-trained force of more than 2 million fighting men.

The decision was made for the U.S. troops to take an offensive position and move into Belleau Wood to clear it of Germans and push back opposition forces. On the first day of fighting, Marines had to cross a wheat field to move positions. During this time, GEN Pershing realized he had underestimated the effectiveness of the machine gun, as constant fire from the German machine-gun nests created treacherous conditions for the Allies. The nests were so well-positioned that intersecting fields of fire made the movement of American troops exceptionally difficult and dangerous. Eliminating the nests was a large hurdle

for the Americans to overcome. More than 1,000 Marines lost their lives on the first day, representing the largest number of Marine casualties until that point in their history.

During this initial push into Belleau Wood by the Marines on June 6, 1918, the open fields and superior positions of the Germans led the French commanders



Capt Lloyd Williams commanded 51st Co, 2d Bn, 5th Marine Regiment at Belleau Wood. He famously declared, "Retreat, hell! We just got here!" Wounded on June 11, 1918, his first thoughts were of his Marines as he said, "Don't bother with me. Take care of my good men." He died later that day.

to advise the Marines to turn back. The Marines proved unwavering in their dedication to duty and refused to retreat. Marine Captain Lloyd Williams' response to the suggestion of retreat later became one of the Corps' most famous quotes: "Retreat, hell! We just got here!"

The U.S. Secretary of the Navy de-

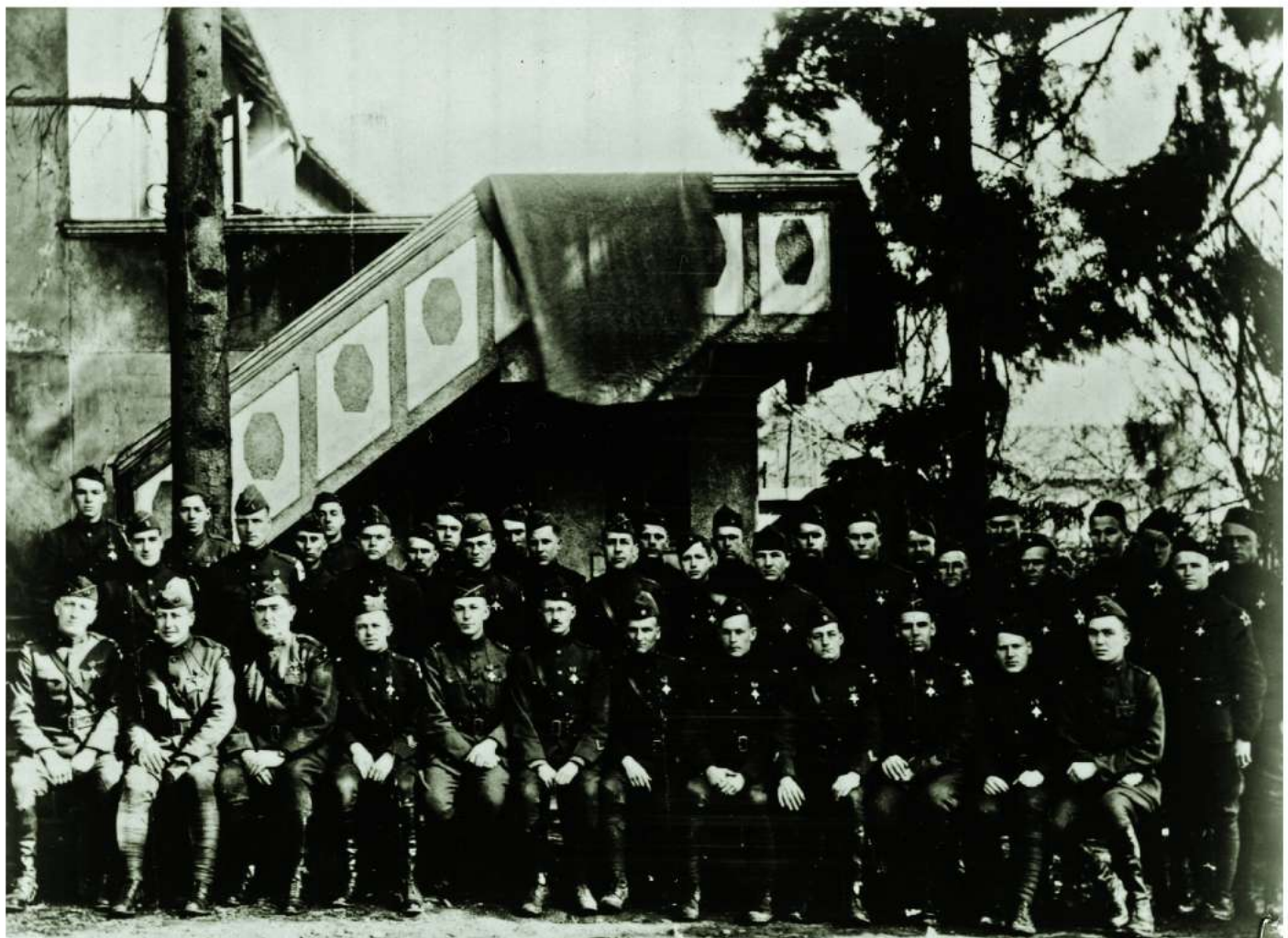
scribed the actions of the Marines as they moved across the open fields prior to entering the woods as proceeding "strictly according to American methods." The Marines pushed through in waves, beginning with a rush, then a halt, then another rush. As they pushed forward, stepping over the bodies of their fallen comrades, they remained relentless and determined to complete the mission. As companies of 250 men fell to 60 or less, sergeants took command and remained steadfastly dedicated to duty.

Eventually, the Marines were able to push past the fields and into the forest. The groupings of trees that had previously made passage through the fields difficult now proved to be an asset. Using the trees for cover and concealment, the Marines continued to advance with a reduced risk of machine-gun fire. The German commander was determined not to let the Americans take back the forest and called forces from the rear to reinforce their decreasing numbers. The Marines repelled the counterattacks and maintained overall control of their positions.

Another great success of the Battle of Belleau Wood was executed through the demonstration of superior Marine marksmanship. Upon entry into the woods, Marine snipers used the trees to maintain concealment. German machine-gun fire gave away their positions, allowing Marine snipers to identify and pick off some gunners. Over the next three weeks, the Marines continued to fight their way through the forest, reinforced by French and American Army artillery.

As the Marines advanced, they engaged in hand-to-hand combat with German machine gunners. Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels described the Marines as almost savage in their efforts to defeat the Germans, explaining that, "United States Marines, bare-chested, shouting their battle cry of 'E-e-e-e-y-a-a-h-h-h yip!' charged straight into the murderous fire from those guns, and won!" Although many charged, often only one would make it to the intended target. Often, with only his bayonet as a weapon, the Marine would either kill or capture the German behind the gun.

The fighting continued for several weeks. The Marines found themselves with dwindling supplies and men. They often fought for days with no sleep, food or water. Commanders watched their men



The officers and men of the 5th Marines fought gallantly at the battle of Belleau Wood

collapse from exhaustion and listened to their wounded call for water that was not there. Marines slept in the shallow holes that had been created by enemy artillery. Commanders and Marines witnessed comrades torn to pieces by machine-gun fire, yet continued to push forward. Wounded men continued to fight until their last breath.

Exhausted, when others would have ceded, the Marines persevered through more attacks by the Germans in attempts to retake the forest. Although tired, hungry and thirsty, the Marines continued to hold. Commanders wrote back to the rear that their men were wearied and received instructions to continue to hold the line. One such message read: "Losses heavy. Difficult to get runners through. Some have never returned. Morale excellent, but troops about all in. Men exhausted."

Even with such limitations, the response was always the same: the line must be held. The Marines continued to push. Little by little, their line advanced. On June 24, the Marines initiated their final push. Beginning with bombardment by French and American artillery, the Marines cleared the last of the Germans out

of Belleau Wood. To do this, they once again faced sweeping machine-gun fire, necessitating more hand-to-hand combat and use of bayonets. It is said that the Marines relied on their iron will and sheer nerve for the duration of their time in the forest. On June 26, Major Maurice Shearer was finally able to send the signal: "Woods now entirely—U.S. Marine Corps."

Less than six months after the taking of Belleau Wood, World War I ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. The efforts of the Marines, with the assistance of Allied artillery, had broken the German line, stopping their advance. Reports stated that the Marines had saved France from German invasion and occupation.

A firsthand description of the battle by Colonel Frederick A. Wise ends with an emotional testament to the end state of the Marines. "At the battle's end ... I lined the men up and looked them over. It was enough to break your heart. I had left Courcelles May 31st with 965 and 26 officers—the best battalion I ever saw anywhere. I had taken them, raw recruits for the most. 10 months I had trained them. I had seen them grow into Marines. Now, before me stood 350 men

and six officers. 615 men and 19 officers were gone."

The Germans were so impressed by the relentless fighting of the Marines during the Battle of Belleau Wood that they nicknamed them "Teufelshunde." Loosely translated to "devil dog," the nickname is still used today although there is ongoing debate regarding the actual term used by the Germans, with some suggesting that another more commonly used term, "Höllenhunde," was used to describe the Marines as "hell hounds." Regardless of the origin, the devil dogs who fought at Belleau Wood so impressed GEN Pershing that he said, "The deadliest weapon in the world is a Marine and his rifle."

Author's bio: SSgt Linda A. Scott is a staff noncommissioned officer in charge/collateral duty quality assurance representative in the flight line work center of VMM-164, MAG 39, MCAS Camp Pendleton. She is a student with Columbia College working on her bachelor's degree in history. She has been in the Marine Corps since 2005 and has twice deployed to Afghanistan.



Passing the Word

Compiled by Sara W. Bock

"Books on Bases" Program Comes to Pendleton

Blue Star Families' "Books on Bases" partnered with The Walt Disney Company's VolunTEARS to bring books to children at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., July 8.

Approximately 150 people participated in the giveaway, which included a book reading by Colonel Gary Johnson, Chief of Staff, Marine Corps Installations-West, and Alexa Garcia, a Disney ambassador. The children in attendance also made crafts including paper swords, crowns and bookmarks.

Books on Bases was created by Blue Star Families to positively impact the lives of military children through the power of reading. Since the program's inception in 2009, Books on Bases has impacted the lives of more than 160,000 children of servicemembers nationwide.

"We want to provide military families with a resource that will not only boost their children's morale and recognize their service but also support their literary skills and help them better experience their feelings," said Noeleen Tillman, Chief Operating Officer with Blue Star Families. "Children can lose themselves in a book and reading can provide an escape from the challenges of military life."

Approximately 3,250 books donated by The Walt Disney Company were provided to the children who attended the Camp Pendleton event.

"It's a really neat way to spread some Disney magic to military families across the country," said Garcia. "When it comes down to it, the life and smiles that these kids bring to events like these make it worth every moment."

To learn more about Books on Bases and view their upcoming events, visit www.bluestarfam.org/resources/family-life/blue-star-books-on-bases/.

LCpl Dylan Chagnon, USMC

At Workshop, Marines Learn to "Ace the Interview"

Marine Corps Community Services hosted an "Ace the Interview" workshop for servicemembers and civilians at Camp Foster, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan, July 11.

During the workshop, students learned about different types of interviews and were provided with tips and tricks on how to conduct themselves in order to attract potential employers.

"You want to do or say something at the end that really leaves them with a good impression of you," said Priscilla Myles, a transition advisor with MCCS and the instructor for the workshop. "You don't know how many other interviews that person may have, and if you interview first, you want them to remember you."

Although the workshop is designed for Marines transitioning to civilian careers, even Marines who aren't planning to leave the Corps can attend and use the skills



PFC KELSEY SEYMOUR, USMC

Priscilla Myles, a transition advisor with MCCS, teaches an Ace the Interview workshop at Camp Foster, MCB Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan, July 11.

they learn to help further their military career.

"If they are interested in meritorious boards or something like that, we can help them," said Myles. "We can help them direct their answers toward their specific skills and specific experiences they have had while they have been in the military."

Sergeant Mauricio Chavez, a student in the workshop, learned how to prepare



Col Gary S. Johnston, Chief of Staff, MCI-West, reads aloud to children and their families at the Books on Bases event at MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., July 8. Prior to the reading, Alexa Garcia, an ambassador with The Walt Disney Company, addressed the crowd. (Photos by LCpl Dylan Chagnon, USMC)



SGT JENNIFER WEBSTER, USMC

Marines and spouses with 9th MCD gather during the Family Readiness Conference at the Naval Reserve Training Center Fort Snelling, Minn., June 23. The event allowed the families of recruiters from across the district to engage and connect.

for an interview by researching a desired position, determining proper attire and preparing to answer different types of questions.

"I had a basic understanding, but this class helped increase my awareness of what an interview could be like," said Chavez, a tactical air defense controller with Marine Air Control Squadron 4, Marine Air Control Group 18, First Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

According to Chavez, the STAR tool he learned during the workshop stood out to him the most. STAR stands for situation, task, actions and results. It is a way to use real-life examples from the past to demonstrate one's skill level and experience. Explaining what the situation was and the task that needed to be resolved, the actions taken and the end results of the action give the interviewer an understanding of the prospective employee's abilities.

"I wrote down a lot of notes and I think they're going to be very useful in the future," said Chavez. "I think I am better prepared due to this class."

MCCS also provides career assessments, resume writing and professional communications workshops at Marine Corps camps across Okinawa and at other installations worldwide.

III MEF

For Recruiters' Families, Support is Key

The 9th Marine Corps District (MCD), also known as the "Midwest Marines," held its annual Family Readiness Conference at the Naval Reserve Training Center Fort Snelling, Minn., June 20-23.

The conference was designed to bring spouses together and allow them to gain a better understanding of their Marine's role in recruiting.

The primary mission of 9th MCD, headquartered at Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill., is to support recruiting efforts in the Midwest; however, it's also important to take care of recruiters' families and keep them engaged and connected through the Family Readiness Program.

The program serves as the primary communication link between the command and the recruiters' families. The district family readiness officer (FRO), Elizabeth Carty, works in conjunction with deputy FROs to provide information and support to Marines and families across the Midwest to enhance personal readiness and quality of life.

"The 9th Marine Corps District Family Readiness Conference is designed to provide a venue for spouses and adult family members of our Marines and Sailors to enhance resilience and develop skills for success as they progress with their spouse through their military career," said Carty.

The conference aligns with the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Robert B. Neller's emphasis on care and support for Marine families. It included classes for spouses, such as "Recruiting 101," yoga, self-defense and goal setting.

"I think more spouses should attend," said Skylar Hartman, a conference attendee and spouse of a career recruiter. "There's a lot of things you learn about, like Marine and Family Program services and how to better communicate with your spouse, which is extremely beneficial in the recruiting world."

Carty said that she works to actively measure the benefit to attendees, and finds that everyone takes away something unique and important from their experience.

"This conference was engaging and interactive which was amazing," said Heather Dougherty, a conference participant. "I would highly recommend spouses to attend this conference at the beginning of recruiting duty."

Dougherty and Hartman both agreed that spouses typically feel uneasy about recruiting duty, but if they attend the family readiness conference or talk to the FRO, they have more of an understanding of the demands of the job.

Sgt Jennifer Webster, USMC



A U.S. Marine advisor with Task Force Southwest monitors battlefield operations alongside ANA soldiers with 2nd Brigade, 215th Corps at the brigade's command operations center in Camp Nolay, Afghanistan, May 23.



Task Force Southwest

In Sangin, U.S. Marines Facilitate As Afghan Forces Lead the Charge

Story and photos by
Sgt Lucas Hopkins, USMC

U.S. Marine advisors with Task Force Southwest and Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers with 2nd Brigade, 215th Corps partnered for an advisory mission at Camp Nolay, Afghanistan, May 21-25.

The event was an opportunity for the Marine advisors and the leaders of the 215th Corps to not only build an understanding of the 2nd Brigade's capabilities and shortfalls, but also to help coordinate a combat mission conducted by 3rd Kandak, 2nd Brigade.

"We are conducting an expeditionary

advising package to help facilitate contact between the 215th Corps members and members of the 2nd Brigade of the 215th Corps, trying to understand each other's processes," said Captain Jonathan Pucci, a fire support advisor with Task Force Southwest. "We're also trying to help facilitate a clearing operation they are conducting outside the district of Sangin."

The Afghan soldiers of the 3rd Kandak, 2nd Brigade recently completed an operational readiness cycle at Camp Shorabak, where both Task Force Southwest and the 215th Corps are headquartered.

"As the Afghans try to understand the battlespace, we're doing it alongside them

and helping ... them build a common operational picture," said Pucci.

Although not directly involved, the Marines assisted their counterparts with communications and medical evacuations and supported the brigade's command operations center during the Kandak's clearing operation in the nearby city of Sangin.

The threat the enemy poses in the area is high, said Colonel Abdul Waheed Tamurei, ANA, the commanding officer of 2nd Brigade, 215th Corps.

"We want to bring peace to the civilians and eliminate the enemy from the Sangin district," Tamurei added.



Left: ANA soldiers with 2nd Brigade, 215th Corps evacuate a wounded ANA soldier at Camp Nalay, Afghanistan, May 23. Approximately 50 Marines, along with their Afghan counterparts, helped facilitate a clearing operation and made recommendations for improving force sustainment during a five-day expeditionary advising package.

Right: U.S. Marines with Task Force Southwest and an ANA soldier monitor a Raven unmanned aerial system at Camp Nalay, Afghanistan, May 23. Based at Camp Shorabak, Afghanistan, Marines with Task Force Southwest traveled to Sangin to gain a better understanding of the 215th Corps' subordinate units.



Several of the advisors had the opportunity to see firsthand the brigade's force sustainment procedures, which will allow the 215th Corps to enable improvements throughout the unit's logistical operations.

"It's really useful to get into the weeds with our [215th] Corps counterparts and all of their subordinate leadership," said Pucci. "We want these connections we're making between the brigade and the Corps to sow the ground for long-term improvements."

Although U.S. Marines are no longer

engaged in direct combat operations in Afghanistan, the role of Task Force Southwest as the main advisory element in Helmand Province is essential to promoting the success of the Afghan National Defense Security Forces and denying havens to insurgents in the region.

"I think with the leadership they're putting in place and with our advice and support, we're going to see an ANA that's supporting each other toward a common goal," said Gunnery Sergeant Alberto J. Andino, a logistics advisor with Task

Force Southwest. "The Afghans who've been putting their lives on the line and working as hard as they have been deserve a peaceful Helmand."

This spring, approximately 300 Marines assigned to Task Force Southwest deployed to Afghanistan in the largest return of Marines to the country since 2014. As the replacement for the Army's Task Force Forge, they continue the mission to train, advise and assist Afghan forces.



Books Reviewed

PORTRAITS OF COURAGE: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors. By George W. Bush. Published by The Crown Publishing Group. 192 pages. \$31.50 MCA Member. \$35 Regular Price.

Few leaders are as divisive as former President George W. Bush. For some, he's a hero; for others, controversial. Both classifications, however, take into account a key element of his presidency: an unyielding passion and respect for America's most precious resource—our Armed Forces. "Portraits of Courage," is President Bush's third work since leaving office, but it's his first collection of his own paintings, featuring 98 oil portraits detailing military personnel who served during the 43rd President's administration. These men and women, ranging across all services and walks of life, come together in this volume to tell a story of honor, courage, sacrifice and recovery, one that is deeply rooted in patriotism and admiration for our nation's Armed Forces.

"Portraits of Courage" is not your traditional book—there is no thesis statement, collection of anecdotal evidence or overarching conspiracy that the author seeks to reveal. Instead, President Bush—who dedicates the collection to the men and women of America's military—focuses on the lives, trials and tribulations of those who served our country during some of its darkest hours.

From lance corporals to lieutenant colonels, these men and women faced unyielding hardships that only intensified after being wounded during their deployments. With many of them confronting and overcoming post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, skin grafts, amputations and a wide range of other surgeries, procedures and conditions, their tenacity and sheer strength of will becomes the true moral value of "Portraits of Courage," with the presidential narrator taking a backseat in many of these stories.

Accompanying each portrait is a small section of text. For some, this section recounts their hard-earned victories alongside family members and support groups; for others, the story focuses on the struggles and complications of everyday life. These challenges, however, presented new opportunities, and President

Bush recounts their tales of perseverance by drawing parallels to their post-injury successes. It should be of no surprise that many of these successes focus on the George W. Bush Presidential Center's Military Service Initiative, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping post-9/11 veterans find employment while aiding in their recovery from injuries sustained overseas.

The President's interest in golfing and biking gave way to the Initiative's W100K

mountain bike ride and the Warrior Open golf tournament, both of which are events heavily attended and discussed by military personnel throughout this compilation. These activities, as well as accolades from family members and support groups, feature prominently in their personal accounts. Still, there is another more subtle

account that takes the forefront of the book's narrative focus, and that is the therapeutic nature of its content.

There is little doubt that the Military Service Initiative provides much-needed comradery and support for the veterans attending its events. As such, it would not be a stretch to assume that one of the many personnel impacted by the Initiative is none other than its benefactor—President George W. Bush.

There is an obvious and genuine sense of duty in supporting the return of our troops from the Middle East, and this emotion permeates every aspect of this book, especially considering that its author was the man who sent those featured military personnel into harm's way. There is no malice, however, in the stories of these injured veterans—many of them are grateful for the President, genuinely humbled by his interest in their lives, recoveries and families. Still, as the book goes on, it becomes increasingly obvious that the composition of "Portraits of Courage" proved just as therapeutic to President Bush as it did to those featured, aiding in the reconciliation of past memories with the struggles—and successes—of the present. If anything, this subtle, overarching thread links the entirety of the

work together, turning the book from being just another collection of portraits to something that is truly special.

"Portraits of Courage" is not your average art compilation, nor is it your typical post-deployment memoir. The brush strokes and colors are fascinating, thoughtfully chosen by a man whose painting the soul, not the person. The captions are sympathetic, gratifying and inspiring, drawing readers close and leaving them feeling as if they personally know each and every wounded warrior.

Perhaps most empowering of all, however, is the overarching lack of sympathy and a lack of desire for it, replaced instead by the collective will that serves as a patriotic foundation for our nation's armed forces. "Portraits of Courage" reflects the best in our country, elaborating on the lives and sacrifices of the men and women who served our nation during some of its darkest hours, giving them credit for what they have done and, more importantly, what they will continue to do.

Bradley Davis

Author's bio: Bradley Davis is the assistant editor of Marine Corps Gazette. He has a master's degree in military history from Norwich University.

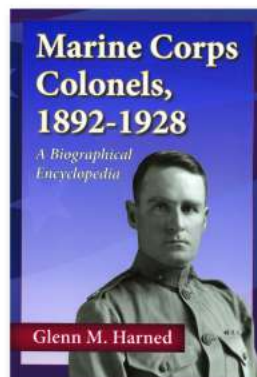
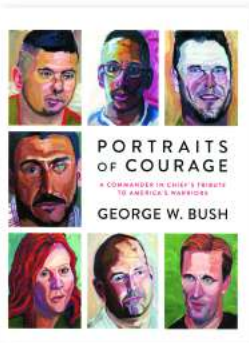
MARINE CORPS COLONELS, 1892-1928: A Biographical Encyclopedia. By Glenn M. Harned. Published by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. 436 pages. The book is available through Amazon.com.

Colonel Glenn M. Harned, USA (Ret), has effectively followed his first book, "Marine Corps Generals, 1899-1936," with this new and splendid creation, "Marine Corps Colonels, 1892-1928." Taken

together, these two volumes are a must for the bookshelf of military historians or armchair disciples of Marine Corps heritage, and tradition.

By mid-1900 the Marine Corps' active-duty strength was 5,414, including 174 officers. In the Old Corps, promotion was slow with promotions were based on seniority. Naval Academy graduates were, understandably, often given preference. When

finally promoted to the grade of colonel, many officers did not have the benefit of an exhaustive professional military



education and scant tactical experience above the company level. The author notes, "A few made the transition successfully, commanding battalions, regiments, and brigades on naval expeditions to protect or advance U.S. national interests overseas. Most veterans of the American Civil War, however, would not make the cut."

COL Harned also observes, "This was an era when officers were expected to be gallant in combat and meritorious in their service, without being decorated for their performance."

Military officers of this period might be punished for misconduct without long-term consequences. Surprisingly, among the 68 colonels listed in the book, eight were tried at general court-martials. Of the eight in question, two officers found not guilty, and two escaped trial due in part, to their distinguished service records.

This book's design is well-conceived. The officers included are grouped into four useful categories: Colonels in Transition; Naval Academy Colonels; First World War Colonels, and Interwar Colonels. A period photo and a biographical sketch of each colonel is provided comfortably set in an "easy to browse" encyclopedia format. Officers' career duty stations, including tours afloat, are comprehensively chronicled. Information about each colonel's decorations, retirement and death are highlighted.

The encyclopedia format utilized in both of Harned's books will be of great service to Marine Corps writers and researchers. The book's rich appendices provide a listing of the commanders of Marine brigades, regiments, separate battalions, and posts of the era. Moreover, the volume contains a useful listing of fleet Marine officers and graduates of the Army and Navy War Colleges and Army Service School during the period.

Squarely focused on the period from the Spanish American War through World War I, this volume will be critical in our quest to understand the historical growth and development of our beloved Corps.

In the acknowledgement section, Harned concluded with these thoughts, "Finally, I extend a special thanks to the faculty and members of the Marine Corps War College Class of 1995, of which I was a proud senior (and only Army) member. You made richly rewarding my only tour with the Marine Corps."

Bob Loring

Author's bio: Readers will recognize Marine veteran "Red Bob" Loring as a frequent Leatherneck reviewer, who has had more than 100 book reviews published in the magazine.

THE FROZEN HOURS: A Novel of the Korean War. By Jeff Shaara. Published by Ballantine Books. 560 pages. \$26.10 MCA Member. \$28.99 Regular Price.

Jeff Shaara, a *New York Times* best-selling author of more than 15 novels, writes, "In every story I do, the events are real, the history as accurate as I can make it. This is a novel by definition because there is dialogue, and you are seeing the events through the eyes of the characters themselves.

For me to reach the point where this book emerges, I feel that I can speak for these men. For that I rely enormously on their own words, their memoirs and collections of letters, diaries, and so on. My goal in the research is not just to get the facts straight, but to get to know these characters as intimately as I can."

In this mesmerizing saga of heroic deeds and decision making during the November 1950 Battle of Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir, the major turning point in the Korean War after the successful invasion of South Korea by North Korea five months earlier, Shaara tells his story from multiple perspectives.

He focuses on: Marine Private Pete Riley, a World War II veteran who now faces the greatest fight of his life; Oliver P. Smith, the commanding general of the 1st Marine Division with three regiments strung out along 85 miles of a narrow, mainly muddy, mountain roads, who redefined defeat as "advancing in a different direction;" and the Chinese general, Sung Shi-Lun, responsible for leading more than 60,000 fully fed and clothed machine-gun toting Communist troops to annihilate the surrounded 12,000 Americans in the frozen mountains near the Yalu River.

General Douglas MacArthur ordered an immediate retreat back to the shores of

the Sea of Japan. Miraculously, the Marines broke out, taking their dead and wounded with them as they fought through various gauntlets of unceasing attacks and artillery entrapments.

Fighting in pitched, hand-to-hand combat mostly at night during below freezing temperatures, the Chinese lost more than 35,000 troops, while our Marine and Army units suffered 3,000 casualties.

Immediacy has been the goal of every historian, pulp writer, journalist, litterateur, and freelance ink slinger since the birth of writing. Some have come close to the art. But Shaara narrates so well that his genuine actors seem to breathe, discuss, fight, and fall off the pages before us. As their strategies and battles unfold, all characters and incidents are strung together authentically in a militarily accurate historic plot.

Combining actual combatants, theirs and ours, in continual action is beyond art, or even craft. It's a gift.

Don DeNevi

Author's bio: Nonfiction author Don DeNevi, who writes book reviews regularly for Leatherneck, has recently engaged in writing historical fiction. Released in April, his novel of the Southwest in 1880, "Faithful Shep: The Story of a Hero Dog & the Nine Texas Rangers Who Saved Him," published by Texas Review Press, is the first volume of a projected five-volume set.



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In Memoriam

Compiled by Nancy S. Lichtman

DPAA Identifies Remains for WW II Marine

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) recently announced that the remains of a U.S. Marine, unaccounted for since World War II, have been identified.

The remains of **Sergeant James J. Hubert**, 22 of Duluth, Minn., were recovered from Betio Island in the Tarawa Atoll of the Gilbert Islands. Sgt Hubert was assigned to Company H, Second Battalion, Eighth Marine Regiment, Second Marine Division. He was killed during the Battle of Tarawa in November 1943.

DPAA news release

KC-130 Crash Results in Deaths Of Marines, Sailor

Fifteen Marines and one Sailor died when a U.S. Marine Corps aircraft crashed, July 10.

The KC-130T Hercules, from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 452 based at Stewart Air National Guard Base, Newburgh, N.Y., was transporting personnel and equipment from Second Raider Battalion for predeployment training.

Air traffic control lost radar contact with the aircraft, which was en route from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., to Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif. Shortly thereafter, large plumes of smoke were discovered and a crash site was located in Itta Bena, Miss., according to Brigadier General Bradley S. James, Commanding General, Fourth Marine Aircraft Wing.

The crash is under investigation. In a statement, BGen James said, the initial "indications are that something went wrong at cruise altitude. There is a large debris pattern."

On board the aircraft were nine Marines with VMGR-452, and six Marines and one U.S. Navy corpsman from 2d Raider Battalion.

"On behalf of the entire Marine Corps, I want to express my deepest condolences to the families of those killed in the aircraft mishap ... in Mississippi," said General Robert Neller, the Commandant of the Marine Corps. "Please keep the families of our 16 fallen servicemembers in your thoughts and prayers," he added.

The deceased are:

Major Caine M. Goyette, VMGR-452

Captain Sean E. Elliott, VMGR-452

Gunnery Sergeant Mark A. Hopkins, VMGR-452

GySgt Brendan C. Johnson, VMGR-452

Staff Sergeant Joshua M. Snowden, VMGR-452

SSgt Robert H. Cox, 2d Raider Bn
SSgt William J. Kundrat, 2d Raider Bn
Sergeant Julian M. Kevianne, VMGR-452

Sgt Owen J. Lennon, VMGR-452

Sgt Chad E. Jenson, 2d Raider Bn

Sgt Talon R. Leach, 2d Raider Bn

Sgt Joseph J. Murray, 2d Raider Bn

Sgt Dietrich A. Schmieman, 2d Raider Bn

Hospitalman Second Class

Ryan M. Lohrey, 2d Raider Bn

Corporal Daniel I. Baldassare, VMGR-452

Cpl Collin J. Schaaff, VMGR-452

Compiled from USMC news releases

Sgt Thomas B. Bailey, 68, of Albuquerque, N.M. He enlisted in the Marine Corps after his graduation from high school and served two tours in Vietnam. His awards include the Purple Heart.

Maj William E. Barker, 73, of Albuquerque, N.M. He was the senior Marine instructor for the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program at Eldorado High School from 1990-96 and at La Cueva High School from 1997-2008. From 2008-17 he was the district military instructor for Albuquerque Public Schools. He was active with the Wounded Warrior Program as a shooting coordinator and was the state director for the Civilian Marksmanship Program in New Mexico.

Virgil "Gunny B" Bethurum, 93, in Westminster, Colo. His 23 years in the Marine Corps included service in both World War II and in Vietnam.

Wayne J. Bowen, 92, of Springville, Utah. He was a Marine who served during WW II. He fought on Peleliu and Okinawa and was awarded the Purple Heart.

CWO Gilmon D. Brooks, 91, of Tinton Falls, N.J. He was a Montford Point Marine who fought on Iwo Jima. He later served in the U.S. Army and fought in the

Korean War. During the Vietnam War he worked as a civilian for the U.S. Navy. His awards include the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

John E. Carey, 91, of Madison, Wis. He was a Marine who served in the Pacific during WW II. He fought on Guadalcanal and Okinawa. He served in China after the war ended and later fought in the Korean War.

Sgt Earl Chloupek, 95, of Lake Wales, Fla. After his 1942 graduation from MCRD San Diego, he was assigned to the 3dMarDiv and saw action in the Pacific. He was a member of the Marine Corps League, the 3dMarDiv Association, and the VFW where he was active with the color guard.

John "Jack" H. Crowther, 92, of Big Sky, Mont. He was a Marine who served in the South Pacific during WW II. Following the war, he completed his college education and had a successful career in the insurance industry.

Clement DelFavero, 93, of Barnstable, Mass. He was a Marine who fought in the South Pacific during WW II. His awards include the Purple Heart. After the war, he was a Boston police officer for 24 years.

James D. Fennell, 71, in Coos Bay, Ore. He was pitching minor league baseball when he was drafted. He served two tours in Vietnam.

Joseph Frantz, 94, of Charleroi, Pa. He was a Marine who served from 1943-45. He saw action on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Saipan and Tinian and Iwo Jima. He was a member of the VFW and the Mon Valley Leatherneck Association.

Larry E. Hawley, 70, of Minot, N.D. He was a Marine aircrew member and aircraft mechanic who served in Vietnam.

Diane L. (Talbot) Hergenroder, 77, of Salem, Ohio. When she enlisted in 1958, she was the first person from her hometown to become a Marine.

John E. "Jack" Hickey Jr., 29, of Flower Mound, Texas. He was a Marine who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. His awards include two Purple Hearts.

Ralph W. Hickman, 71, in Longwood, Fla. He was a Marine who served for 24 years.

Cpl James D. Hill Jr., 58, of Branson, Mo. He followed his two older brothers into the Marine Corps. He served with 1st Bn, 1st Marines, 1stMarDiv.

John M. "Jack" Hodgkins Jr., 88,

of Corvallis, Ore. He enlisted in the Marine Corps as a teen and served with the 1stMarDiv during the Korean War. He later became a Los Angeles County marshal, attaining the rank of lieutenant.

Ross H. Lawrence, 84, of Belen, N.M. He was a Marine aviation ordnanceman serving aboard aircraft carriers during the Korean War. He later completed training to be a gunsmith and had a career in civil service as a quality control inspector.

Col Paul F. Lessard, 86, of Hampton, N.H. He was a mustang Marine who enlisted in 1951 and later went to Officer Candidates School. During his almost three-decade career, he served in 19 duty stations. His awards include the Legion of Merit with combat "V."

SSgt Donald F. MacDermott, 89, in Murrieta, Calif. He was training at Camp Lejeune, N.C. when WW II ended. He was recalled to active duty during the Korean War, and served with Able Co, 1st Eng Bn.

Edgar L. McKinnie, 83, in Gulfport, Miss. During his 25-year Marine Corps career, he was a helicopter crew chief who served three tours in Vietnam. His awards include the Navy Commendation Medal. He was a member of the Marine Corps League and the USMC Combat Helicopter Association.

LtCol J. Lester "Les" McLaughlin,

91, of St. Louis, Mo. During WW II he served in the Marine Corps during WW II. He saw action with the 8th Marines in the Battle of Okinawa. He later had a career in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

William E. "Willie" Perkins, 32, of Everett, Wash. He joined the Marine Corps in 2007. He was a helicopter airframe mechanic who deployed twice to Afghanistan.

James Perrotta, 84, of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. He served during the Korean War and was a member of the American Legion.

Earl F. Perry, 92, of Albuquerque, N.M. He was attending the University of Oklahoma on a football scholarship when he left school to enlist in the Marine Corps during WW II. While with the 1stMarDiv, he saw action in the South Pacific.

William D. Plouffe, 85, in Rutland City, Vt. He served in the Korean War.

William J. Przybylski, 94, of Bay City, Mich. He was a Marine combat veteran of the Pacific theater during WW II.

Cpl William "Bill" Raketty, 80, of Westport, Wash. He was a Marine who served from 1953-57.

Antonio Rios, 73, of Albuquerque, N.M. He served in the Marine Corps.

SgtMaj Timonhy J. Rudd, 44, of Post, Texas. He was the sergeant major of Headquarters Regiment, 3d MLG, III

MEF. His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with one gold star, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars, an Army Commendation Medal and a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

William Schmitz Jr., 88, of Woodbury, N.J. After his 24-year career in the Marine Corps, he worked as a civilian for the Department of the Navy at the Philadelphia Naval Base. He was a member of the American Legion, VFW and MCL.

Col Charles M. Temple, 85, of Collierville, Tenn. He enlisted in 1951 and received a direct commission in 1960. He served with VMR-253 in Korea and MAG-12 in Vietnam. His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal.

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, dates of service, units served in, and, if possible, a published obituary. Allow at least four months for the notice to appear. Submissions may be sent to *Leatherneck Magazine*, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, Va. 22134, or emailed to leatherneck@mca-marines.org or n.lichtman@mca-marines.org.





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SOUND OFF [continued from page 7]

only a few men showed up for sick call each day.

It was a more miserable week than any single week I spent in Korea. It was cold. It snowed almost every day. We slept on the ground on packed-down snow. We ate C-rations which contained small cans of pork and beans (quite a bit of pork), beans and pork (almost no pork), spaghetti, or stew, and a packet of dried coffee, sugar, dried milk, and two cigarettes. We heated the cans on sterno cans. We melted snow for our drinking water and for our coffee,

which didn't taste like coffee at all, but it was alright and it was hot.

It was boring. We had no cards, no books, nothing to read at all. Cameras weren't allowed so we couldn't even take pictures. There was nothing to sit on except the ground and that was covered with a couple feet of snow. A day spent like that would be bad enough. We stood around talking all day for seven days. It got dark around 1700 so for five or six hours we stood around gabbing in the dark.

Each of us had a shelter half rolled up on top of our 55 pound backpack. We hadn't used them yet. On the few night maneuvers we had at Pendleton, we were

up all night or slept in the pyramidal tents. We hadn't checked them out. Big mistake. You'll probably remember that they were supposed to be shaped like a parallelogram so that both ends would match up against the ends of a buddy's shelter half and close with ties. Mine was okay at one end but cut off square at the other end so we could close one end only half way. That didn't make any difference on most nights, but one night it "snowed and blowed" all night so when we awoke the next morning we were covered with six inches of snow. Why didn't we wake up when we started to get snowed on? We both had our heads completely stuffed in our mummy sacks with the draw string tightly closed. My buddy (Bill Latham, I think) took it all very well.

LT J. Birney Dibble, MC, USNR (Ret)
Eau Claire, Wis.

"The President's Own" Displayed Class, Integrity

I just wanted to write and share how much I enjoyed reading the article: "Hail to the Chief: 'The President's Own' Supports the Inauguration," in the April issue.

With their having been so much controversy over the presidential election, I was very pleased to read something that gave honor and respect back to the Office

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of the Presidency as well as a show of pride in our nation's long standing traditions. These Marines showed great dignity and integrity, and I am grateful to them for that.

Rachel Peterson
Ft. Collins, Colo.

Operation Buffalo

I just opened my June *Leatherneck* and read Corporal Jayson Tveit's letter about Operation Buffalo.

I was surprised, honored and brought to tears by his very moving comments about this action and several young Marines who participated in it.

A daring young second lieutenant named Libutti and a fresh off sea duty green Marine named Stuckey. We were both new in country, eager and somewhat fearful at wondering what the future held for us. The Operation Buffalo action was a terrible battle but with the grace of God

and the actions of countless Marines and corpsmen we won out and survived.

Thank you, Cpl Tveit, for your kind words and for remembering us from so many years ago.

Cpl James L. Stuckey, USMC (Ret)
Seminole, Fla.

Flash Suppressor

The letter "Flash Suppressor on Rifle," [June Sound Off] is somewhat misleading. The T37 flash hider/suppressor was an item designed specifically for use with the M1D sniper version of the M1 rifle but could also be used on the M1C. It replaced the M2 cone-type flash hider in the mid 1950s. It was not used with the regular M1 service rifle issued to troops nor was it used at any of the recruit depots. Neither flash suppressor was very popular with the user (sniper) and was usually removed.

Cpl Joe Williams
USMC, 1956-59
Venice, Fla.

I went through boot camp at MCRD San Diego in 1955. We were not issued flash suppressors for our M15.

In the same issue regarding combat boots, we were issued dress shoes that had to be spit shined. Boondockers and high top combat boots did too.

During cold weather training at Pickel Meadow, Bridgeport, Calif., we were wearing Mickey Mouse boots, sleeping in tents and in snow caves in mummy bags. Where else can you have so much fun in the outdoors? 1955 was a cold year up at the Meadow.

Training has really changed in my Corps.

Peter P. Joulous
South San Francisco, Calif.

Reunited By Chance

In September 1999, Gene Witkowski and I were reunited after 51 years. Although we were at the same First Marine Division Association meeting, we didn't connect with each other.

At a friend's wife's funeral, I had brought my Marine Corps photo album along and noticed Gene's name. Low and behold we were both in Parris Island boot camp in 1948.

It's now 68 years later and we still see each other often. Every year we rent a car for a month or so and drive around the U.S. We see historical locations, some other remarkable places in our country, and last but not least, visit old USMC buddies.

Sgt Nick Romanino, USMC (Ret)
Riverbank, Calif.

Submission deadline | 31 Oct 2017

Essay topic | Readiness: the nexus between seizing the initiative and fighting tonight.

The Marine Forces Reserve Writing Contest

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- Make three essential recommendations on what the Reserve Force should consider to enhance or enrich readiness.
- 2,500 to 3,000 words
- Winners will be selected and announced in November.
- Winners and all publishable essays will appear in the *Marine Corps Gazette*.
- Submit articles and supporting materials to gazette@mca-marines.org or to 715 Broadway Street, Quantico, VA 22134

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
I was a CH-53 Structures Mechanic on both the D and E models.

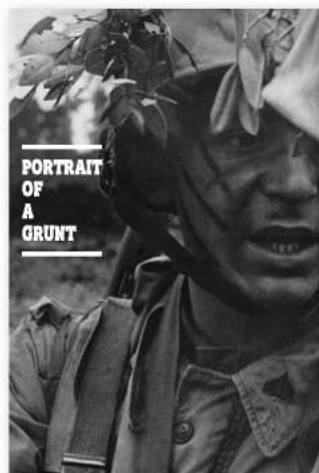
I believe you will find that the aircraft you identified as a CH-53D is actually a CH-53E from HMMH-465. The "D" had a straight tail without an external support while the tail of the "E" is shown. Also, the tail letters "YJ" identify the aircraft as belonging to HMMH-465.

GySgt John Anderson, USMC (Ret)
El Paso, Texas

The tail pylon of the aircraft on your June cover is a CH-53E and not a D model. The "YJ" is the designator for HMH-465.

GySgt Rob Ward, USMC (Ret)
Fairlee, Vt.

Have a question or feel like sounding off? Address your letter to: Sound Off, *Leatherneck* Magazine, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134, or send an email to: leatherneck@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 emails must contain complete names and postal mailing addresses. Anonymous letters will not be published.—Editor 



PORTRAIT OF A GRUNT

More often than not, he's covered with dirt, but that's his occupational trademark.

[illegible]

by Sgt Harvey Hall
Bureau of the State Police, Madison

1963 | PORTRAIT OF A GRUNT

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Reader Assistance

Edited by Sara W. Bock

Reunions

• **5thMarDiv Assn. (and 2dMarDiv Tarawa veterans)**, Oct. 17-24, Kona, Hawaii. Contact Kathy Painton, 62-3928 Lolii Place H-1, Kamuela, HI 96743, (808) 880-9880, kathypainton@hotmail.com.

• **Korean War Veterans Assn.**, Oct. 4-8, Norfolk, Va. Contact Sheila Fritts, (217) 345-4414, membership@kwva.org.

• **Marine Corps Engineer Assn.**, Oct. 16-18, Fredericksburg, Va. Contact Maj Charlie Dismore, USMC (Ret), (512)394-9333, www.marcorengasn.org

• **West Coast Drill Instructor Assn. (SgtMaj Leland D. "Crow" Crawford Chapter)**, Sept. 14-17, San Diego. Contact Gregg Stoner, (619) 884-9047, greggstoner22@aol.com, or CWO-3 Chip Dykes, USMC (Ret), (760) 908-2322, www.westcoastdi.org.

• **1st MAW Assn. (RVN)**, Sept. 14-16, San Diego. Contact Al Frater, (201) 906-1197, teanal@optonline.net.

• **Marine Corps Air Transport Assn. (VMR/VMGR)**, Oct. 19-22, Pensacola, Fla. Contact Rich Driscoll, (817) 657-7768, president@mcata.com, www.mcata.com.

• **USMC Food Service Assn.**, Oct. 17-21, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Contact Mike Fishbaugh, (606) 789-5010, smfishbaugh@mikrotec.com.

• **USMC Vietnam Tankers Assn.**, Sept. 21-25, St. Louis. Contact John Wear, (215) 794-9052, johnwear2@verizon.net.

• **7th Engineer Bn Vietnam Veterans' Assn.**, Sept. 21-24, Orlando, Fla. Contact Doug McMackin, (623) 419-2135, gunny mac@hotmail.com, or Jim Taranto, (518) 567-4267, tarantoj@gmail.com.

• **Subic Bay Marines (25th Annual Reunion)**, Sept. 21-25, Boise, Idaho. Contact A.J. Allen, (208) 941-3345.

• **Ground Surveillance Unit/SCAMP (3dMarDiv and 1stMarDiv, RVN)**, Oct. 25-29, Houston. Contact Benny Rains, (713) 875-4102, brains08@comcast.net.

• **FLC, FLSG A/B (RVN)**, Oct. 29-Nov. 1, Monterey, Calif. Contact Frank Miller, familler56@yahoo.com, or Vern Snodderly, vasnodderly@comcast.com.

• **USMC Postal 0160/0161**, Oct. 1-6, Albuquerque, N.M. Contact Harold Wilson, (740) 385-6204, handk.lucerne06@gmail.com.

• **1/5 (1986-1992)**, Sept. 8-10, Macomb, Ill. Contact Scott Hainline, (309) 351-2050, ptimfi@yahoo.com.

• **2/9**, Nov. 8-12, Arlington, Va. Contact Danny Schuster, (978) 667-4762, ditson35@verizon.net, www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org.

• **"Stormy's" 3/3 (1960-62)**, Sept. 18-22, Gettysburg, Pa. Contact Burrell Landes, 2610 West Long Circle, Littleton, CO 80120, (303) 734-1458, bhanon@comcast.net.

• **3/9, F/2/12 and Support Units (all eras)**, Sept. 5-8, San Antonio. Contact Robert W. Stewart, (727) 581-5454, threeninemarines@aol.com.

• **Support Co, 3d Engineer Bn (RVN, 1967-68)**, Sept. 12-14, Rehoboth Beach, Del. Contact A.J. Folk, 215 Sweetwater Lane, Newmantown, PA 17073, (610) 589-1362, ajfpa@comcast.net.

• **Battery Adjust, 3/11 (all eras)**, Sept. 20-24, Las Vegas. Contact Doug Miller, (402) 540-9431, dwmiller48@gmail.com.

• **B/1/5 and C/1/5 (RVN, 1966-67)** are planning a reunion. Contact SSgt Jim Proulx, USMC (Ret), (904) 343-4850, bertojotol@gmail.com.

• **D/1/7 (RVN, 1965-70)**, Sept. 21-23, Arlington, Va. Contact Zack Forester, (505) 514-8499, ztfiii@hotmail.com, www.deltacompanyvietnammarines.com.

• **H/2/5 (RVN)**, Oct. 26-29, Santa Fe, N.M. Contact Dave Harbin, (505) 720-4728, harbin_d@q.com.

• **H/2/26**, Sept. 10-16, Branson, Mo. Contact Bill Hancock, 2748 Moeller Dr., Hamilton, OH 45014, (513) 738-5446, hancockkw@roadrunner.com.

• **I/3/1 (RVN, 1968-69)**, Sept. 28-30, Dumfries, Va. Contact Rick "Diz" DeZelia, (810) 728-5110, rpdezelia@gmail.com.

• **I/3/3 (RVN, 1965-69)**, Sept. 12-17, Niagara Falls, N.Y. Contact Ted Phelps, (704) 747-6392, tedphelps@i33.org, www.i33.org.

• **K/3/7 (RVN)**, Oct. 4-9, Jacksonville, Fla. Contact Bill Gerke, (631) 433-8575, msggerke@aol.com.

• **M/4/12 and 3d 155 mm Howitzer Battery, 3dMarDiv**, Sept. 10-15, Detroit. Contact Alex Jablonowski, (248) 505-2183, 3rd155s.m4.12@gmail.com.

• **3d 155 mm Gun Btry (SP) and 3d 175 mm Gun Btry (SP)**, Oct. 5-7, Branson, Mo. Contact Ed Kirby, (978) 987-1920, ed-kirby@comcast.net.

• **1st Provisional Marine Brigade ("The Fire Brigade," Korea, 1950)** is planning a 65th anniversary reunion. Contact Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret), Military Historical Tours, 13198 Centerpointe Way, #202, Woodbridge, VA 22193, (703) 590-1295, jwiedhahn@aol.com, www.miltours.com.

• **Yemassee Train Depot**, Oct. 20-21, Yemassee, S.C. Contact Roy Hughes, (843) 717-1786, (843) 589-3385.

• **Marine Corps Security Forces, Naval Weapons Station Earle**, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Colts Neck, N.J. Contact Dusty Wright, (618) 553-2205, dwright.schaefferoil@gmail.com.

• **Marine Detachment USNDC**, Sept. 12-17, Portsmouth, N.H. Contact Steve Jennison, (603) 988-9867, sajbuilds@aol.com.

• **Marine Detachment/Barracks, NS Bermuda (all eras)**, Sept. 24-28, Nashville, Tenn. Contact Dennis McDonald, (763) 473-3458, (612) 247-3299, d.mcdonald82575@comcast.net.

• **Parris Island Brig Guards (1976-1979)**, Summer 2017, Beaufort, S.C. Contact Ken Haney, 26420 Highway 49, Chase City, VA 23924, kenhaney79@gmail.com.

• **TBS, Class 3-66/38th OCC**, Oct. 11-14, San Antonio. Contact Terry Cox, tcoc95@cox.net, www.usmc-thebasic-school-1966.com.

• **TBS, Class 4-67**, Sept. 21-24, Washington, D.C. Contact Ken Pouch, (860) 881-6819, kpouch5@gmail.com.

• **TBS, Co K, 9-68**, is planning a reunion. Contact Jim Stiger, (206) 999-1029, jimstiger@earthlink.net.

• **TBS, Co F, 6-79**, is planning a reunion. Contact LtCol Tom Conners, USMC (Ret), (919) 303-2697, (919) 418-5757, tconners3@yahoo.com.

• **"Kilo" Co (Plts 277, 278, 279 and 280), Parris Island, 1961**, is planning a reunion. Contact MSgt Martin D. Smith, USMC (Ret), 10 Lee Ct., Stafford, VA 22554, (540) 720-3653, martann843@gmail.com.

• **Plt 94, Parris Island, 1955**, Oct. 19-21, Parris Island, S.C. Contact Miles Martin, (386) 315-2115, mcmartin@bellsouth.net, Orville Hubbs, (513) 932-5854, onpahubbs@gmail.com, or Dale Wilson, (434) 944-7177, wzeke35@aol.com.

• **Plt 98, Parris Island, 1948**, is planning a reunion. Contact SSgt Jim Proulx, USMC (Ret), (904) 343-4850, bertojotol@aol.com.

• **Plt 171, Parris Island, 1966**, is planning a reunion. Contact J.P. Kuchar, 33 Sheridan Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840, (732) 549-6468, jpkuchar@mac.com.

• **Plt 244, Parris Island, 1967**, is planning a reunion. Contact former Sgt J.D. Croom III, (704) 965-8521, jcrooom47@aol.com.

• **Plt 245, San Diego, 1965**, is planning a reunion. Contact David S. Alvarez, (209) 735-2601, srt8o06@yahoo.com.

• **Plt 266, Parris Island, 1962**, is planning a reunion. Contact Donald A. Welch,

129 Hawthorne Pl., Ithaca, NY 14850, (607) 256-0554, don814u@hotmail.com.

• **Plt 340, Parris Island, 1963**, is planning a reunion. Contact Garrett W. Silvia, (508) 992-7392, gwsil@comcast.net.

• **Plt 431, Parris Island, 1945**, is planning a reunion. Contact 1stSgt George P. Cavros, USMC (Ret), (262) 782-7813, gcavros88@gmail.com.

• **Plt 1040, San Diego, 1968**, is planning a reunion. Contact Stephen Norpel, 206 N. 7th St., Bellevue, IA 52031, (563) 451-8417, snorpel@yahoo.com.

• **Plt 1059, San Diego, 1967**, is planning a reunion. Contact Dave Jamieson, (805) 896-7404, daveyo_jamieson@msn.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 2030, Parris Island, 1965-66**, is planning a reunion. Contact John E. Lyford, (518) 654-6073, reniejohn@roadrunner.com.

• **Plt 2041, San Diego, 1967 (50th anniversary)**, Nov. 9-12, Las Vegas. Contact Daniel Palacios, (951) 541-8940, dphousemouse@gmail.com, or Enrique Ortiz, (949) 874-3636.

• **Plt 2077, San Diego, 1966**, is planning a reunion. Contact SgtMaj Raymond Edwards, USMC (Ret), 100 Stephens

St., Boyce, LA 71409, sgtmajedretired@gmail.com.

• **Plt 2086, San Diego, 1966**, is planning a reunion. Contact Bill Kennedy, (707) 527-8319, wm.kennedy98@yahoo.com.

• **Plt 3042, San Diego, 1968**, is planning a reunion. Contact Gary Berry, (614) 679-1499, tagpresident@verizon.net.

• **Plt 4035, "Papa" Co, Parris Island, 2000**, is planning a reunion. Contact Tammy (Manyik) Epperson, (571) 451-7263, tammy.epperson@gmail.com.

• **Marine Air Groups (WW II to present)**, Oct. 11-14, Branson, Mo. Contact Jerry Gipe, jgipe@hotmail.com, or Joseph Mowry, josephmowry@att.net.

• **SATS/EAF, MAG-12 and Morest Unit, MAG-12 (Chu Lai, RVN)**, Sept. 11, Tucson, Ariz. Contact Paul Flatt, (801) 782-2468, pfflatt@msn.com.

• **Marine Air Base Squadrons 43 and 49**, Sept. 9, Earlville, Md. Contact Col Chuck McGarigle, USMC (Ret), 23 Greenwood Dr., Bordentown, NJ 08505, (609) 291-9617, mabsreunion@comcast.net.

• **HMR/HMM/HMH-361 (all eras)**, Sept. 7-10, Arlington, Va. Contact John Ruffini, (850) 291-6438, ruffinich53@gmail.com.

• **VMM/HMM-364 (all ranks/eras)**, Sept. 19-22, North Kansas City, Mo.



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Ships and Others

- **USS Bremerton (CA-130/SSN-698)**, Sept. 24-29, Portland, Ore. Contact N. Polanowski, 5996 County Rd. 16, Belfast, NY 14711, (585) 365-2316, rpolanowski@stny.rr.com.

- **USS Canberra (CA-70/CAG-2)**, Oct. 11-15, Harrisburg, Pa. Contact Ken Minick, P.O. Box 130, Belpre, OH 45714, (740) 423-8976, usscanberra@gmail.com.

- **USS Duluth (LPD-6)**, Sept. 6-10, Duluth, Minn. Contact John Adams, (484) 766-3715, john.adams@ussduluth.org, www.ussduluth.org.

- **USS Hornet (CV-8/CV/CVA/CVS-12)**, Sept. 13-17, Kansas City, Mo. Contact Sandy Burket, P.O. Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, (814) 224-5063, hornet@cva@aol.com, www.ushornetassn.com.

- **USS Inchon (LPH/MCS-12)**, Oct. 15-19, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Contact David F. Fix, P.O. Box 6361, Nalcrest, FL 33856, (717) 203-4152, ussinchon@gmail.com.

- **USS John R. Craig (DD-885)**, Sept. 6-10, Norfolk, Va. Contact Jerry Chwalek, 9307 Louisiana St., Livonia, MI 48150, (734) 525-1469, jemail@ameritech.net, www.ussjohnrcraig.com.

- **USS Midway (CVB/CVA/CV-41)**, Sept. 11-13, San Diego. Contact Ronald E. Pope, ronpope2@yahoo.com, www.ussmidway.net/home.html.

- **USS Providence (CL-82/CLG-6)**, Sept. 17-21, Buffalo, N.Y. Contact Jim Chryst, (717) 284-6996, jchryst@embarqmail.com.

- **USS Ranger (CVA/CV-61)**, Sept. 20-23, Warwick, R.I. Contact George Meoli, (203) 453-4279, uss.ranger@yahoo.com.

- **USS Saratoga Assn. (CV-60)**, Sept. 27-30, Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Contact Ed McCready, 447 Land'Or Dr., Ruther Glen, VA 22546, (804) 589-1170, emc0853@yahoo.com.

Mail Call

- 1stSgt Donald Barnhart, USMC (Ret), (210) 647-7698, alamoaloha@yahoo.com, to hear from **Sgt Louis BUTLER** or former members of **Det, 2d ANGLICO, FMF**, who participated in the **Chosin Reservoir campaign**.



COURTESY OF WILLIAM L. BROOKS

William L. Brooks, right, would like to hear from or about the Marine on the left, pictured with him in Korea in August 1951.

- William L. Brooks, 10202 Burnside Dr., Ellicott City, MD 21042, to hear from anyone who can identify the **Marine on the left** in the above photo, which was taken **Aug. 8, 1951, in Korea**.

- Albert Taylor #1094891, 2665 Prison Rd. #1, Lovelady, TX 75851, to hear from members of **Plt 138, Parris Island, 1969**, regarding **air jet gun injections**.

- Daniel A. Villaral, P.O. Box 77, Bedford, VA 24523, to hear from anyone who is interested in donating to the **D-Day Memorial Foundation** to help fund the placement of the **Marine Corps emblem** on the memorial wall in Bedford, Va., on Veterans Day 2017.

- James Kerley, 600 W. Huron St., Apt. 324, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, to hear from Marines he served with during his time in the Corps. He was a member of **Plt 28 or 29, San Diego, 1949**; served with **Weapons Co, 2/5** and with **3/9**; was a drill instructor at **MCRD San Diego** and a recruiter in **Benton Harbor, Mich.**; served with **Co M, 3/3 on Okinawa**; and with **2d, 4th and 6th ITT**.

- Gary N. Berry, (614) 679-1499,

tagpresident@verizon.net, to hear from **active-duty and veteran Marines and corpsmen** interested in joining a new chapter of the **Marine Corps League** in the **Washington, D.C., area**.

Wanted

Readers should be cautious about sending money without confirming authenticity and availability of products offered:

- Denise Ludlow, denise_ludlow@hotmail.com, wants a **December 1967 issue of Leatherneck**.

- Lindsay Eckman, (614) 557-9228, leckman57@gmail.com, wants a **recruit graduation book for Plt 3056, Parris Island, 1998**.

- Larry Nelms, lbnelms2002@yahoo.com, wants **recruit graduation books and platoon photos for Plt 1066, San Diego, 1968, and Plt 1089, San Diego, 1968**.

Entries for "Reader Assistance," which include "Reunions," "Mail Call," "Wanted" and "Sales, Trades and Giveaways," are free and printed on a space-available basis. *Leatherneck* reserves the right to edit or reject any submission. Allow two to three months for publication. Send your e-mail to s.bock@mca-marines.org, or write to Reader Assistance Editor, *Leatherneck Magazine*, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134.



Success Story?

Has your entry in *Leatherneck's* Reader Assistance allowed you to reunite with a boot camp buddy, reconnect with old friends or track down the recruit graduation book you lost years ago? We would love to hear your success stories. Send them to: Sara W. Bock, *Leatherneck Magazine*, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134, or s.bock@mca-marines.org.

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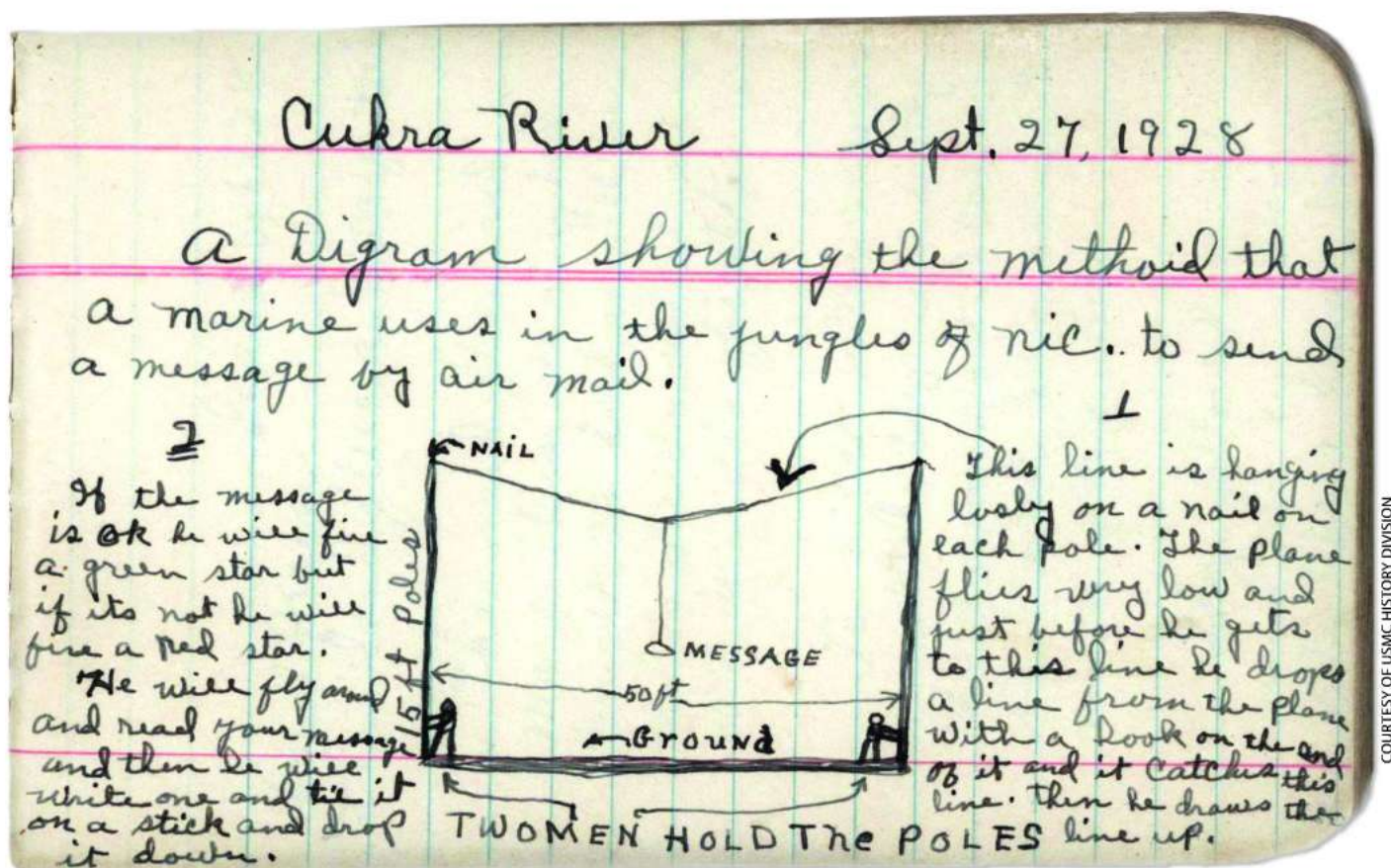
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the right to cancel within the first 30 days after receipt of membership materials and receive a full refund, less a nominal processing fee (nominal fee for MD residents is \$5). Discount Medical Plan Organization and administrator: Careington International Corporation, 7400 Gaylord Parkway, Frisco, TX 75034; phone 800-441-0380. The program and its administrators have no liability for providing or guaranteeing service by providers or the quality of service rendered by providers. This program is not available in Montana and Vermont. This plan is not currently available in Washington. *Medicare statement applies to MD residents when pharmacy discounts are part of program.



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The diagram above is from a diary that was kept by Thurman Morris, who served with the Fifth Marine Regiment in Nicaragua in 1928. As Morris explains in his diary, Marines on the ground would set up two poles and hang a message container between them. Marine pilots would fly very low and drop a hook with which to snag the container. Aircrews would read the messages and drop a response or deliver the message to another location.

The spirit of innovation is thriving in today's Corps. Marines continue to adapt quickly and develop creative solutions to stay ahead of our adversaries. Read more about recent innovations in the Corps on page 22.

