

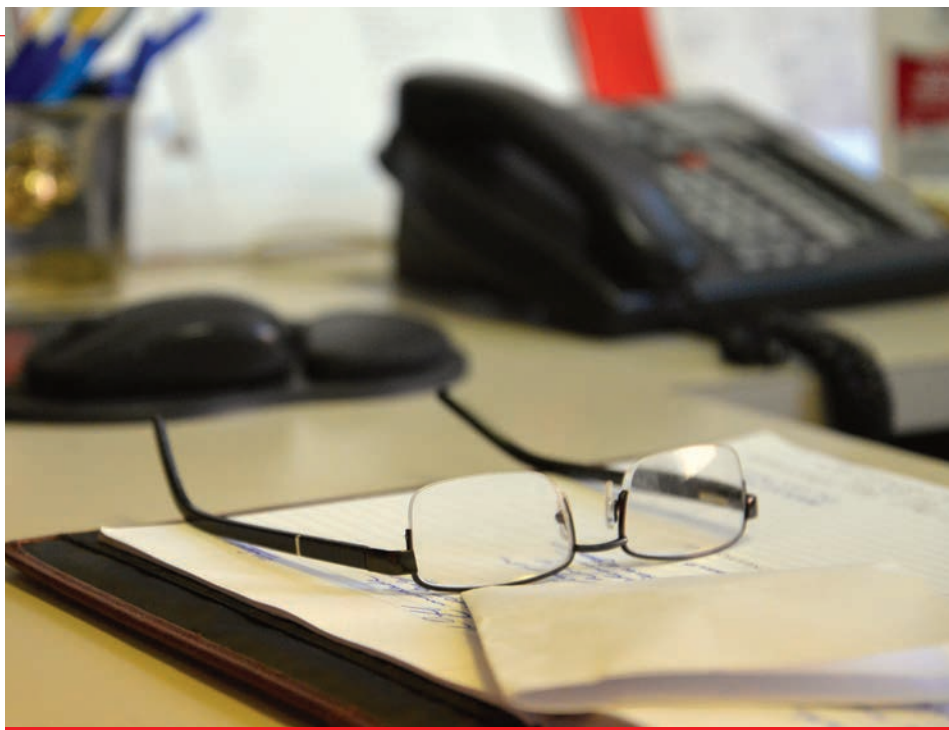
From the Editor's Desk

Recently, when the *Leatherneck* staff was discussing the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, my mind immediately went back to that day. I remember it vividly—the fear, the confusion, the horror, the unknown, and most of all in my case, the luck. My husband was a lieutenant colonel assigned as a watch officer in the National Military Command Center (NMCC) in the Pentagon. One of my brothers worked for a company headquartered in the World Trade Center. Unlike the thousands of Americans who we lost that dreadful day, my loved ones were not harmed. My husband had been on the night shift at the NMCC so he was home at the time of the attack; my brother had moved to a different office building the month before. Among the many prayers I said that night, there were several of thanks; I knew how lucky my family was.

That doesn't mean I was unaffected. As a 15-year Marine stationed in the National Capital Region, I knew dozens of people who worked in the Pentagon and had prayed throughout the day as one by one, I learned that my fellow Marines were all safe. Others were not so blessed; the Navy Command Center lost more than 30 people, active-duty, civil servants and contractors, when their office spaces took a direct hit during the Pentagon attack.

But there was good that came out of that horrible day; the country was more united that it had been since the days of World War II. Patriotism was evident everywhere as was kindness and empathy. Even those not directly impacted felt a kinship with their fellow Americans. Donations to the families of those killed in New York, Virginia, and on the hijacked aircraft that crashed in Shanksville, Pa., were well into the tens of millions. For a few days at least, there was no partisanship—we were all Americans first and foremost. In many ways, we embodied all that is the best of this experiment in democracy.

The impact of that fateful day still resonates 20 years later. The military's defining engagements of the last two decades in Afghanistan and Iraq are a direct result of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, and the number of Americans lost fighting in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom number well into the thousands—more than double those lost in the attacks themselves. How many others took a different path in life as the result of seeing those planes hit the towers and Pentagon? I know of at least one. The brother I mentioned who had switched



offices before the attack lost many friends when the towers fell, and subsequently enlisted in the Navy Reserve as an intel analyst at the ripe old age of 35 to honor his friends.

Leatherneck is commemorating that fateful day with the reprinting of “Instincts Told Them to Flee—Regardless, Marines Went Forward Into a ‘Hellish Place’ ” on page 36, an account of what some of the Marines stationed at the Pentagon went through in their valiant attempts to help those who had been injured. The article is heartwarming, awful, tear-jerking, and motivating all at the same time—kind of like that day itself.

Sept. 11, 2001, was one of the worst days in the history of the United States but it also brought out the best in so many. And while reminding us that evil still exists in the world, it also reminded us that the men and women of the United States of America, her servicemembers in particular, and, of course, her Marines are ready to defend this country and take the fight to the far reaches of the earth in defense of our Nation, our Constitution and democracy itself.

Mary H. Reinwald
Colonel, USMC (Ret)
Editor, *Leatherneck*



Contents

LEATHERNECK—MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES

SEPTEMBER 2021
VOL. 104, No. 9

Features

16 Push Beyond the Pain: A Marine and a Mentor, Master Sergeant Marvin D. Anderson (Ret)

By GySgt Christopher A. Mendez, USMC

This honorable mention article from the 2021 *Leatherneck* Writing Contest describes how MSgt Marvin D. Anderson met significant racial challenges during his service.

20 Corporal Samuel Blundin, USMC: “Special Discharge” for Illegal Enlistment

By Tom Dunne

At the onset of the Civil War, Marine Col Commandant John Harris had to overcome an attempt in Congress to dismantle the Corps. Harris’ requests for additional Marines during 1861-1863 assured a sufficient Corps strength for the remainder of the war.

28 The 41st Modern Day Marine Military Exposition: At the Crossroads of Force Design

By LtCol Alexander G. Hetherington, USMC (Ret)

The Modern Day Marine Military Exposition provides Marine Corps leadership, requirements and procurement personnel, and occupationally proficient Marines with a preview of future possibilities for training and equipping the Fleet Marine Force. This month, 350 exhibitors and more than 10,000 attendees are expected at the expo aboard MCB Quantico, Va.

36 Instincts Told Them to Flee—Regardless, Marines Went Forward Into a “Hellish Place”

By Maj Fred H. Allison, USMCR (Ret)

In this article from the *Leatherneck* archives, we revisit the events of 20 years ago, Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists attacked the Pentagon.

50 History of the 6th Marine Division

By Capt James R. Stockman, USMCR

This is the final story in a series of articles from the *Leatherneck* archives about the Corps’ Divisions during World War II. Prepared by what was then known as the Historical Division of the Marine Corps, the article traces the 6th Marine Division’s activities in the Pacific.

58 Iwo: D+180

By Sgt Duane Decker, USMC

This article from the *Leatherneck* archives tells how six months after Marines landed on Iwo, the most famous battlefield in the Pacific became a beehive of construction activity.



42

Departments

4 Sound Off

10 In Every Clime and Place

18 Corps Connections

26 & 48 Leatherneck Laffs

34 Sea Stories

42 We—the Marines

47 Crazy Caption

64 Passing the Word

66 In Memoriam

70 Reader Assistance

72 Saved Round

COVER: A Marine with 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, provides security during an exercise near Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, April 21. Photo by LCpl Brienna Tuck, 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.

LEATHERNECK AND MCA MEMBERSHIP PRICES: 1 year \$42; 2 years \$79; 3 years \$119
Toll-free (866) 622-1775 • Email mca@mca-marines.org



YOUR ACTIVE SERVICE MAY BE ENDING BUT YOUR OPPORTUNITIES HAVE NOT

Transitioning? We're listening. See if the Direct Affiliation Program is right for you.

You're a Marine, and that will never change. But Marines feel most like Marines when they're still in the fight. So before you leave the service, we'd like to introduce you to a new way to serve. Through the Direct Affiliation Program, you can stay a Marine in a Reserve unit in your town. Opportunities include:

- No cost 6-month Tricare Prime extension
- Ability to transfer educational benefits
- Guaranteed billet
- Certain involuntary mobilization deferments for up to two years
- Lateral move opportunities

Ready to learn more about how the DAP provides transitioning Marines a guaranteed SMCR or IMA billet prior to reaching your EAS? Contact your local Prior Service Recruiter.

*For DAP details reference MARADMIN 279/20



MARINES

Letter of the Month

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

I received the June edition of *Leatherneck* magazine a few days ago and was pleasantly surprised to see the article, "Liberated Artillery: The Long and Winding Journey of an M1 Pack Howitzer," about the 75 mm pack howitzer that harassed the Marines at Camp Carroll in 1968. It brought back a lot of memories.

Major General Raymond Davis, Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division came flying into Camp Carroll one morning, as he frequently did, accompanied by his aide, Captain Dick Camp. Confronting Colonel Milt Hull, CO, 3rd Marines, he said, "I'm tired of reading about casualties at Camp Carroll inflicted by the 75 mm pack howitzers. I want you to find those howitzers and put them out of action." He then turned to me with his outstretched hand on the situation map and said, "Colonel Como, those 75s are just about at the maximum range of your 105 mm howitzers. What are you going to do?" I replied, "To ensure that the infantry had artillery support, I would send two sections of 4.2-inch mortars with the crews along with the infantry to supplement the fire of the 105 mm howitzers."

You know the rest of the story. Co I, 3/3 captured the 75s on July 19 and 20, and they were flown back by helicopter to Camp Carroll. I took photographs of one of the 75 mm howitzers as it was being off-loaded and after it was cleaned up. Three of the photos were used in your article.

Many years later, I visited the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va., shortly after it was opened to the public. My docent on this visit was an old arty friend of many years, LtCol Mike Stephens, USMC (Ret). As we were inspecting the static display of World War II artillery pieces, I spotted the 75 mm pack howitzer with the wooden spokes and iron rim in a dimly lit corner of the exhibit. My immediate thought was that it was the infamous 75 mm pack howitzer that the Marines had repatriated at Camp Carroll in 1968. Mike took a photo of me with my hand on the barrel and a big smile on my face. When I returned home to South Carolina, I found the pictures of the 75 mm pack howitzer that I had taken in

1968. I had copies of the pictures made and sent them to LtCol Stephens and asked that he give them to the proper authorities at the Museum, which he did.

In July 2009, a platoon from "Kilo" Battery, 4th Bn, 12th Marines visited the Museum during a reunion at Quantico. With the group was Doug Ween, their corpsman in 1968. Doug had a shrapnel wound inflicted by the 75 mm howitzer and had personally treated several Marines in 1968 who had been wounded by the gun. When they spotted the 75 mm howitzer with wooden wheels in the static display, they reasoned, as I did, that it was the infamous one from Camp Carroll days. As a group, they went to see Lieutenant General George Christmas, the President of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, and expressed their feelings that, out of respect for the 113 Marines killed or wounded by the 75 mm gun during 1968, a special exhibit should be set up featuring the howitzer to tell that story. He listened to their idea and appeared to agree with it.

In early August 2009, I was invited to a conference at the Museum to discuss the possibility of such an event. When I returned to my home in South Carolina, I believed an exhibit featuring the 75 mm pack howitzer would be forthcoming in the new annex that was being constructed but it never happened. I hope that now they have established that the 75 mm pack was indeed the one repatriated at Camp Carroll in 1968, such an exhibit will be forthcoming soon. It is altogether fitting and proper.

Thank you for publishing the article. Keep up the good work!

LtCol Joseph A. Como, USMC (Ret)
1951 to 1974
Greenwood, S.C.

Congressman Carbajal is a Credit To the Corps and House of Representatives

Your article, "From the Corps to Capitol Hill: Marine Veterans of the 117th U.S. Congress Continue Service to Country," brought back an incident involving Congressman Salud Carbajal that was of interest to me. My wife passed away in January 2017 and was going to be interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. She was eligible because of an award I received while serving in the Corps; she also served in the Corps for more than five years.

On the day of her interment, family and

friends met in a room to receive a briefing on the interment ceremony. While my family and I were in the waiting room, Congressman Carbajal came in. I had never met Congressman Carbajal as he was only elected in November 2016 to represent the county I resided in. He introduced himself and presented our family members a miniature Marine Corps emblem. He stayed with us throughout the entire service. He at no time mentioned politics.

As he only was newly elected and had recently been sworn in, I can imagine he had a busy schedule and to take time out of his schedule to attend my wife's services I thought was a class act. In my mind he is a credit to the Corps and to the House of Representatives.

1stSgt George E. Galvan, USMC (Ret)
Atascadero, Calif.

MCAS Futenma Concerns

This letter is in response to Sgt Kyle Daly's article, "Beyond the Fence Line: Understanding MCAS Futenma and Okinawa's Grievances." NAS Naha was my first duty station upon graduating from dental school at the ripe old age of 22. Great place! My concern about MCAS Futenma is one related to history. The last time I looked we, the United States, won World War II after losing a tremendous number of lives as well as treasure in Okinawa. Now we are being told by the nation we conquered whether they will even allow us to maintain a presence on this island. Why must our country be dictated to by the country we conquered? Just asking.

Col Jon E. Schiff, USAR (Ret)
Coronado, Calif.

I enjoyed your extensive article in the July issue about MCAS Futenma, Okinawa. I was in and out of Okinawa in 1965 during and after the 4th Marines' deployment there from Hawaii and on to Chu Lai, RVN, early that spring. Just prior to Operation Starlite, I was incorrectly issued a set of orders relieving me of my platoon in BLT 2/4. I flew out of Chu Lai the third week in July and spent a week in Da Nang before continuing on to Okinawa, where, after reporting in at the Camp Butler transit facility, I was informed that my orders were not "original" and did not authorize me to continue on to CONUS for release from active duty.

In addition to the problems with my

NEVER FORGET

The Day America Rose to an Unprecedented Challenge



Features the Twin Towers
Wrapped in the American
Flag on the Front

Gleaming Stainless Steel
with Rich Gold-tone
Finish

3 Sub-dials, Stopwatch
Function, Date Window
and Precision Quartz
Movement



9/11 20TH ANNIVERSARY

COMMEMORATIVE WATCH

A Moving Symbol of American Courage and Valor

Americans awoke the morning of September 11, 2001, with no hint of the horrific events that would unfold during the day. But the shattering tragedies at New York City's World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, called out the best and bravest in us. We united to heal our wounded nation. We pledged to "Never Forget" ... and we have not.

Now, in honor of the 20th anniversary of 9/11, The Bradford Exchange is proud to introduce our hand-crafted "9/11 20th Anniversary" Commemorative Watch. It carries a powerful message in a striking design that depicts the harrowing events that showed the world the grit and backbone of America. Hand-crafted in gleaming stainless steel with a rich gold-tone finish, this exclusive timepiece features a flag-wrapped image of the Twin Towers on the front. On the back are etched an inspiring message and images of the American flag and the sites of the three unspeakable events. Precision quartz movement, an adjustable c-clasp and water resistance up to 3 ATM make this historic watch extremely dependable and comfortable to wear.

A Remarkable Value Available for a Limited Time

The "9/11 20th Anniversary" Commemorative Watch is a keepsake of the day we'll never forget that you'll be proud to wear and it also makes a thoughtful gift. It arrives in a black custom presentation case with a Bradford Exchange Certificate of Authenticity. Available at just \$179.99*, you can pay for it in 5 easy installments of \$36.00, backed by our unconditional 120-day guarantee and full-year limited warranty. This exclusively designed timepiece is available only from The Bradford Exchange and you won't find it in stores. So don't delay. Send in your Priority Reservation today!



Order Today at bradfordexchange.com/35052

Connect with Us! [Facebook](#) [Pinterest](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) [YouTube](#)

©2021 The Bradford Exchange 01-35052-001-BI

Uniquely Designed. Exclusively Yours.

PRIORITY RESERVATION

SEND NO MONEY NOW

The Bradford Exchange

9345 Milwaukee Avenue · Niles, IL 60714-1393

YES. Please reserve the "9/11 20th Anniversary" Commemorative Watch for me as described in this announcement.

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

Signature

Mrs. Mr. Ms.

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address

City

State

Zip

E-Mail (Optional)



Back etched with commemorative 9/11 words and images

*Plus a total of \$15.00 shipping and service; see bradfordexchange.com. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery of your jewelry after we receive your initial deposit. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

01-35052-001-E21601

Leatherneck

MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES

President/CEO,

Marine Corps Association

LtGen Charles G. Chiarotti, USMC (Ret)

Publisher: Col Christopher Woodbridge, USMC (Ret)

Editor: Col Mary H. Reinwald, USMC (Ret)

Senior Editor: Nancy S. Lichtman

Copy Editor: Jessica B. Brown

Staff Writer: Sara W. Bock

Editorial/Production Coordinator

Patricia Everett

Editorial Assistant: Jacqueline Jedrych

Art Director: Jason Monroe

ADVERTISING QUERIES:

Defense Related Industries/Business:

Contact: LeeAnn Mitchell

advertising@mca-marines.org 703-640-0169

All Other Advertising Contact:

James G. Elliott Co. Inc.

New York: (212) 588-9200

Chicago: (312) 236-4900

Los Angeles: (213) 624-0900

EDITORIAL OFFICES

Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134

Phone: (703) 640-6161, Ext. 115

Toll-Free: (800) 336-0291

Fax: (703) 630-9147

Email: leatherneck@mca-marines.org

Web page: www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck

TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS

Editorial Offices: 115 • Business Office: 121

MEMBER SERVICES

Phone: toll-free (866) 622-1775

Email: mca@mca-marines.org

LEATHERNECK AND MCA MEMBERSHIP PRICES

1 year \$42; 2 years \$79; 3 years \$119

Leatherneck also is available in digital format at www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck.

All overseas and foreign addresses add \$16 postage for each year's membership except APO and FPO military addresses. Periodicals postage paid at Quantico, Va., USPS #308-080, and additional mailing offices.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please send your new address six weeks before the date of issue with which it is to take effect, if possible. Include old address with new, enclosing your address label if convenient. Send to: *Leatherneck* Magazine, Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134 or email to: mca@mca-marines.org.

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to: *Leatherneck* Magazine, Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134.



Leatherneck (ISSN 0023-981X) is published monthly by the Marine Corps Association, Bldg. #715, MCB, Quantico, VA 22134. Copyright 2021 by MCA.

All rights reserved. Stories, features, pictures and other material from *Leatherneck* may be reproduced if they are not restricted by law or military regulations, provided proper credit is given and specific prior permission has been granted for each item to be reproduced.

Opinions of authors whose articles appear in *Leatherneck* do not necessarily express the attitude of the Navy Department or Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. "Marines" and the Eagle, Globe and Anchor are trademarks of the U.S. Marine Corps, used with permission. When mailed, manuscripts, art or photographs should be accompanied by self-addressed envelopes and return postage. Query first on all submissions. The publisher assumes no responsibility for return of unsolicited manuscripts, drawings or photographs.

Publication of advertisements does not constitute endorsement by MCA except for such products or services clearly offered under MCA's name. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any advertising order at his absolute discretion.

orders, I was placed on a legal hold in order to testify in a court martial. It turned out that several rear echelon Marines at Camp Hansen had broken into the footlockers we had left behind when we embarked for our movement to Vietnam. Among other items the thieves had stolen were a couple of watches I had purchased at the Okinawa PX. For the next three months, while awaiting a new set of orders and the aforementioned court martial, I remained on Okinawa and spent time at Camps Butler and Courtney and most pleasantly in the bachelor officer quarters (BOQ) at the Futenma Marine Corps Air Facility. It was by far the nicest BOQ and officer's club of the three and I have fond memories of my days and nights there awaiting the change of status that eventually saw me return to CONUS for release from active duty at Treasure Island.

I noticed a few years ago in other editions of *Leatherneck* that the base I had enjoyed so much was referred to as Futenma which it apparently still is. Are we not talking about the same place that back in the early fall of 1965 provided me with such a welcome haven from the incredible heat and humidity, insects and snakes and the miserable C-rations and lukewarm water diet that we faced 24/7 during those early months at Chu Lai?

Capt Lynn I. Terry, USMCR
Sedona, Ariz.

Memories of Surfers at Camp Pendleton

This letter is regarding the June article: "Hey, Dude, Semper Fi: Camp Pendleton's Surfing History Told in Newly Released Book" by David Matuszak. In 1968 and 1969 after my return from Vietnam, I was a sergeant with the 5th Military Police (MP) Bn assigned to the Provost Marshall's office to supplement the base MPs. I patrolled in an old Ford F100 pickup truck which had a governor on it so it couldn't go over 50 mph. My patrol area was in the northeastern part of the base from Las Pulgas Road to the San Onofre gate and south of Basilone Road. This area included the San Onofre Beach Club and the Rancho Santa Margarita y las Flores ranch house.

I can attest to and confirm that some MPs did shoot toward (not at) encroaching civilian surfers as I saw these actions with my own eyes, although I never personally took part in or agreed with these actions. Normally, when civilian surfers saw MPs, they would just paddle around the point into the non-military area until we left and then they would paddle back.

On one occasion, I found a civilian surfer who had somehow gained entrance to Camp Pendleton and was in the process

of unloading his surfboard. When I approached him on foot, he threw his surfboard back into his VW Bus and attempted to run over me. I jumped into my truck and gave chase with red lights and siren. Managing to get past the San Onofre gate guards, he headed into San Clemente. Not having jurisdiction off base, I turned off my lights and siren and followed. While stopped at a stop light next to a San Clemente police car, I motioned to the officer to stop the van, which he did. The police turned over the cuffed driver and put his surfboard into the back of my truck, and I took him to the provost marshal's office at the main base complex. Normally, the provost marshal's office detained offenders for a few hours and then released them. Their surfboard would be confiscated but could be recovered after 30 days with a fine. If the offender was a minor, their parents would have to come and get them out. Interestingly, the storage area for surfboards was usually filled with dozens of boards, most having never been claimed.

As to Rancho Santa Margarita y las Flores ranch house, it was notoriously said to be haunted. A guard house was located a couple hundred feet from the actual ranch house and manned by three guards. Occasionally on my patrol rounds I would stop by the guard house and find the gate guards scared to death by sounds coming from the ranch house and from underneath the guard house. It was always amusing. Thanks for the memories.

I also enjoyed your article "Eternal Fraternity: Throughout History, Marines, 'Docs' Share Unique, Indescribable Bond," by Sara W. Bock, citing the bond between Marines and their beloved corpsmen. I am an old Marine who served with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines in Vietnam, 1967-1968, as a 0331 machine gunner. I served my full 13-month tour and was in the field during Operations Union, Union II, Swift, Essex and Tet and other "no-name" operations. I saw combat in numerous ambushes, firefights and all out battles. Never once did I witness a corpsman hesitate, for even a second, to answer the call "Corpsman Up!" even in the heat of battle with bullets, mortars and RPGs whizzing through the air like bunches of angry bees while everyone else was seeking shelter. They were always Johnny-on-the-spot when they were needed most.

Certainly, their time to shine was in battle tending to the wounded but their other mundane duties also need noting. These included making sure we grunts got our salt pills on murderously hot days, the norm for Vietnam, tending to our other ailments such as "jungle-rot," cuts, scrapes



AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION

September 1, 2021, marks a milestone for the Corps' Professional Association as Marine Corps Association (MCA) President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), LtGen W. Mark Faulkner, USMC (Ret), will turn over leadership of the Association to LtGen Charles G. "Chuck" Chiarotti, USMC (Ret).

Since assuming his duties in February 2017, LtGen Faulkner has led the MCA and our Foundation through unprecedented times of growth, change, and challenge—ensuring that the Association continues to serve as the preeminent association for all Marines and friends of the Corps.

Most noteworthy, his steady hand at the helm throughout the recent pandemic along with his energetic engagement with leaders in the Corps, the Department of the Navy, Defense Industry, and our sister-Service professional associations has sustained and even increased the Association's support for Marines while preserving resources and safeguarding the organization's human capital.

His four years of exemplary service to Today's Marines, veterans and friends of the Corps has been dedicated to the development and recognition of professional excellence and the expanding of awareness of the rich traditions, history, and esprit of the Corps, and his personal initiative and vision have set the Association on a future course that will only continue to improve the value of the MCA's contributions to the Corps. We wish LtGen Faulkner and his wife, Janet, fair winds and following seas.

The MCA is pleased to welcome LtGen Chiarotti as our new President and CEO. LtGen Chiarotti has served for more than 35 years in the Marine Corps logistics community in both command and staff billets throughout the Corps including as the Deputy Commander of the United States Forces Japan and most recently as the Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics. Welcome aboard, Sir!



and high temperatures from amoebic dysentery. Their duties didn't end in the field. In combat bases and garrisons, they manned sickbay. And, importantly, they were our friends and confidants. I cannot say enough about our Docs. We loved them and still do!

Sgt Kenneth L. Fields
Columbia, Mo.

Please Consider Story on GySgt Hubert Hunnicutt

I wanted to ask you if there is any way that you would consider doing an article on "Charlie," 1/9, specifically on Navy Cross recipient Gunnery Sergeant Hubert H. Hunnicutt. This is a very compelling story and the heroics of Hunnicutt are inspiring and epitomize the ethos, tradition and history of the Corps.

I have made several attempts to ask the Department of the Navy and the Commandant to consider having Hunnicutt's Navy Cross award upgraded to the Congressional Medal of Honor and as of this writing have had no success. If there is any way you can direct me to the proper channels for consideration, I would be most grateful.

Leatherneck publishes some great articles, specifically the two on Corpsmen (Docs) [June issue] and History of the 4th

Division [July issue]. *Leatherneck* gets better with each passing month. Keep up the good work.

Paul Hout
Jacksonville, Fla.

• *We always appreciate recommendations for possible future Leatherneck stories so thank you for the recommendation on a possible article on GySgt Hunnicutt. As far as upgrading his Navy Cross to the Medal of Honor, the Awards Branch at Headquarters Marine Corps is responsible for requests of that nature. The article "Awards Branch: MMEA Works to Ensure Accuracy, Recognition For Deserving Marines" from our May 2019 issue describes the process by which awards can be upgraded. The article can be found at <https://mca-marines.org/wp-content/uploads/Awards-Branch.pdf>. — Editor*

Pleasant Surprise in Sea Stories

I just read the July digital edition of *Leatherneck*, and to my surprise and delight, I saw my water buffalo encounter, "An Unexpected Foe." I would like to thank you and your staff for printing my letter. I'm sure a lot of Vietnam vets had their own encounters over there. I hope it brought a smile to them.

I read about the Marine's last name of Sergeant titled, "Surname is a Catch 22," also in *Sea Stories*. I don't know if he is the same one or not, but when I was a drill instructor (DI) at MCRD San Diego from 1982 to 1984, I had a private with the last name of Sergeant. Throughout training he was not allowed to be called Private Sergeant but called and answered to Private *Sirgent* until graduation. Looking back, we DI's should not have distorted his given last name but that was USMC boot camp. (I wonder if the Private Sergeant mentioned in the July issue could have been my Private *Sirgent*.) One very large and tall private's last name was Bird. He was called "Big Bird" all through training.

When I went through boot camp in 1965, Platoon 217, there were two of us with the last name of Williams. Thankfully we were not singled out with a variant of our last name. I kept my nose to the grindstone and graduated as a meritorious private first class. I wasn't even a house mouse, a squad leader, or a guide during our entire training.

A few days before graduation, the really tough DI, Corporal Butler, ordered seven of us into an empty Quonset hut. Yes, in 1965 we lived in Quonset huts. We thought he was going to beat the snot out of us, as he was snarling and growling, for some-

**WE KNOW
WHERE YOU'VE BEEN.
WE'LL HELP YOU GET TO
WHERE YOU WANT TO BE.**



FOCUSMARINES.ORG
WHERE THINGS START TO GET BETTER.

thing we had no idea about. Cpl Butler, the other junior DI, and our senior DI never laid a hand on any of us. When I was a DI myself and my juniors never wrongfully touched a private. We were tough and mean, but never physically abusive.

GySgt Larry D. Williams, USMC (Ret)
Yuma, Ariz.

Article Created Questions

The article “MCRD San Diego Graduates First Female Recruits” [We—the Marines] in the July issue created many comments and questions in my mind. Although I learned much from a female family member who completed boot camp at Parris Island two years ago, I felt this article and photos could have been more extensive. I am sure many would like to learn more about our proud female Marines training.

Page 49 shows the departure from a bus on Feb. 9. Page 48 shows pick-up from a Drill Instructor (DI) on Feb. 12. What happened during the three-day period in between? When I entered my beloved Marine Corps in October 1968, we jumped from the bus, scrambled to the yellow footprints and were introduced to our DIs; Staff Sergeants Mize and James and Sergeant Bryant, in a matter of minutes.

We entered the receiving barracks at 1 a.m. amidst yelling and confusion, saw our hair disappear, issued our Marine clothing and 782 gear, polished every bit of brass in the barracks, learned stories about the before and after photos on the walls, all in a matter of three to four hours. At 5 a.m. we stumbled and stomped in a most disorganized way to our Quonset hut to deposit our precious gear. Then came the yelling, “On the road!” We looked at each other in a puzzling way. What does that mean? Shortly afterward we literally crawled to the chow hall. Again, we wondered what was meant when the DI ordered us to yell, “Sir, Platoon 2205, section 3, aye aye, Sir.” Then we saw the sign, “Take All You Want. Eat All You Take.” I won’t reminisce here about what happened to Private Pyle (fictitious name) at the end of the sumptuous breakfast. He was the only one in our platoon that didn’t make it through boot camp, but that’s another story for some other time.

Now comes my lack of memory. The article states, “After a century of training only male Marines, MCRD San Diego welcomed women to ‘Lima’ Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, the first integrated company at the West Coast installation, earlier this year.” I’m sure we saw women Marines in training at

MCRD in 1968. Am I mistaken? Also, what is meant by “integrated company?”

I am pleased that you chose one of my ramblings for “Sea Stories” a few years ago. I am sure you receive thousands of emails each month. Nonetheless, pardon this old Marine’s ramblings.

GySgt Monty P. Gregor, USMC (Ret)
Oak Park, Ill.

• *Gunny, we didn’t run a day-by-day account as we were focusing on the change in location; the training remained the same. We are running a feature article on MCRD San Diego in December in honor of its 100th anniversary, which will include more details about today’s recruit training. Female recruits have undergone recruit training only at MCRD Parris Island before this year. You may have seen female Marines at MCRD San Diego in the 1960s but they weren’t recruits. An integrated company is a company comprised of male and female platoons. They are mixed at the company level but remain segregated at the platoon level and below.—Editor*

Saved Round Generated Memory

This is in response to the Saved Round in the July *Leatherneck* regarding in-
[continued on page 68]

The eLearning Ecosystem^{*} Virtual Workshop

^{*}MarineNet



09.14.21 + 09.15.21
1300-1700

In Every Clime and Place

Compiled by Sara W. Bock



CPL COLTON GARRETT, USMC

LCpl Tyler Bumgarner, a rifleman with “Charlie” Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, assigned to MRF–D, walks away from an MV-22B Osprey during Exercise Darrandarra at Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory, Australia, June 14. The Ospreys flew from Darwin to Nhulunbuy to deliver troops and equipment to support the exercise.

NORTHERN TERRITORY, AUSTRALIA **Marines Complete Embassy Reinforcement, Noncombatant Evacuation Exercise**

Marine Rotational Force–Darwin completed an embassy reinforcement and noncombatant evacuation operations exercise called “Darrandarra” at the Australian Defence Force’s (ADF) Northern Command depot in Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory Australia, in June.

The focus of Darrandarra was to enhance MRF–D’s ability to assist the U.S. Department of State with reinforcing embassies in the Indo-Pacific region and evacuating American citizens whose lives are in danger due to rising civil unrest or political tensions.

The exercise was conducted in coordination with members of the Australian Defence Force who assisted the Marine Corps with logistical planning, exercise control and community engagement.

The planning phase of the exercise began at Robertson Barracks, where Marines and ADF members developed a plan that allowed MRF–D to transport troops and equipment to Nhulunbuy using an Australian C-130 Hercules in addition to Marine Corps MV-22B Ospreys.

Once in Nhulunbuy, Marines conducted

various training activities at the simulated embassy on the depot, such as using non-lethal force to de-escalate civilian riots, enhancing embassy security and preventing unauthorized people from entering the embassy.

“Working side-by-side with the Australians proved critical to the success of the exercise. Sharing resources makes MRF-D and Northern Command a more efficient and capable force,” said Captain Zach Ball, the exercise forward command element officer in charge.

As the exercise scenario reached a point where the simulated embassy needed to be shut down completely, MRF–D’s Logistics Combat Element established an emergency evacuation center, which is used to safely process and evacuate American citizens. MRF–D used Marines as role players to make the training as realistic as possible.

An additional MRF–D and ADF priority while in Nhulunbuy was to conduct community engagements. Marines and members of the ADF showed support for the local community by attending the opening ceremony of the new East Arnhem Regional Council building, interacting with locals in Yirrkala, a small town in East Arnhem Land, and hosting a community engagement on June 18.

The community engagement involved a static display of the Marine Corps’ MV-22B Osprey, and Marines played sports with local children, let them try on their protective equipment and discussed their jobs and experiences in the Marine Corps and in Australia.

“It was important for us to interact with the community so we could show our appreciation for the opportunity to train in Nhulunbuy. Everyone was friendly and excited to interact with Marines and ADF soldiers and see Ospreys,” said Headquarters Northern Command Operations Officer, Australian Army Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Gosling.

Darrandarra, meaning “together,” demonstrated the Marine Corps’ ability to operate with the Australian Defence Force, reinforce embassies and conduct non-combatant evacuation operations to maintain stability in the Indo-Pacific region. The exercise was a tangible demonstration to the Marine Corps and Australian Defence Force’s commitment to strengthening the current alliance and interacting with the community.

1stLt Gabriel Lechuga, USMC

NASHVILLE, TENN. **Full Spectrum: Marine Raiders Certify for Deployment**

Marine Raiders with Marine Forces Special Operations Command recently completed RAVEN unit readiness exercises with Marines from across the Fleet Marine Force as well as U.S. Army Special Forces, April 24-June 1.

RAVEN is MARSOC’s predeployment unit readiness exercise, designed to evaluate Marine Special Operations Companies (MSOC) and Marine Special Operations Teams as well as provide valuable training and experience to supporting units.

“This exercise has evolved over time to encompass a broad range of military operations,” said a Marine special operations team commander, whose name was withheld for security reasons. “It stresses interoperability with partner nation forces, other services and government agencies and departments.”

The exercise places the MSOC into a notional country, simulating a deployment. The training environment includes a vast network of internet simulation and civilian and military role-players that comprise the host nation military security forces.

Marine Raiders provide medical care to a simulated casualty during a RAVEN unit readiness exercise in Nashville, Tenn., May 11. RAVEN is a training exercise held to evaluate all aspects of an MSOC deployment.

The company and supporting units constantly work through scenarios that require them to gather intelligence, control narratives and public perception, train host nation forces, complete strikes, coordinate with the Department of State, conduct reconnaissance and execute raids. As a supporting unit, Marines with Force Reconnaissance Company, 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion provided their capabilities to the MSOC.

“Reconnaissance Marines are valuable both to conventional and the special operations community,” said First Lieutenant Rex Vankoevery, a platoon commander with Force Recon Co, 2nd Recon Bn. “We provide that connecting file between the conventional forces and the special operations capability. Additionally, another asset we provide is that persistent near-real time ground reconnaissance and battlespace shaping capability, allowing special operations and conventional forces to free up and complete other mission sets.”

The reconnaissance Marines supported

multiple missions using various insertion and extraction techniques, including military freefall. They worked alongside the MSOC to provide intelligence on objectives that ultimately supported the commander’s decision to approve mission execution and provide an elevated level of safety and confidence prior to any mission execution.

Marines with 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment supported the MSOC during the final RAVEN evolution, while various

other units from the Fleet Marine Force acted as partner nation forces throughout the exercise. U.S. Army Special Forces acted as a peer-to-peer competition force, gathering information and attempting to disrupt the MSOC’s operational foothold.

“We are here to provide that peer-to-peer threat,” said a U.S. Army Special Forces member. “We are working on our tactics through surveillance, counter-surveillance and electronic warfare. While completing our training we are



CPL BRENNAN PRIEST, USMC



CPL BRENNAN PRIEST, USMC

Marines acting as host nation military members provide medical care to a simulated casualty in Nashville, Tenn., May 12. Marines from units across the Fleet Marine Force supported RAVEN in various roles throughout the exercise.

Below: Marines with VMFA-211, assigned to CSG 21, prepare for post-flight checks on an F-35B Lightning II on the flight deck of HMS *Queen Elizabeth*, June 18. Alongside the U.K.'s 617 Squadron, VMFA-211 is conducting combat sorties in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. (Photo by 1stLt Zachary Bodner, USMC)



providing similar challenges to each other. With MARSOC having the same level of capabilities as a special forces group, we have the same goals, we are learning good lessons and getting better as a force.”

This exercise emphasized that there is more to being a Marine Raider than direct action raids. The company must prove its proficiency in all skill sets that will be required during a deployment. Every critical skills operator, special operations officer, special operations capability specialist and support Marine demonstrates their effectiveness as a part of the MARSOC team.

Everything that Marines do, especially at MARSOC, is rehearsed. This is an opportunity not only to complete direct-action raids, reconnaissance and intelligence operations, but also to practice strengthening partnerships with the host nation forces prior to deployment. Marine Raiders ensure that they speak a common language and incorporate any agencies or partners that could add to the fight wherever they are across the globe.

“It’s been long days, long nights, it’s been stressful, we are all pretty tired but we are going to come out of this exercise fully prepared for a deployment,” said the MSOT commander.

MARSOC units provide scalable, expeditionary Marine Raider teams worldwide to accomplish special operations missions assigned by U.S. Special Operations Command.

Cpl Brennan Priest, USMC

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Aboard HMS *Queen Elizabeth*, Marine F-35 Squadron Supports OIR

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 211, deployed aboard the Royal Navy aircraft carrier HMS *Queen Elizabeth* (R-08), began air operations in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, June 18.

VMFA-211 and the United Kingdom’s 617 Squadron both flew F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter aircraft during the counter-ISIS and protective overwatch missions.

“U.S. Marine Corps aircraft supporting OIR from a Royal Navy aircraft carrier demonstrates how effectively interoperable our combined naval forces are,” said Colonel Simon Doran, U.S. Senior National Representative to the U.K. Carrier Strike Group (CSG).

The flights also marked the first time the U.K. has integrated aircraft carrier operations via the U.S. Air Force’s Combined Air Operations Center.

“We are proud to fly these missions alongside our U.K. allies,” said Lieutenant Colonel Andrew D’Ambrogio, the commanding officer of VMFA-211. “The Marines and Sailors of VMFA-211 remain ready to complete any mission while deployed aboard *Queen Elizabeth*.”

The U.S. Navy also supported the *Queen Elizabeth* CSG with the guided-missile destroyer, USS *The Sullivans* (DDG-68).

VMFA-211 is based at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., and assigned

to Marine Aircraft Group 13, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. The squadron’s mission is to destroy surface targets and enemy aircraft, day or night, under all weather conditions during expeditionary, joint or combined operations.

VMFA-211 is also supported by U.S. Navy Sailors assigned to aircraft carrier USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN-74).

1stLt Zachary Bodner, USMC

JAPAN

Marines of 5th ANGLICO Integrate with Partners, Allies

Marines with 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (ANGLICO), III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, integrated with Japanese, French and Australian military units in training events across Okinawa and mainland Japan during April and May.

Specializing in the capability to plan, coordinate, employ and conduct terminal control of fires in support of joint, allied and coalition forces, 5th ANGLICO also focuses specifically on command and control in support of expeditionary ad-

An F-35B Lightning II takes off from the flight deck of HMS *Queen Elizabeth* in the 6th Fleet area of operations, June 18.



1STLT ZACHARY BODNER, USMC



LCPL BRIENNA TUCK, USMC

A Japanese soldier with 15th Brigade, JGSDF and a U.S. Marine with 5th ANGLICO, III MEF Information Group, observe a plot point during an exercise near Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, April 21. The training allowed 15th Brigade forces to study tactical communication, maneuver and fires, increasing interoperability between the two countries.

vanced base operations and has been able to share this vital knowledge with key allies and partners recently through unique training.

“We’re designed to attach directly with our joint, allied or coalition forces,” said Major Nicholas Webster, 1st Brigade platoon commander with 5th ANGLICO. “We provide a link between those forces and the Marine Corps’ Marine air-ground task force commander and provide supporting arms to our allies.”

Exercise Jeanne D’Arc (ARC) 21, a weeklong training exercise, was one of the events conducted, focusing on military-to-military exchanges of experiences, tactics and best practices that would increase all participants’ military capabilities and improve the lethality in the Indo-Pacific region. It allowed the U.S. and Japanese to continue building upon their longstanding relationship but also allowed for stronger bonds to form with French and Australian counterparts.

ARC 21 was a continuation of allied-focused training that 5th ANGLICO participated in throughout the month of



LCPL BRIENNA TUCK, USMC

April. In past training events, Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) units had the opportunity to observe ANGLICO's training, some of which consisted of fire support, jungle operations and basic battle tactics.

During ARC 21, 5th ANGLICO worked alongside servicemembers from partner and allied nations to provide surface-to-surface fires and digitally aided close air support. By using the Target Handoff System Version 2 and the Link 16 radio, they were able to communicate with mul-

tiples aircraft. These aircraft included a Japanese Mitsubishi UH-60JA helicopter with JGSDF, AH-1Z Viper and UH-1Y Venom helicopters with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 267, and two F/A-18 Hornets with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232.

"We bring a sufficient amount of fire assets to the battlefield, in terms of surface-to-surface and air-to-surface fires," said Sergeant Jonathan Fico, a fire support Marine with 5th ANGLICO. "We have the capability to bring these assets to the

SSgt Joshua Barnes, a supporting arms liaison team chief with 5th ANGLICO, III MEF Information Group, provides security during an exercise near Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, April 21. During April and May, the Marines of 5th ANGLICO integrated their training with Japanese, French and Australian military units.

joint world to work together with foreign nations and merge what the two forces bring to the fight."

This iteration of ARC-21 was the first time each of these four countries trained together in this setting, using ANGLICO Marines as the liaison to coordinate simulated fire support between ship and shore.

"We don't get the opportunity to train with all four of these nations together very often," said Captain Thomas Delaney, firepower control team lead with 5th ANGLICO. "The fact that we have the JGSDF, Australian Navy, French Foreign Legion and [U.S.] Naval ships all in one spot to conduct an amphibious operation is very rare. We look forward to any opportunity that gives us a chance to train together."

Training multi-laterally increases the integration and interoperability between forces and enables the U.S. to respond across a wide range of military operations when called upon by their allies.

LCpl Brienna Tuck, USMC



Marines with 5th ANGLICO look for a target point while establishing an observation point near Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, April 21.

LCPL BRIENNA TUCK, USMC

CELEBRATE THE TRADITION AND PRIDE OF YOUR CORPS

USMC SEMPER FIDELIS Twill Bomber Jacket



Vintage Bomber-style Jacket
in Comfortable
100% Cotton Twill



Fully Embroidered Details
on Front and Back



Removable Sherpa Collar



"USMC" and Marines Eagle,
Globe and Anchor Expertly
Embroidered
on the Front

Available in 5 Men's Sizes:
M to XXXL

MADE MARINE TOUGH... FOR TOUGH MARINES

Combining the enduring look of a vintage-style bomber jacket with a classic salute to the pride and tradition of the Marines, our **"USMC Semper Fidelis" Twill Bomber Jacket** is an exclusive design that's sure to keep you comfortable and warm through years of weather and wear... and it's only available from The Bradford Exchange.

Great pride and attention to detail went into the intricately embroidered artwork on both sides of this khaki twill, front-zip jacket. On the front of this bomber-inspired jacket is "USMC" along with the official Marines Eagle, Globe and Anchor. Surrounding the large Eagle, Globe and Anchor on the back is the motto "Semper Fidelis" and "U.S. Marine Corps". Made of 100% cotton twill, this exclusive jacket only gets better with wear and features many

additional details including two front flap pockets with a hidden zip pocket behind each one, an inside slip pocket, snap cuffs, knit hem, and removable sherpa collar. What a distinctive way to show your pride in being one of The Few. The Proud. The Marines. Imported.

AN EXCEPTIONAL VALUE... YOUR SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

With its custom design and quality, the officially licensed **"USMC Semper Fidelis" Twill Bomber Jacket** is a remarkable value at \$199.95*, and you can pay in four easy installments of \$49.99. To order yours in sizes M-XXXL (sizes XXL-XXXL, add \$10), backed by our unconditional 30-day guarantee, send no money now; just fill out and send in your Priority Reservation today!



Order online at bradfordexchange.com/32405

Connect with Us!



™ Officially Licensed Product of the United States Marine Corps.

©2021 The Bradford Exchange 01-32405-001-BIBR1

Where Passion Becomes Art

PRIORITY RESERVATION

SEND NO MONEY NOW

The Bradford Exchange

9345 Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, Illinois 60714-1393 U.S.A.

YES. Please reserve the **"USMC Semper Fidelis" Twill Bomber Jacket** in the size checked below for me as described in this announcement.

Please Respond Promptly

- ☐ **Medium (38-40)** 01-32405-011 ☐ **XL (46-48)** 01-32405-013 ☐ **XXXL (54-56)** 01-32405-015
☐ **Large (42-44)** 01-32405-012 ☐ **XXL (50-52)** 01-32405-014

*Plus a total of \$20.99 shipping and service (see bradfordexchange.com).
Please allow 2-4 weeks after initial payment for shipment. All sales are subject to product availability and order acceptance.

Signature

Mrs. Mr. Ms.

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

E50202

Push Beyond the Pain:

A Marine and a Mentor, Master Sergeant Marvin D. Anderson

By GySgt Christopher A. Mendez, USMC

Editor's note: The following article is an honorable mention from the 2021 Leatherneck Writing Contest. Major Richard A. "Rick" Stewart, USMC (Ret) sponsored the contest, which is open to enlisted Marines through the Marine Corps Association. Upcoming issues of Leatherneck will feature other honorable mention entries.

John Maxwell, leadership author and motivational speaker, describes leadership as “influence—nothing more, and nothing less,” a fitting phrase when examining the character, life and Marine Corps and professional career of Master Sergeant Marvin D. Anderson Jr., who served from 1972-1997. Like most trailblazers, Anderson, or “Andy” as he is known by most of his acquaintances, refined his leadership style through challenge and adversity—sometimes life-threatening encounters and overwhelming hardships, both on and off the battlefield. As an African-American serving his country in the immediate wake of the Civil Rights movement, Anderson faced significant racial challenges, sometimes more perilous than those he fought in either the Vietnam or Iraq theaters. Nevertheless, one would never know of Anderson’s trials and tribulations without an intimate examination of his life due to his self-assured demeanor and radiating enthusiasm. This essay examines the merits that make Anderson not only a successful and outstanding leader of Marines, but also a model citizen by detailing his unyielding sense of optimism despite enormous adversity, genuine care for others and appealing sense of charisma.

Throughout his Marine Corps career, Anderson faced many challenging situations that would leave most with a bitter sentiment toward the military and outlook on life in general. As the only African-American in his company at 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, Anderson received many racially motivated threats. Often, to escape the onslaught of intimidations, slurs and harassment while stationed at Twentynine Palms, Calif., he would aimlessly ride base transportation to avoid the other Marines of his company.

One night, threats turned to violence when some of the Marines from Anderson’s company attacked him and placed a makeshift noose around his neck in an attempt to hang him. After the violent confrontation, Anderson was moved to another company.

As painful as the racially motivated attack was, he did not let it define who he was or his Marine Corps service. Instead, Anderson turned the situation into a positive by becoming 5th Marine Regiment’s race-relations discussion leader, facilitating racial integration among the predominantly white unit. Although the mediated conversations led by Anderson would often get heated, it was during that time he refined his levelheadedness and cultivated his impeccable communication skills, paving the way for him to be a sought-after speaker later in his life. Though Anderson’s durable sense of optimism was forged by adversity off the battlefield, it was on the battlefield in Vietnam that Anderson found his calling in photogrammetry, which led him to later become one of the most influential instructors at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) among Marines and civilians alike.

Aside from the overwhelming confidence and sense of optimism Anderson exudes, there is also the reality that he is genuinely interested in those around him. For example, one of Anderson’s

favorite things to do is invest time in teaching and mentoring Marines and soldiers in their geospatial-intelligence military occupational specialty courses aboard Fort Belvoir, Va. Often, Anderson would greet new students and re-enforce to them that they made the right choice to join the Intelligence Community (IC). Anderson enjoys sharing not only his more than 20 years of professional-civilian endeavors but



MSgt Marvin D. Anderson, USMC (Ret) was the guest of honor at a recent Marine Corps Birthday Ball where he was also celebrated for being the oldest Marine in attendance.

COURTESY OF GYSGT CHRISTOPHER A. MENDEZ, USMC

also his 25 years of military experience and sea stories of his tours amid every active infantry division, aircraft wing and Marine Expeditionary Force staff. It is very apparent in every conversation with Anderson that he is investing significant amounts of energy into his conversations and has a genuine interest in those with whom he talks, regardless of rank, educational background or any other category. Lastly, Anderson perfectly walked the fine line of arrogance and confidence when elaborating on his IC and military experiences in a way that demanded attention and made the listener want to know more, to which Anderson always happily obliges.

Anderson's high energy and confidence challenge the energy levels of most 20-year-olds, despite the fact that he's now nearing 70 years of age. The motivation in Anderson's steps, coupled with his overall cheerful demeanor, undoubtedly makes him one of the most requested speakers for formal ceremonies such as the Marine Corps Birthday ball. These days Anderson is typically the oldest Marine present, but he still effortlessly fits into all of his service and dress uniforms. Anderson never shies from an opportunity to don his service or dress uniforms, which details his combat-related service in Vietnam and Desert Storm and his tour of duty in recruiting. Speaking with Anderson about his experiences all comes together seeing his many decorations from his devoted service

to the Marine Corps. Undoubtedly, Anderson's breadth of knowledge and experience makes him a legendary IC Marine and exemplary citizen; however, his appealing sense of charisma, which makes others desire to be around him, is equally attributable to his success.

Master Sergeant Marvin D. Anderson Jr.'s countless remarkable military service accomplishments, extensive

knowledge and eagerness to share his expertise, and his radiating charisma make him an extraordinary leader of both Marines and civilians. Anderson's many challenging obstacles were mere stepping stones in his journey to become something more significant. Instead of blaming others, institutions or systems for transgressions

and wrongdoings, Anderson used his negative experiences to make the Marine Corps, the United States and the world a better place. An embodiment of the Marine Corps' philosophy to return a better product (citizen) than the one entering service, Anderson epitomizes the conduct of a Marine and after-service civilian.

Author's bio: GySgt Mendez is from Tillamook, Ore., and has served on active duty for 14 years. Currently he is stationed at 3rd Intelligence Battalion as the III MAGTF Intelligence Center chief. 🇺🇸

As painful as the racially motivated attack was, he did not let it define who he was or his Marine Corps service. Instead, Anderson turned the situation into a positive.



Preserving Traditions Providing Fraternity Promoting the Future We are the Marine Corps League

Based in over 1,100 communities in 50 States

- Transitioning Marines & Family Support
- Toys for Tots Support
- Legislative Support and Initiatives
- Funeral Honor Guard Support
- Rifle & Pistol Matches

- Veteran Service Officers
- Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service
- College Scholarships
- Color Guards
- Youth Physical Fitness

www.mclnational.org

info@mcleague.org

East Greenbush, N.Y.

Iraq War Veteran Receives Purple Heart for 2005 TBI

Veteran Marines of 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment gathered at the American Legion "Melvin Roads" Post 1231 in East Greenbush, N.Y., June 19, to present the Purple Heart to one of their own, 16 years after he was wounded. These men of Company C, the storied "Suicide Charley" 1/7, and their former battalion commander, learned that then-Lance Corporal David Wickham, who had been wounded on Jan. 3, 2005, when the HMMWV he was driving hit an improvised explosive device (IED) made from three stacked anti-tank mines in the Al Qaim area of western Al Anbar Province, Iraq, and suffered a traumatic brain injury, had never been awarded the medal for the wound sustained in combat.

At the time, what is known today as a TBI was considered merely a concussion or "closed head trauma" and did not qualify for award of the Purple Heart. It would take a 2008 Department of Defense-wide study and a change in policy in 2011 for those wounds to rate the award. After he was wounded, LCpl Wickham was treated and returned to duty. The other occupant of the vehicle, Staff Sergeant John Jones, had wounds so severe that he required medical evacuation and the eventual amputation of both legs.

When Jones reconnected with Wickham and other wounded Suicide Charley veterans from his time in Iraq, he learned that Wickham had not received a Purple Heart even after the change



COURTESY OF COL CHRISTOPHER WOODBRIDGE, USMC (RET)

in policy. Over the next year, Jones reached out to collect statements from witnesses and the former chain of command, from platoon to battalion, and navigated the Marine Corps' process for "reclama" awards. With assistance from the Wounded Warrior Regiment and Headquarters Marine Corps' Awards Branch, Wickham's Purple Heart package was approved on April 26.

Pictured from the left, Sgt Darrin Willey; SSgt John Jones, USMC (Ret); Col Christopher Woodbridge, USMC (Ret); Sgt Marcos Seda; Sgt Bradd Owens and Sgt Jonathan Davis presented Wickham with his Purple Heart near his home in upstate New York.

Col Christopher Woodbridge, USMC (Ret)



COURTESY OF BILL FORTUNE

St. George, Utah

Marine Corps League Detachment Members Lead Fourth of July Parade

Members of the Utah Dixie Detachment 1270, Marine Corps League, provided a five-man color guard to lead the annual Fourth of July parade in St. George, Utah, July 3.

Other members of the detachment made up a contingent to lead the parade as the first unit. The unit provided a drummer for cadence, two Marines to carry the detachment banner, and Tuffy Ruth, pictured (left) driving his restored World War II 1943 Ford Jeep. During the parade, Ruth's Jeep was followed by local Marine Corps recruiters and their poolees—soon to become Marines.

Spectators lined both sides of the street with their hands over their hearts as the nation's colors passed by. The parade was part of St. George's weekend-long patriotic celebration.

Utah Dixie Detachment 1270 has provided charitable service to the Southern Utah region for more than 14 years.

Submitted by Bill Fortune

Mount Juliet, Tenn.

Shepherd's Men Marines Run, Ruck and Swim To Honor Post-9/11 Veterans

The Shepherd's Men, a 10-member team of active-duty, medically retired and honorably discharged servicemembers and civilians dedicated to raising funds and awareness for the Atlanta-based Shepherd Center's SHARE Military Initiative, completed its seventh annual Shepherd's Men Run, May 24-31. The seven-day, seven-city physical challenge, which kicked off at the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., requires each member to run, ruck and swim every day, totaling more than 1,000 collective miles, while wearing 22-pound flak vests with armor plates. The gear simulates what U.S. military troops wear during battle and represents the physical, mental and emotional burden many veterans cope with while readjusting to civilian life.

During the team's movement in Mount Juliet, Tenn., May 27, each participant carried 83 pounds in a rucksack and marched 15.3 miles to honor the life of country music icon and longtime Shepherd's Men supporter Charlie Daniels. Shepherd's Men is predominantly made up of members of the Marine Corps, including those pictured (above) in Mount Juliet prior to the day's ruck march: from the left, Tim Talbot, Armando Morales, Angelo Salvador, Ernesto Juarez and Jason Quinn.

The annual run is the Shepherd's Men's primary fundraising effort



COURTESY OF SHEPHERD'S MEN

for the SHARE Military Initiative at Atlanta's Shepherd Center, a comprehensive rehabilitation program focused on assessment and treatment for veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars who suffer from traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorders. Founded in 1975, the Shepherd Center is ranked by U.S. News & World Report among the top 10 rehabilitation hospitals in the nation.

Submitted by Sheryl R. Sellaway

San Diego, Calif.

DIs Past and Present Gather for Monument Rededication Ceremony

On June 11, a crowd gathered for a ceremony to rededicate the Drill Instructor Monument at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Calif. In attendance were numerous Marines and Sailors from MCRD San Diego, as well as veteran and retired Marines, many of whom belong to the West Coast Drill Instructor Association.

"This helps us keep a connection with the lineage of drill instructors we have here," said Sergeant Major Paul F. Agan, the Recruit Training Regiment sergeant major.

Retired Marine Gunnery Sergeant Alan Hulett, the president of the West Coast Drill Instructor Association, pictured on the left, shakes hands with SgtMaj Abel T. Leal, right, the sergeant major of MCRD San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region, during the ceremony.


The monument serves as a gathering place for drill instructors and their families for promotion ceremonies, award ceremonies



LCPL ZACHARY BEATTY, USMC

and reenlistment ceremonies. Among those in attendance at the ceremony was SgtMaj Bill Paxton, USMC (Ret), a Vietnam War veteran and one of the Marines responsible for the creation of the monument, which was unveiled and dedicated in 1999.

LCpl Zachary Beatty, USMC

"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 email them to s.rock@mca-marines.org. Submission does not guarantee publication, and we cannot guarantee the return of photos. 

MARINE BARRACKS Washington D.C.
August 10th 1864

I, Samuel Blundin hereby acknowledge to have received all my pay, and emoluments of every description whatsoever, from the commencement of my enlistment in the Marine Corps to the day of my discharge.

Witness,

Samuel Blundin

Samuel Blundin

Corporal Samuel Blundin, "illegally enlisted"

Pay from	1 July 64	to 4 Aug 64 at \$18.	\$ 72.00
Subsistence allowance to			
Undrawn Clothing			
Balance due on Paymaster		transfer	
Retained pay from	22 Aug 64	to 2 Feb 65 at \$18.	31.50
Increase pay from		to	
Pay for clothing overdrawn	\$5.10		\$ 5.10
" " " " " "	36		36
Amount due			\$ 108.60

TRANSCRIBED FROM THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT OWNED BY SGT. THOMAS M. DUNNE, USMC, 1967-1971

NANCEL BRISCOE

Corporal Samuel Blundin, USMC: “Special Discharge” for Illegal Enlistment

By Tom Dunne

At the onset of the Civil War, the U.S. Marine Corps consisted of an authorized strength of 65 officers and just under 1,900 enlisted men. The Corps would essentially double in size over the course of the conflict but would shrink significantly as a percentage of the total naval personnel. During the Civil War, many naval officers believed there were too few Marines to fill the demands for their services. However, during this period, Marine Colonel Commandant John Harris had to overcome an attempt in Congress to completely dismantle the Corps and transfer it to the Regular Army. While he was ultimately successful in thwarting the congressional effort, Harris officially requested only marginal increments of additional Marines during 1861-1863, thus virtually assuring an insufficient Corps strength for the remainder of the war.

Marine Corps Expansion And Recruiting

Given the expanded, growing role for the Navy, additional Marines would be needed. President Abraham Lincoln approved the addition of 500 privates in April 1861 under the terms of the Act of March 3, 1849, although Harris by then already knew this number would be insufficient to meet the demands for Marine Guards to be placed aboard ships being readied for the conflict. Harris also faced similar challenges in filling positions for the officers required. Lincoln ultimately approved a further 432 privates on May 30, but recruiting during that spring had not been robust, although it did pick up during the summer months, only to fall off again significantly during the fall. The main reason for the recruiting difficulties was the bounties paid by several states to volunteers (\$100), a tool not allowed for normal enlistments in the Navy or Marine Corps. However, by the end of 1861, more than 1,100 recruits had enlisted in the Marines

Opposite page: The graphically enhanced and reproduced back side of a pay reconciliation acknowledgment signed by Cpl Samuel Blundin, Aug. 10, 1864, following his "Special Discharge" for illegal enlistment.

Right: Col Commandant John Harris, Washington Barracks, Washington, D.C. Harris was appointed Colonel Commandant in January 1859 and served in this position until his death in May 1864. (Photo Courtesy of Library of Congress)

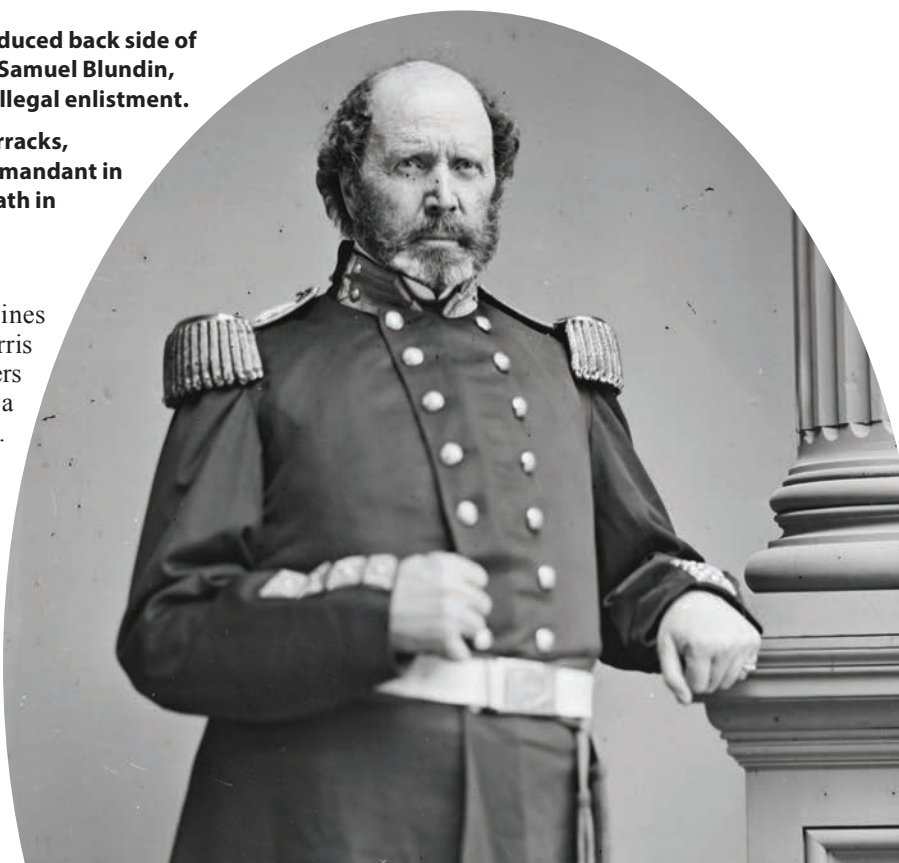
and almost 40 new officers were commissioned.

In the early months of 1862, demands for Marines continued to exceed recruiting efforts. In June 1862, Harris was informed by the War Department that General Orders No. 39 allowed the Army to offer recruits a promise of a \$100 bounty to be paid upon their service completion. The bounty applied to all who had enlisted since July 1, 1861. Because previous orders involving Regular Army recruiting had applied to the Marine Corps, Harris interpreted this accordingly and instructed post commanders that they had authority to offer the \$100 bounty. In responding to an inquiry for clarification of his instruction, Harris's reply would set the stage for future Corps difficulties involving the bounty: "All recruits enlisted in the Marine Corps since the 1st July, 1861, are entitled to a bounty of \$100.00 on their obtaining an honorable discharge. The bill is before Congress to give in addition to the above, a bounty of a month's pay and \$2.00 to any person who will furnish a recruit. The latter has not passed, but it probably will in a few days. I enclose a copy of the bill allowing a bounty, which is not very definite, but I have given it the proper construction."

The bounty and finder's fee proved temporarily successful, but by fall, Marine recruiting slowed significantly, with local and state bounties that added up to several hundred dollars putting the Corps' recruiting interests at a relative economic disadvantage.

In early 1863, the recruiting struggles continued. The Corps was 600 men under its authorized strength, and discharges were weighing on continued force levels. The \$2.00 finder's fee had lapsed on January 1 and was briefly restored on March 31, 1863, when recruiting fell off, but it was only continued until June 30. The dissatisfaction involving the "unauthorized" \$100 bounty that was promised to Marines recruited between June 1862 and July 1863

persisted into the summer of the latter year. Harris sought to clarify the situation, but the July 10, 1863, decision of John M. Brodhead, second comptroller of the Treasury Department, resolved that recruits enlisting into the Marine Corps after the passage of the Congressional Act of July 29, 1861, were *not* eligible for the \$100 bounty the law authorized for Regular Army enlistments. In July, Harris informed Marine Corps recruiting officers there would be no federal government bounty, but the finder's fee of \$2 was still in force. Recruiting again declined rapidly.



Special Discharge
FROM
THE UNITED STATES CORPS OF MARINES.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to Certify, That *Samuel Blundin*, a *Corporal* of Marines who was enlisted the *25th* day of *August* *1862*, *Philadelphia* being then about *25* years of age, *Five* feet *Eight 3/4* inches high, having *Blue* eyes, *Brown* hair, *Fresh* complexion; and by occupation when enlisted a *Blacksmith*, says he was born in the State of *Pennsylvania*, is hereby **DISCHARGED** from the service of the **UNITED STATES**, By order of the Secretary of the Navy upon the settlement of his accounts, having been *illegally enlisted*.

REGISTERED *Wm Slack*
2mtr. C.
Adj't and Inspector,
HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE MARINE CORPS,
Washington, 9th August, 1864
Promoted Corpl. Feb'y 1864
Now at the Navy yard, D.C.

J. Zeilin
Colonel Comm'd Marine Corps.

Stop furn Corpl. Samuel Blundin for clothing overdrawn Five 12/100 dollars, \$5.12,
Wm Slack *Quartermasters Office*
2mtr. C. *10 Augt. 1864*

TRANSCRIBED FROM THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT OWNED BY SGT. THOMAS M. DUNNE, USMC, 1867-1871

Transcribed, graphically enhanced and reproduced "Special Discharge" certificate from the United States Corps of Marines for Cpl Samuel Blundin, dated Aug. 9, 1864.

Samuel Blundin's Enlistment and Service

Samuel Blundin was born May 16, 1836, in Bensalem, Pa. Blundin was living in Manayunk, Pa., when he was enlisted into the Marine Corps as a private by Captain Matthew Kintzing on Aug. 23, 1862, in Philadelphia for a full four-year tour. He was transferred to the Marine Barracks at Washington, D.C., just days later. Blundin was a blacksmith by trade and profession prior to enlistment and was described as 5 feet 8 ¾ inches in height and weighing 155 pounds, with blue eyes, brown hair and fresh complexion. He had enlisted under the promise of the \$100

This print from a painting by J. Searle, depicts *USF Potomac* anchored in the harbor of Valparaíso, Chile, with a view of the town in the background, circa 1834. Pvt Samuel Blundin was assigned to *USF Potomac* in August 1863.



VIEW OF THE HARBOR AND TOWN OF VALPARAISO.

COURTESY OF NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND

bounty advertised in the Philadelphia newspaper and assured by the recruiting officers. Indeed, Blundin and others recruited at the Philadelphia Rendezvous represented essentially half of all Marines enlisting during the war.

Blundin's service record was summarized as follows:
 "August 25, 1862: Transferred to Washington, D.C. Barracks.
 July 27, 1863: Transferred to Brooklyn, New York Barracks.
 Aug. 1, 1863: Transferred to Marine Battalion, Morris Island, Pensacola, Fla., and station ship *USF Potomac*. included Colonel William L. Shuttleworth, Commanding; Captain William H. Carter; 6 sergeants; 5 corporals; 2 musicians; and 122 privates, including Blundin.
 Dec. 7, 1863: Transferred to Washington, D.C., Barracks (during his service here, he was admitted to the Marine Barracks Hospital with erysipelas, bacterial infection of the skin, and subsequently returned to duty on March 17, 1864).
 March 30, 1864: Transferred to Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. Barracks.
 July 1864: Promoted to corporal."

"Special Discharge" of Corporal Blundin

Colonel Commandant Harris died in May 1864 after a brief illness. Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles handpicked Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Zeilin, then in command of the Marine Barracks at Portsmouth, N.H., over several other officers to replace Harris. After becoming Colonel Commandant in early June 1864, Zeilin still had to address the unresolved issue of those Marines enlisted under the promise of the "unauthorized" bounty, with its potential ramifications for "deceptive" recruiting practices. Notwithstanding the timing of Brodhead's decision in July 1863,

the first letters from Marines who believed their enlistments to be invalid because of the bounty promise only began to arrive at Headquarters, Marine Corps in June 1864, almost a year after the decision.

The passage by Congress of the Act of Feb. 24, 1864, had further complicated the situation. This Act made enlistments in the Navy and Marine Corps for men subject to conscription equivalent to enlistments in the Regular Army—state and local bounties were now available to those enlisting in the Navy or Marine Corps! Consequently, many affected Marines sent letters to Washington, their lawyers having advised them that their enlistments were thus null and void.

These Marines petitioned the commandant to grant them discharges. It was expected that many might take advantage of discharges only to reenlist to obtain all the new bounties. The situation was again made more difficult when Congress passed the Act of July 1, 1864, noting that persons enlisting in the Navy or Marines shall be entitled to receive the same bounty as if enlisted into the Army. Again, Brodhead analyzed the chronological sequence of Congressional Acts and concluded that enlistees in the Marine Corps during the period of July 18 to Sept. 5, 1864 (the specified period of the July 1, 1864, Act) would receive the maximum bounty of \$300. There was still considerable uncertainty



LtCol Jacob Zeilin

whether those lobbying for a discharge to take advantage of the combined bounties in effect would indeed return to the Corps. In early August 1864, the Navy Department communicated to Commandant Zeilin its conclusion regarding those Marines who had enlisted under the promise of the \$100 bounty:

COURTESY OF CIVIL WAR NAVY—THE MAGAZINE



Original pay reconciliation acknowledgment, which was signed by Cpl Samuel Blundin, Aug. 10, 1864, its envelope, and the "Special Discharge" certificate.

"Navy Department
Washington, August 6, 1864
Sir,

Persons who may have enlisted in the Marine Corps under any order inadvertently issued or approved by the late Colonel, Commandant, offering a bounty not authorized by law, should be discharged upon their application, if it appears upon due inquiry that they enlisted under the unauthorized offer.

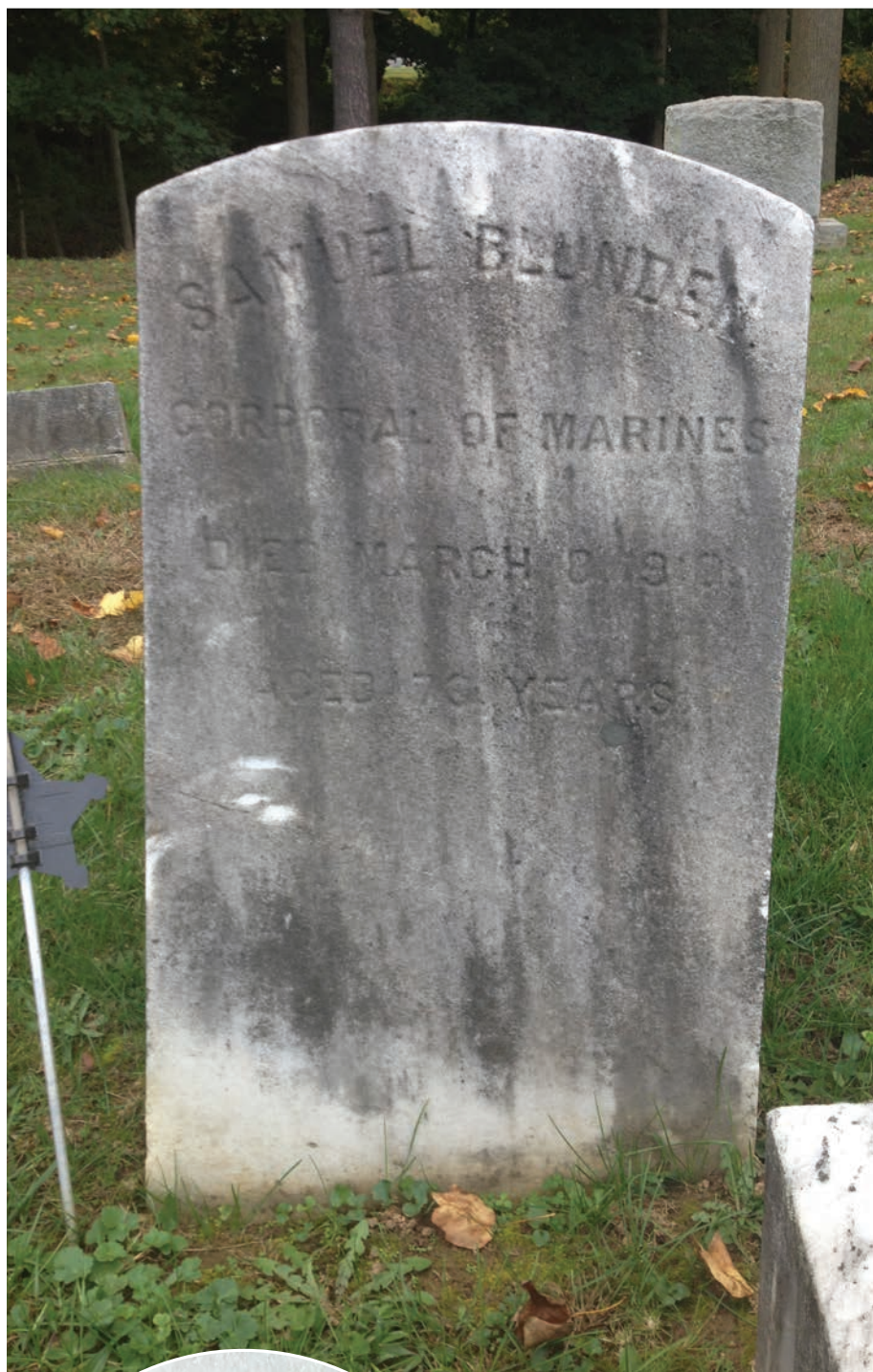
Such applications, made to the Department, will hereafter be referred to you to be disposed of.

I am, resp'y Your obt. svt.

Gideon Welles
Secretary of the Navy
Col. Jacob Zeilin
Com't. U.S. Marine Corps
Washington, D.C."

Because of a flood of applications for discharge, there was growing concern among the Corps' commanders that the Corps could become inadequately staffed. Commandant Zeilin thought the earlier rejection of the \$100 bounty could be overcome because the Corps was part of the *regular forces*. The Navy Department ordered a suspension of the discharges based on the illegal enlistment. In late September, an appeal was forwarded to the attorney general for a ruling, but his decision was that the men of the Corps were not entitled to the \$100 bounty because the law did not embrace the Marine Corps within its provisions and hence the bounty applied only to men enlisted in the *regular forces*. Thus, the Corps was back to the prospect of losing significant numbers of trained Marines. The Secretary of the Navy blamed the man who could no longer defend himself, Colonel Harris; Secretary Welles met with President Lincoln to discuss the situation, and the President decided it best to pay the bounty after all.

A total of 246 Marines out of 1,144 who had enlisted (1,031 new



enlistments and 113 reenlistments) during the period June 7, 1862, and July 10, 1863, were subsequently dismissed from the Marine Corps (total strength at the time was less than 3,100), including Corporal Blundin (on Aug. 9, 1864), by “Special Discharge,” for having been illegally enlisted under promise of the \$100 bounty by the recruiting officer, for which there was no appropriation by Congress. Fifty-seven of those so discharged actually reenlisted, many taking advantage of the recruiting bonuses then offered at the federal, state, and local levels, and some enlisted as substitutes—further increasing their payout.

After the War

After his service in the Civil War, Blundin married Annie H. Kraft of Manayunk on June 17, 1867, and they had eight children. During the remainder of his life, Blundin lived in several locations in eastern Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia, noting his occupation as a farmer. He applied for a disability pension in late 1902 for his inability to perform manual labor because of rheumatism and heart disease. Blundin eventually died from gangrene of the foot March 8, 1910, at the age of 73 at St. Francis Hospital, Trenton, N.J.

At the time of his death, Blundin was residing in Oxford Valley, Pa. He is buried in Beechwood Cemetery, Bensalem, Bucks County, Pa.

Colonel Zeilin, 7th Commandant of the Marine Corps, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general on March 2, 1867, the first Marine to achieve that rank. In 1868, Zeilin approved the design of the original eagle, globe, and anchor Marine Corps emblem and insignia.

Editor's note: Reprinted with permission from CSA Media Civil War Navy—The Magazine, Volume 7, Issue 4, Spring 2020, pages 59-64.

Author's note: The iconic four-volume history of the “U.S. Marine Corps in the Civil War” by David M. Sullivan should be consulted for a very detailed narrative of the history of the recruiting bounty summarized in the article.

The author also thanks Gary McQuarrie, Managing Editor, Civil War Navy—The Magazine, for his editorial and research assistance in the manuscript development.

Author's bio: Marine veteran Sgt Tom Dunne is a Vietnam veteran and later was a senior manager for the Maryland Transit Administration. He has been a living historian at Harper's Ferry Historic National Park, portraying a Marine private at the time of John Brown's 1859 capture. Dunne is now retired and resides in Hedgesville, W.Va. 🦅

Above: The headstone of Cpl Samuel Blundin is located in Beechwood Cemetery, Bensalem, Pa.

Left: A Marine officer's eagle, globe, and anchor epaulet ornament, circa 1869. (Courtesy of National Museum of the Marine Corps)



YOU STILL BELONG

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL PRIOR SERVICE RECRUITER AND STAY MARINE

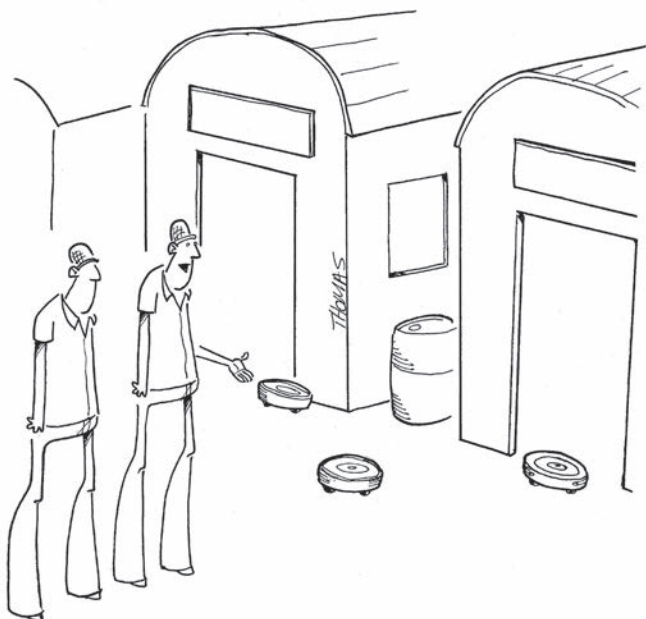


MARINE RESERVE



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE

Leatherneck Laffs



"Our secret to spotless barracks ... Roomba!"

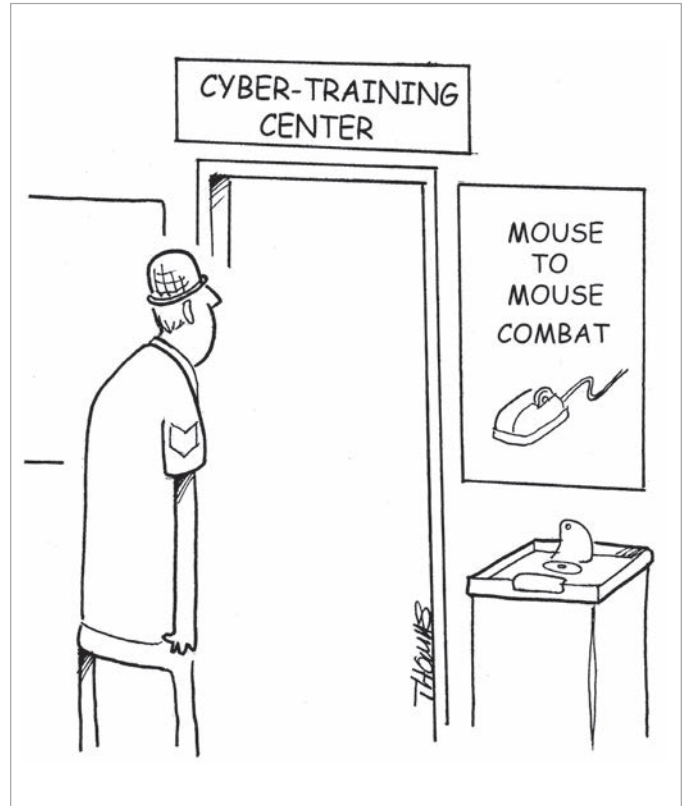


"I thought the next war was supposed to be fought in cyberspace."



"You're in the military now so you'll be known as Pvt Siri."





"Sir, we're combat ready.
Our firewalls are up and we have a full array of angry emojis."



"Boy, obstacle courses sure have changed."



"How's life in the technology trenches?"



This aerial photo shows the final preparations for the 2017 Modern Day Marine Military Exposition on Lejeune Field, MCB Quantico, Va. Larson's Gymnasium, the former site of the MDMME from 1991 to 2004, is located at the top right in the far distance just beyond the end of the Quantico Air Facility runway on the Potomac River.

For the past 40 years, the Modern Day Marine Military Exposition (MDMME) has been an industry forum providing Marine Corps leadership, requirements and procurement personnel, and prospective users with a preview of future possibilities.



The 41st Modern Day Marine MILITARY EXPOSITION

At the Crossroads of Force Design

By LtCol Alexander G. Hetherington, USMC (Ret)

The 2021 show theme, “Today’s Innovation, Tomorrow’s Battles Won” signals Modern Day Marine’s position at the nexus of the “theory and practice” of force design—the “theory” inherent in the technological possibilities pioneered by industry and the “practice” embodied by the lived operational experience of serving Marines. As the event enters its fifth decade, its function for zeroing in on what is both possible and needed for an expeditionary force in an age of digital disruption is more vital than ever to ensuring the Marine Corps retains its ability to be a worldwide overnight success in securing national security objectives in 2030 and beyond. As Major General Michael “Mike” Regner, USMC (Ret), National Chairman of the Marine Military Expositions Committee, pointed out, “the ability to shoot, move and communicate are the immutable principles of a credible expeditionary force, but the means and ends of maneuver warfare in the 21st century are challenged by the exponential characteristics of technological acceleration and increasing operational ambiguity, to which has been added a fifth domain imperative to neutralize adversary networks while defending our own. The United States Marine Corps’ ability to deter destabilizing activities is a function of generating the tempo, timing, and situational awareness to reach opportune locations with lethally superior systems that cause our competitors to reevaluate their priorities for challenging international norms and standards.”

WHERE WE HAVE BEEN: Providing Industry with a Venue to Reach Top Marine Corps Decision-Makers and Primary Users

For the past 40 years, the Modern Day Marine Military Exposition (MDMME) has been an industry forum providing Marine Corps leadership, requirements and procurement personnel, and prospective users—occupationally proficient Marines of every rank and qualification—with a preview of future possibilities for training and equipping the Fleet Marine Force. The first show in 1981, billed as the Modern Day Marine “Force In Readiness Exhibit,” took place at an auxiliary airstrip near Yuma, Ariz., with two dozen companies congregated in the open air to “discuss their products, programs and proposals with prominent decision makers who plan and carry out amphibious operations in our nation’s defense.” In 1982, the MDMME migrated across the country and was staged in various commercial facilities in and around Washington, D.C., before finding a long-term home aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico in 1991.

During its first 14 years on base, the show took place at the now-demolished structure of Larson’s Gymnasium, which originally was an aircraft hangar built in the 1930s, located between what is now the modern Quantico Air Facility and the Marine Corps’ original aerodrome,

“While Quantico is the crossroads of the Corps, Modern Day Marine is at the crossroads of the whole of government process to plan, program, develop and deploy the layered and integrated capabilities which underpin our national security strategy”—LtGen Mark Faulkner, USMC (Ret)



LtGen Mark Faulkner, USMC (Ret), former President and CEO of the Marine Corps Association, presides over one of the many professional development events organized by MCA throughout the calendar year.

Brown Field, the current location of Marine Corps Officer Candidates School. In 2005, the MDMME made the 1.5-mile move to its current more expansive and centralized location on Lejeune Field, a grass quadrangle and parade ground bracketed by Marine Memorial Chapel, Dunlap traffic circle and the iconic base headquarters building, Lejeune Hall. By 2019, the most recent staging of the live event, it had grown to 76,000 square feet of exhibit space housed in a \$1.3 million “Expeditionary Convention Center” that is “deployed and redeployed” annually over a five-week period between late August and early October.

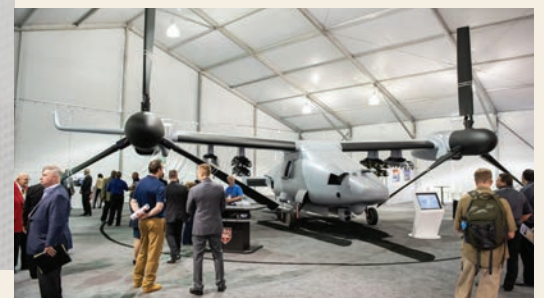
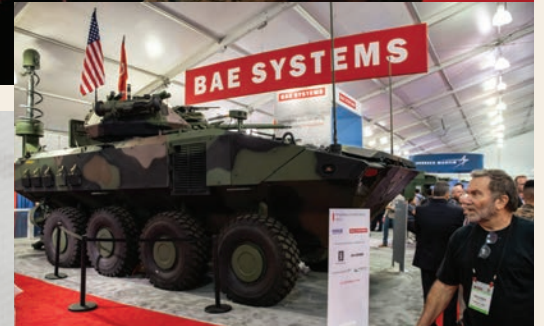
As the indispensable intersection for service-level guidance and industry solutions within the Marine Corps community of interest, Modern Day Marine expects to welcome approximately 350 exhibiting organizations and more than 10,000 attendees, 55 percent of whom will be active-duty servicemembers representing every Marine Corps occupational community, to the 41st MDMME, scheduled to take place over its traditional three-day period between Tuesday, Sept. 21 and Thursday, Sept. 23, 2021. Current exhibitor categories have expanded beyond industry manufacturers and service providers to include Marine Corps research, experimentation, requirements, acquisitions, training and education component commands, government logistics activities, academic research and technology organizations, state and local business development

activities and chambers of commerce, and a diverse collection of nonprofit organizations which support the personal and professional needs of active-duty and veteran servicemembers, as well as their families, including the Marine Corps Association.

WHERE WE ARE GOING: Providing a Forum to Communicate Service-Level Messages and Institutional Priorities to Key Publics and Stakeholders That Will Support Future Force Design Efforts

While bringing the show to the Marines has been a MDMME tradition for 30 years, during the winter and early spring of 2020, General David H. Berger, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, chartered an Operational Planning Team to evaluate the increasingly vital role of the event as a key enabler for Force Design 2030, the Marine Corps’ 10-year plan to optimize its structure and capabilities for modern operations. The most significant outcome of this Headquarters Marine Corps evaluation was the decision to move the 42nd MDMME to the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., where it will take place from May 10-12, 2022.

Lieutenant General Mark Faulkner, USMC (Ret), former President and Chief Executive Officer of the Marine Corps Association, said the move is necessary. “While Quantico is the crossroads of the Corps, Modern Day Marine is at the crossroads of the whole



 **MODERN DAY
MARINE®**
SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2021
QUANTICO, VA

EXHIBIT AT MODERN DAY MARINE and reach top Marine Corps decision-makers and primary users.

Modern Day Marine, located at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, is the premier military equipment, systems, services and technology exposition.



MajGen Mike Regner, USMC (Ret), serving as the master of ceremonies at the 2019 Modern Day Marine Grand Banquet.

of government process to plan, program, develop and deploy the layered and integrated capabilities which underpin our national security strategy and the Marine Corps' role within it as the nation's premier expeditionary force."

In addition to sustaining dialogue with industry on capabilities that will catapult the Corps into the future, including long-range precision fires, advanced reconnaissance capabilities, unmanned systems, and the resilient networks which encapsulate the Marine Corps' Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations (EABO) concept, the MDMME will become a premium venue for demonstrating to Congress and the wider Department of Defense community that major change in existing force structure and ways of doing business are needed in this era of renewed Great Power Competition. Through an enhanced and diversified lineup of presentations, structured networking activities and technology demonstrations, the event will demonstrate the advantage of persistent, survivable units that operate as a component of the Joint Force, as well as by, with, and through our

allies and partners, to provide the fleet and joint force commander with a stand-in component possessing the organic mobility and dispersion to compete and deter in a future operating environment characterized by a maturing and proliferating precision strike regime.

THE MDMME SPONSORS: The Marine Corps League and the Marine Corps Association—A Stable Foundation for the Enterprise

The MDMME is the most significant annual undertaking in fulfillment of the complementary chartered missions of the Marine Corps League and Marine Corps Association, two organizations single-mindedly dedicated to the professional development, advocacy and outreach activities which support our Corps, its Marines, and the veteran community, as intended by their common founder, the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, LtGen John A. Lejeune, the visionary leader who is celebrated to this day as a principal architect of the expeditionary character and ethos of the Corps as we know it.

The Marine Corps League is a national organization



of more than 60,000 members and more than 1,000 community-based detachments in its 96th year as the federally chartered nonprofit advocate and veterans' service organization for the United States Marine Corps. As SgtMaj Johnny Baker, USMC (Ret), the 64th National Commandant and CEO of the Marine Corps League, said, "We are a body of citizens transformed by service to Corps and country who provide daily community examples of the values that will inspire the next generation to earn the title and cultivate the resilience imperative to the proposition of an inside force."

In 2020, the Marine Corps Association formally joined with the MCL as co-sponsors of the MDMME. In doing so, the MCA brought its 107-year pedigree as the professional association of the Marine Corps, dedicated to leader development and recognition of professional excellence, front and center by initiating closer cooperation with Marine Corps leadership to sharpen the focus of the conceptual design, as well as the scope and quality of presentation content for the event.

"We are a body of citizens transformed by service to Corps and country who provide daily community examples of the values that will inspire the next generation to earn the title and cultivate the resilience imperative to the proposition of an inside force."

—SgtMaj Johnny Baker, USMC (Ret)
64th National Commandant
and CEO of the Marine Corps League



"The Marine Corps Association sees the MDMME as a natural extension of its mission to support the Marine Corps in the development of collaborative, cross disciplinary Marine leaders who prioritize learning. By cultivating a desire to know, a bias for identifying gaps in conceptual knowledge, and the intellectual tools to design questions which deliver understanding, we will continue to place the future of the force in capable hands," said Colonel Chris Woodbridge, USMC (Ret), Editor and Publisher of *Marine Corps Gazette*, the professional journal of the United States Marine Corps.

Editor's note: The presentations and panel discussions of the 2021 MDMME will be available to view on demand through the MCA website: www.mca-marines.org. Photos courtesy of LtCol Alex Hetherington, USMC (Ret).

Author's bio: LtCol Alex Hetherington is a retired Marine aviator, primarily serving with the squadrons of MAG-39 flying the AH-1W helicopter. He is the show director of the Marine Military Expos, sponsored by the Marine Corps League and the Marine Corps Association. 🦖

SgtMaj Johnny Baker, USMC (Ret), 64th National Commandant and CEO of the Marine Corps League, right, reconnects with the 12th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Gene Overstreet, USMC (Ret), at the 2019 Modern Day Marine Grand Banquet.

SEA STORY OF THE MONTH

New XO Had Everyone On Edge

In the summer of 1968, Lieutenant Colonel “Shine” Morgan reported to Chu Lai Air Base in South Vietnam for duty as the executive officer of Marine Aircraft Group 13. This Short Airfield for Tactical Support (SATS) was characterized by extensive operations, around-the-clock maintenance and austere conditions. LtCol Morgan’s flight landed at 5 p.m. on a Friday. The adjutant met him at the flight line. “Welcome to Chu Lai, Sir. The CO is flying a mission but asked if you could drop your gear off and meet him at the club. He should be there shortly.” “Sure, Adj, that’ll be fine,” the new XO replied.

In his Summer Service “Alpha” uniform, freshly dressed and pressed from the States, LtCol Morgan stood out in stark contrast to the rough-and-tumble look of the Marines in the club. Having just worked a long day in the hot sun, most of the dozen or so Marines were in some form of sweaty coveralls or flight suits. A young corporal was tending the bar. The adjutant ordered a beer. Turning to the new XO, the young corporal, using an “I’ve been doing this for years” tone asked, “What’ll you have, Colonel?”

“I’ll take a bourbon and water,” said the XO. The club, just another Quonset hut, was a modest facility at best. The ice machine cranked out a few cubes every hour. The refrigerator kept the beer cold enough if you liked lukewarm beer. The engineers supplied filtered, chlorinated water

that tasted a little funny. “Here you are, Sir,” the bartender said as he handed the XO his drink.

Upon examination, the new XO noticed that in addition to bourbon, water, and three ice cubes, his drink contained a small black beetle. The little bug was swimming in the bottom of the glass. The XO called the bartender back over and asked him, “Corporal, do you see this?” “Sir?” he replied.

Raising his voice, LtCol Morgan said, “Do you see this?” The young corporal was mortified. He had just handed the new XO a drink with a bug in it. “Yes, Sir. Sorry, Sir.”

Reaching for the glass, the young man said, “Let me get you another drink, Sir.” Sensing the tension and seeing that every eye in the club was now fixed on the confusion at the bar, LtCol Morgan realized he overreacted. Fortunately, the new XO was not only fast in the cockpit, but fast on his feet. Immediately defusing the situation, he said in a loud voice, “I don’t want another drink, I want another bug!” At that, he downed the entire drink bug and all. Cheers rang out. Marines stood and walked over to the bar to meet their new comrade. Word of the story made it through the ranks, and for several weeks, the new XO could do no wrong.

Col Bill Morgan, USMC (Ret)
Destrehan, La.

Seagull Surprise

My intention was to enlist right out of high school—provided I could get my parents to sign—but unfortunately, I had an emergency appendectomy the last week of my senior year. In 1969 they kept you

in the hospital for about a week after surgery and there was no way I could have enlisted, even with my parents’ permission. Since my mother was hellbent on me going to college, I enrolled in school that summer and took two classes. That fall I continued my short college career and went to what was then Missouri Western College. I made it until early November and quit. I was

**Out of the corner of
my eye I could see
the company gunny
do a right face and
take one step to place
himself in front of
the next Marine to
be inspected. Right
behind him was
the colonel. When
they were just a
few Marines away
from me, one of
the seagulls flying
overhead unloaded
on me.**

tired of school and hadn’t really wanted to go anyway.

I enlisted on Nov. 24, 1969. I did not tell my mom and dad until the day after Christmas. I left for MCRD San Diego on 12/29/69, which made my platoon number easy to remember—1229. My Drill Instructors were Staff Sergeant Fredericks and Sergeants Dickerson and Wrin.

Sometime in 1970 we had a full-blown uniform inspection in winter class A uniform. I remember the

formation was near one of the mess halls. If you have ever spent much time at MCRD San Diego, you will remember the seagulls that were constantly scrounging for food from the dumpsters.

I was in the front rank as we were being inspected by a colonel. Out of the corner of my eye I could see the company gunny do a right face and take one step to place himself in front of the next Marine to be inspected. Right behind him was the colonel. When they were just a few Marines away from me, a seagull flying overhead unloaded on me. I had a long white stripe running from my right shoulder just below the epaulet all the way to my waist. In shock I stood there wondering what, if anything, I could do when the gunny did a right face and turned to look at me.

Imagine a gunnery sergeant standing in front of you with his muscles so tense he was shivering. Eyes as wide as saucers, lips taunt, face red, and looking like he was about to explode. Suddenly he turned and moved to the next recruit and now I am eyeball-to-eyeball with the first colonel I have ever seen in my life. Expecting to get my you-know-what chewed, I was shocked when he said, “Looks good and [the] uniform looks good on him.” Then he turned and moved to the next Marine. I am sure he noticed.

There’s absolutely no way he could have missed the long streak of seagull excrement on my uniform, but he had the poise and discipline to look past the unfortunate accident and see the Marine underneath.

LCDR Jim Grimes, USN (Ret)
Former Marine sergeant
Wathena, Kan.

Little White Lie

It was April 1958. There was a National Aircraft show featuring the Blue Angels at Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma City, Okla., and we were invited. The Air Force and the Navy had all their new aircraft on the field.

We flew in from Marine Corps Air Station El Toro and we were a day late. We had an R5D four-engine Marine transport plane built between 1943 and 1945. They parked us at the end of the tarmac. Hardly anyone ventured our way, but I stood there in the event someone had any questions when they toured the aircraft.

A young couple approached, and the man said to me, "Wow, that's old." I said, "Yes, it is." He asked, "Where did you fly in from?" I responded, "The Smithsonian Institution." He said "Oh, wow." I said, "Yeah, wow."

SSgt Manuel Statini
USMC (Ret)
Scottsdale, Ariz.

A Good Marine Does What He's Told

Like most Parris Island recruits in 1951, I fully expected that upon graduation I would pick up an M1 at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and join the 1st Marine Division in Korea. It didn't work out quite that way.

All contracts in those days were open contracts. About two weeks before graduation we were allowed to present a wish list of assignments. Being good with geometry and intrigued with trigonometry, I applied for artillery, engineers, or infantry. In my youthful innocence I thought that the engineers would have me building bridges and calculating angles to confirm truss lengths and so forth. Artillery would let me calculate ranges, elevation and other fun stuff. I chose infantry because that's

pretty much what Marines do anyway. After careful consideration of my wishes, the Corps in its infinite wisdom assigned me to aviation.

While on boot leave, I sang my song of woe to a family friend, a retired master sergeant whom I called Uncle Jake. Uncle Jake had survived Pearl

The Corps knew where I would be needed. I got the message, accepted my fate, and eventually found myself with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Korea; an airedale, a despicable creature in the eyes of many of my earthbound brothers.

Harbor and returned stateside only after Iwo Jima was taken with great reluctance. He stiffly informed me that a good Marine did what he was told and went where he was sent. The Corps knew where I would be needed. I got the message, accepted my fate, and eventually found myself with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Korea; an airedale, a despicable creature in the eyes of many of my earthbound brothers.

About halfway through my tour of duty I was spending my R&R in a resort hotel at Mount Unzen, Japan. Due to a leg injury, I hobbled from my room to the hotel bar where I met another Marine. He was infantry. I was embarrassed. During our conversation he asked if I worked on "the planes with the bent wings." I admitted that much of my job involved arming Corsairs with

bombs, rockets, napalm and machine-gun ammunition. I didn't mention that sometimes disarming the things was a bit more exciting. He extended his hand and said, "Thanks. You guys are OK." I felt as though I had just received the Navy Cross. Uncle Jake was right. The Corps knew where I would be needed.

R.A. Gannon
Rochester, N.H.

Uniform Inspection Ended Abruptly

In 1978 I was assigned to the public affairs office at Marine Corps Base Quantico. The commanding general, Lieutenant General Fegan, called for a summer uniform inspection of the staff at headquarters. I was in formation standing next to my friend Gunnery Sergeant Don Gee. Gunnery sergeants and staff sergeants were standing before and after us.

The general came in front of Don with the sergeant major following. After looking at Don's uniform the general asked, "How is it that you didn't go to Vietnam, Gunny?" Don, quite seriously answered, "They are saving me for the big one, Sir." The general cracked up, the sergeant major and I laughed, then many of the staff noncommissioned officers within earshot began laughing. The general immediately announced the inspection was over and dismissed us.

GySgt Mac Young, USMC (Ret)
Swanville, Maine

Quick Thinking Saved My Career

As a toddler I took a tumble with a glass bowl. I cut a muscle in my left forearm that left me with a deformed left hand. Besides leaving me with no muscle between my thumb and index finger, I had little control of my pinkie.

While at MCRD San Diego in September 1967,

when I would come to "Present Arms," my finger would stick out at an angle. My drill instructor, Sergeant Finkie, would often bite it and say, "Stop f-ing with me, Rodriguez."

I was part of an all-Michigan platoon. At graduation we had a general from Michigan inspect us. The general noticed my hand and said, "Son, I can get you out of the Corps if you want." I could see the red running up Sgt Finkle's neck and the eyes starting to bulge. I said, "Sir, the private wants to be a Marine, Sir." Correct answer.

Sgt Joseph A. Rodriguez
USMC (Ret)
Westland, Mich.

Where There's a Will, There's a Way

Our battery, M/4/12, was heading from Okinawa to Korea on a training exercise. We boarded an LST at the Navy base in Naha. Our first sergeant told us we were restricted to the ship through departure which was 5 a.m.

At 9 p.m., we decided to go into town for some Japanese sake. There were four LSTs in port bound by the stern. We shimmied over to the next ship, went out through the tank deck, passed our duty NCO unnoticed who was positioned at our ship ramp, and headed into the town.

Joey Deleo
Mesa, Ariz.

Do you have any interesting stories from your time in the Corps that will give our readers a good chuckle? We would love to hear them. 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 membership for the "Sea Story of the Month." 🍷

Instincts Told Them to Flee— Regardless, Marines Went Forward Into a “Hellish Place”

By Maj Fred H. Allison, USMCR (Ret)

When a terrorist-flown commercial airliner plowed into the Pentagon at 9:40 a.m. on Sept. 11, 2001, the Marine Corps was fortunate in that no Marines were killed or even seriously injured.

Some Marine Corps offices were very close to “ground zero.” Many, fortunately, were not. No matter where they worked, however, Marines from all around the Pentagon responded to the emergency in a manner that conjures up the best images of how Marines react under fire or in an emergency.

These are the accounts of just a few of the Marine “heroes” of that day; more accounts of Marines stepping up, no doubt, will surface.

Sergeant Maurice L. Bease had worked around Marine aviation long enough to know what a fly-by was, and it sounded like

one as he stood outside his office near the Pentagon on Sept. 11. Turning around expecting to see a fighter jet fly over, he saw only a split-second glimpse of a white commercial airliner streaking low toward the building and him! He did not even have time to duck before it plowed into the side of the Pentagon around the corner and about 200 yards from where he stood.

Immediately, a ball of flame shot up the side of the building, followed by smoke, lots of it. People began to flood out into the parking lot.

Sgt Bease did as several other Marines did that day. He checked out with his unit staff noncommissioned officer, then voluntarily checked in with a Marine Corps “command center” that had gone up almost immediately under an overpass of Interstate 395, the freeway that runs beside the Pentagon.



This aerial view taken Sept. 14 vividly shows the destruction at the Pentagon and the efforts made to clear the debris after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. Marines were among those who rushed into the chaos to help rescue and treat those injured.

Throughout the day, Marines were detailed out from this command center to help wherever they could. For Bease, this meant working the rest of the day assisting firemen in laying hoses and staging litters for the evacuation of the injured.

No Marine Corps offices were closer to the impact point than those of Mr. Peter M. Murphy, the Counsel for the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the most senior civilian working for the Marine Corps. Mr. Murphy and Major Joe D. Baker were having a discussion in Mr. Murphy's office on the fourth floor of the Pentagon's outermost ring, the E-Ring, overlooking the helo-pad. With CNN on a TV monitor across the room, they stopped their discussion when the news of the World Trade Center attacks came on. After watching awhile, Mr. Murphy asked Mr. Robert D. Hogue, his Deputy Counsel, to check with their administrative clerk, Corporal Timothy J. Garofola, on the current security status of the Pentagon.

Garofola had just received an email from the security manager to all Department of Defense employees that the threat condition remained "normal." He passed this information to Hogue, who stepped back into the doorway of Mr. Murphy's office to relay the message. At that instant, a tremendous explosion with what Mr. Murphy said was a noise "louder than any noise he had ever heard" shook the room. Mr. Murphy, who had been standing with his back to the window, was knocked entirely across the room, while Hogue was jolted into his office. Garofola's desk literally rose straight up several inches then slammed down.

The airplane had crashed almost directly below Mr. Murphy's offices. The floor buckled at the expansion joint that ran between the two offices and created a discernible step up between the two rooms. The air was filled with dust particles, and the ceiling tiles fell, leaving the lights dangling from their electrical connections; the building was crumbling.

The men did not know what had hit them, but they did know that it was time to get out. There was no panic, just a shock-hazed determination to survive. Hogue went to Garofola and told him to "get us out of here." The corporal attempted to open the heavy magnetized door, but it had been jammed and did not budge. Then, Mr. Murphy saw the "Marine" come out in Garofola. He yanked the door as hard as he could and it came open.

Garofola and Hogue took charge and made sure that their offices were evacuated. They stood in the hallway and tried to determine which way to go. They instinctively headed left toward the nearest Marine offices, those of Lieutenant General William L. Nyland, the Deputy Commandant for Aviation. They proceeded only a short distance and heard someone call, "There is fire down here." Facing the prospect of fire, they reversed course and headed



As firefighters battled the blaze, smoke and flames rose over the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. Part of the building collapsed while rescue workers looked for survivors. Including the passengers on the plane, the attack claimed 189 lives. (Photo by PH1 Dewitt D. Roseborough III, USN)

the other way into dense black smoke. They went as far as they Garofola and Hogue took charge and made sure that their offices were evacuated. They stood in the hallway and tried to determine which way to go. They instinctively headed left toward the nearest Marine offices could, but it was impossible. They could not breathe, and the heat was unbearable.

Through the cracks in the floor, they could see flames below them. Then they heard voices. They might as well have been angels, but the voices repeatedly called, "Come to my voice. Come this direction!" It was U.S. Navy personnel, calling them to safety, back in the direction they had originally gone.

They went through the smoke for a short distance, then into the clear. They made it down to the second deck overlooking the courtyard, the area in the middle of the Pentagon. From this perspective, they saw thick black smoke pouring over the side of the building and into the Pentagon courtyard. Proceeding to the A-Ring, they saw a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, whose uniform was entirely black, pulling bodies out. He laid one down beside two others. They could not tell if the bodies were burned or just covered with smoke, dead or alive.

There was confusion but not panic among Pentagon workers as they shuffled through the corridors attempting to make it to a safe exit. There were some injured people, but around each injured were several people attempting to render aid. Mr. Murphy's staff stuck together all the way out to safety. They took refuge at his home, where they were finally able to contact their families.

Sgt Francis W. Pomrunk Jr., a Classified Materials NCO, was at work in his office in the Department of Marine Aviation. Most



Cpl Timothy J. Garofola

SGT JACOB FULLER, USMC



Robert D. Hogue

SGT JACOB FULLER, USMC

Garofola and Hogue took charge and made sure that their offices were evacuated.

They stood in the hallway and tried to determine which way to go. They instinctively headed left toward the nearest Marine offices.

of Marine Aviation had just the weekend before been moved to the “Butler building,” an extension of the Pentagon about 200 yards from where the impact occurred, not nearly as close as their previous offices. Pomrink heard the jet engine noise of a rapidly approaching jet and a muffled rumbling explosion, then the floor shivered beneath him. He went outside and could see the smoke rolling up and flames shooting over the top of the Pentagon.

He bolted back into his office and ordered everyone out. He was the last man out, remaining behind to ensure that all personnel were evacuated and that all classified materials were secure. He then remembered the Marines he knew who worked in the Pentagon, part of the staff of LtGen Nyland. Pomrink knew where those offices were—about where he could now see smoke and flames.

Concern for his fellow Marines prompted him to take action. He checked out with his section head and ran up the hill to his barracks at Henderson Hall, about one-half mile away. He changed from his service C or “Charlies” to his camouflage utilities. He then ran back down to the Pentagon directly toward the ugly, smoking, rubble-filled gash in its west side. He made his way through the building to the fourth deck, where Marine Aviation’s offices were. The smoke was too thick to get close. He retreated down and out of the building to ground level. A rescue party composed of military personnel from all services pulled survivors out of the smoke and destruction.

Pomrink then heard screams and people shouting for help; he couldn’t “turn [his] back on them” and began to assist with the rescue. He aided five to 10 injured individuals, then brought up litters for fire department personnel to use. He stayed at the rescue site and assisted until 3 o’clock the next morning. He never found the Marines he was looking for.

Pomrink was right about them, though. Their office was definitely near the impact point, only 25 yards away.

Lance Corporals Dustin P. Schuetz and Michael Vera worked in the Aviation administration section of the office supporting LtGen Nyland. LtGen Nyland’s office was the only office of the Marine Aviation Department that had not moved to the Butler building the previous weekend.

The crashes into the World Trade Center had captured everyone’s attention in the office that morning. Like the group in Mr. Murphy’s office, there were clusters of people around every TV monitor. Schuetz was describing to a couple of Marines who had not had a chance to watch TV how the second plane had crashed into the WTC. He used his hands for visual aids; one hand was the airplane, the other the second tower of the WTC. Just as his hands came together and touched, the building shook violently, like some outside force was assisting in the demonstration.

Schuetz was knocked to the ground, and Vera’s chair rolled him back into the wall. At first they kind of laughed; maybe the

It was a team effort to provide assistance to the injured. Aide to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Gardner (right, foreground), was one of literally thousands who pitched in.



LCpl Dustin P. Schuetz



LCpl Michael Vera

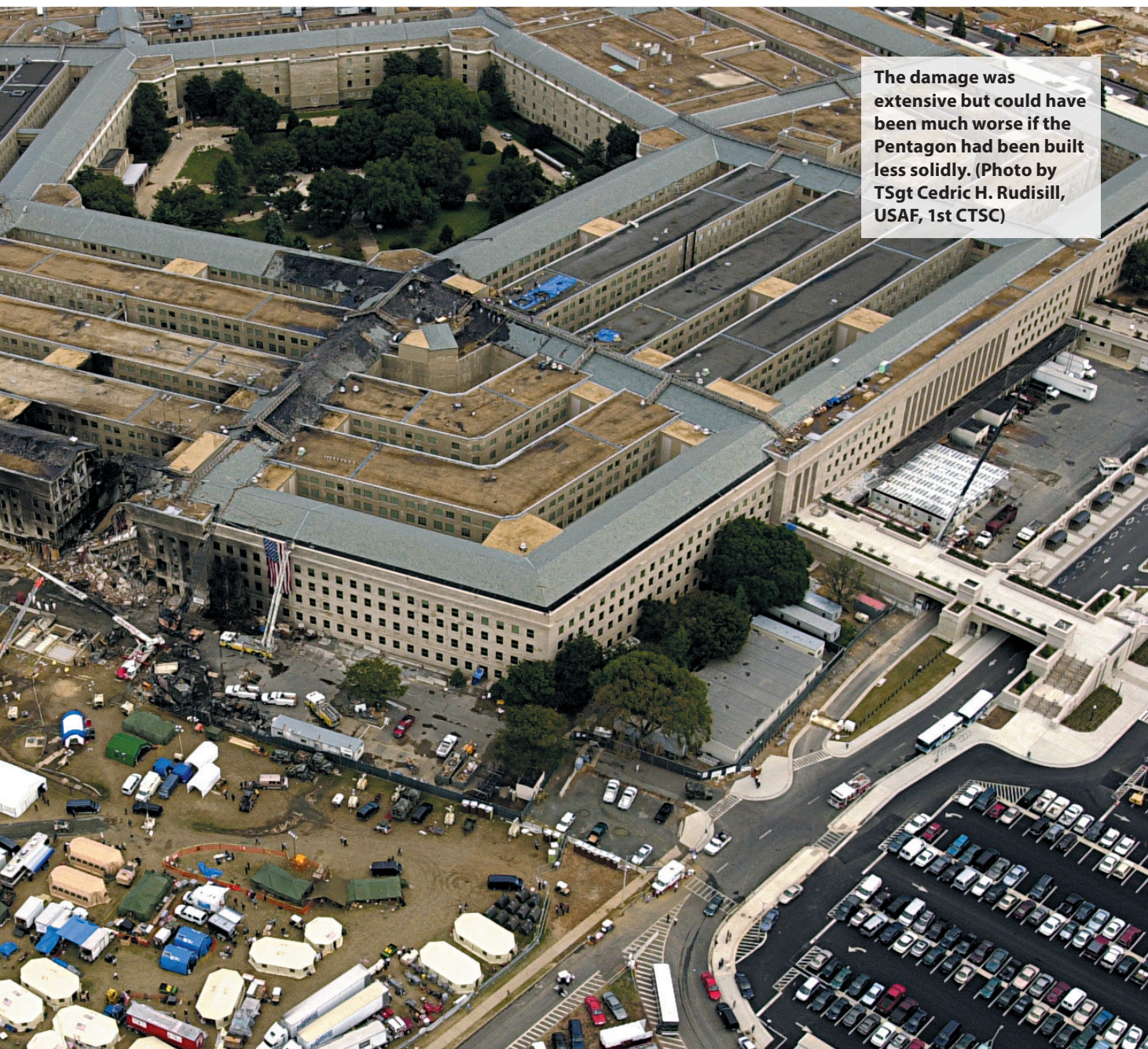


SGT JACOB FULLER, USMC

SGT JACOB FULLER, USMC



CPL JASON INGERSOLL, USMC



The damage was extensive but could have been much worse if the Pentagon had been built less solidly. (Photo by TSgt Cedric H. Rudisill, USAF, 1st CTSC)

Schuetz and Vera linked hands with others so that they could penetrate the smoke without becoming lost themselves. They guided people out of their offices to safety and aided the injured. Vera estimated that they were able to assist 10 to 15 people at the A-Ring.

old boiler in the closet exploded, they surmised. Stepping out into the corridor, they realized it was much worse than an old boiler. There was much confusion, and smoke was beginning to roll down the corridor. Something was terribly wrong.

Vera and Schuetz then stepped up and took charge. Taking charge of the situation caused Schuetz to reflect back on the best things he had been taught at boot camp: initiative, decisiveness, teamwork. "It was like a breath of fresh air," he recalled.

They evacuated their office and got the office staff headed away from the smoke. After ensuring that the offices in their area were evacuated and the office staff was headed for clear air, they both, without thinking but responding in silent agreement, immediately ran the other direction, toward the smoke and the heat and the danger.

The two Marines made it down to the ground level and set to work assisting other rescuers around the A-Ring, or inner ring of the Pentagon. Smoke had filled the corridors, and people were shouting for help to find their way out, or shouting because they were injured. Schuetz and Vera linked hands with others so that they could penetrate the smoke without becoming lost themselves. They guided people out of their offices to safety and aided the injured. Vera estimated that they were able to assist 10 to 15 people at the A-Ring.

Sailors from the Navy's security force then called to them. They needed help deeper in the bowels of the Pentagon, closer to the impact point. Vera and Schuetz headed in.

They made it to a small service road that goes through the Pentagon between the C and D rings. There, a group of about

Amid the chaos, the color of the United States Marine Corps was not singed, damaged or disturbed. It stood in what had been the fourth floor office of Mr. Peter M. Murphy, Counsel to the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

15 individuals—other Marines, soldiers, Sailors and civilians—were rescuing office workers.

It was an eerie, hellish kind of place. It was almost pitch black from the boiling smoke and choking concrete dust. The small roadway was almost a foot deep in water. Electrical wires dangled aloft, sometimes popping and sparking, and the walls seemed to be bent back by the impact of the collision, even tottering, threatening collapse. Overhead and around them there were small pockets of fire. Chunks out of the windows above them would occasionally fall, letting fresh oxygen rush in to feed a nearby fire, causing it to blossom and flare, reminding Schuetz of the movie “Backdraft.” A weird smell wafted through. LCpl Vera had never smelled it before—burning flesh?

Voices pierced the smoky, hot darkness—calls for help and shrieks of pain. They broke up into groups. LCpl Schuetz recalled boot camp, specifically the gas chamber and fire teams. They were like fire teams, taking turns rushing into the fiery rubble and debris, carrying fire extinguishers, sometimes one in each hand, toward a voice in the darkness. They carried out the injured.

Some they cannot forget: the female chief petty officer, one side of her face blackened, hopefully only from smoke; the African-American soldier’s burned skin that was a bright pink. Many had their hair burned off, others their skin peeled off from the burns.

The smoke and heat prevented the rescuers from going in farther. They had no special equipment. One U.S. Army master sergeant, Rambo-like, ripped off his shirt and his pants to make a mask for himself and bandages to wrap the burns of victims. Vera will always remember him, rushing into the darkness in T-shirt and shorts toward a pleading voice. Schuetz removed his camouflage utility blouse, ripped it in two and made a mask so that he could go farther into the smoke.

One could go only so far, though. In some areas the heat made it absolutely impassable. Yet, coming from the midst of the heat and the other side of it, Vera could here voices calling.

That was the hardest part, Schuetz said. “You could only go so far, until you couldn’t breathe anymore or see anymore, and you don’t want yourself to be a casualty. So you had to turn around, and you could still hear them saying, ‘Help. Somebody help me!’ ”



PH1 MICHAEL W. PENDERGRASS, USN

They persisted in their rescue efforts with the others until fire department and emergency medical service crews arrived. Incredibly, members of the media beat the emergency crews. How surreal it seemed to Vera for someone to be taking pictures in such a place.

How many did they pull to safety? They were not sure, possibly 12 or 13. It was hard to remember all of them. But try as they might, they will not be able to forget those most horribly injured.

Why did they do this? Why did they not just exit into the clear air with the rest of the office staff? LCpl Schuetz perhaps summed it up best: “That’s what Marines are supposed to do.”

Author’s bio: Maj Fred H. Allison, USMCR (Ret) is a former Marine F-4 radar intercept officer. He earned his doctorate in history from Texas Tech University and retired as the oral historian for the Marine Corps History Division. 🐼

That was the hardest part, Schuetz said. “You could only go so far, until you couldn’t breathe anymore or see anymore, and you don’t want yourself to be a casualty. So you had to turn around, and you could still hear them saying, Help. Somebody help me!”



MARINE CORPS
ASSOCIATION

You're invited.

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION

THE SECOND ANNUAL

NATIONAL MILITARY ASSOCIATION **BREAKFAST MEETING**

Join us virtually on September 21st, 2021,
7:30 a.m.- 9:00 a.m. for the second annual MCA
Breakfast Meeting with our speaker, Commandant of the
Marine Corps, General David H. Berger. The meeting will
be broadcast live from The Clubs at Quantico, VA.

For more information and the livestream link visit
mca-marines.org/event/mca-annual-meeting-breakfast.



Changing the Fight: Corps Fields New Rocket System to Infantry Marines

Marines have begun receiving a new explosive rocket launcher that provides additional protection and lethality in urban environments.

In May, Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) began fielding the M3A1 Multi-Role Anti-Armor Anti-Personnel Weapons System (MAAWS) to infantry Marines at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. The MAAWS is a reloadable, recoilless rocket system intended to supplement existing shoulder-fired rocket capabilities.

“The MAAWS is a reusable, long-range weapon that provides the capability to destroy armored vehicles, structures and fortifications, which will be useful for infantry Marines,” said Captain Christopher Adsit, MCSC’s project officer for the MAAWS.

The system consists of the M3A1 Carl Gustaf Recoilless Rifle, a fire-

control system and a backup reflex sight Marines can use if the primary optic malfunctions. It includes munitions that provide obscuration, illumination, armor penetration, bunker- and hardened-facility penetration, and other destruction capabilities.

“It has the ability to fire [illumination], smoke and airburst-style rounds,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 David Tomlinson, MCSC’s infantry weapons officer. “The

capability will allow the warfighter to engage the enemy in defilade, reinforced bunkers, and buildings.”

The MAAWS is augmenting the Mk153 Shoulder-Launched Multipurpose Assault Weapon (SMAW), a rocket system initially fielded to Marines in 1984 before undergoing several modifications in the 2000s. The Marine Corps has used the SMAW to destroy armored vehicles, bunkers and other fortifications. However, the MAAWS

Right: Sgt Sebastien Auguste, an instructor for the Advanced Infantry Course at the School of Infantry-East, familiarizes himself with the functions of the M3A1 MAAWS during live-fire training with 1st Bn, 2nd Marines at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 6. (Photo by LCpl Emma Gray, USMC)



During live-fire training with 1st Bn, 2nd Marines, Sgt Sebastien Auguste fires the M3A1 MAAWS to engage targets at MCB Camp Lejeune, May 6. The battalion is tasked as 2ndMarDiv’s experimental infantry battalion to test new gear, operating concepts and force structures.

can engage enemies at farther distances when compared with the SMAW. The MAAWS can also hit moving targets with the aid of its fire control system, increasing the accuracy and overall lethality of infantry squads.

Adsit said the MAAWS will also supplement the explosive power of the M72 Light Anti-Tank Weapon, a portable, one-shot antitank weapon. The additional rounds available to the MAAWS also increase a squad's options for target engagement.

"This new rocket system shoots farther than any of our current shoulder-launched rocket systems," said Adsit. "It significantly increases the shoulder-fired rocket range."

Earlier this year, new equipment live-fire training events at the Schools of Infantry East and West enabled nearly 100 Marines to test the weapon. The MAAWS was well-received among participating Marines, including Sergeant David Beggel, a squad leader with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment.

"When we do urban operations, we carry a rocket because you don't know what kind of enemy we'll have, what capabilities they'll have," said Beggel. "This gives us a wide range of opportunities and assets that we can use to destroy a vehicle or take out [the enemy]."

Increasing the lethality of Marines helps the Marine Corps meet future force design goals. Tomlinson said the overall capabilities of the MAAWS allows platoons to operate in more dispersed environments, supporting the vision of General David H. Berger, Commandant of the Marine Corps, for lower-level units to control more battlespace area.

"The MAAWS is important because it gives the squad an enhanced capability with increased lethality and will bring a greater combined arms solution to the enemy," said Tomlinson. "The rocket system will change the way the infantry squad fights."

Tomlinson said that all fleet Marines will receive the MAAWS by the end of 2023 and Reserve Marines by 2024. He projects that every Marine Corps battalion will have the weapon in its arsenal by 2025.

Matt Gonzales

Marine Saves Woman from Attacker, Receives Award for Heroism

Lance Corporal Tercell T. Byrd, a rifleman with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, June 30, for his heroic actions in 2018 when he saved a woman's life in the face of significant personal risk.



CPL JUAN CARPANZANO, USMC

LCpl Tercell T. Byrd, a rifleman with 3rd Bn, 3rd Marines, was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal on June 30 at MCB Hawaii for his heroic actions in 2018 when he saved the life of a woman being attacked by a man with a knife.

On April 28, 2018, Byrd was four weeks out of boot camp on his first off-base liberty.

"It was my first time being off of the island. I got a motel and ate dinner with the guys," Byrd said. "I woke up pretty late the next morning and was coming back from breakfast when the situation happened."

Byrd was crossing the lobby when he heard screams coming from a hallway behind the reception desk.

"The next scream was just horrible. That scream was enough for me to jump over the counter to go see what was happening."

Byrd sprinted down the hallway toward the screams. He made a left through a doorway and saw a man with a knife holding the receptionist by her hair. Byrd noticed blood dripping from the woman's hand.

"When I saw that, I realized this was more serious than I thought. That's when I immediately went into action," Byrd recalled.

Byrd ran and jumped on and kicked the assailant, knocking him to the ground. Byrd pulled the woman behind himself to make sure she was safe and then turned his attention to the aggressor.

"He was trying to stab me, and I was

trying to take the knife out of his hand, but he was strong. He wasn't normal. He was on something."

Byrd was able to incapacitate the attacker by repeatedly kneeling him in the head. While the man was down, Byrd rushed the woman to a stairwell where he used a motel bedsheet to apply first aid to her injured hand. Paramedics arrived and rushed the woman to the hospital.

"You can't be scared to put yourself in a situation like that. You have fear, but you have to conquer that fear. You have to be confident that you can get the duty done. That's what I did," Byrd said.

Lieutenant Colonel George R. Gordy IV, the commanding officer of 3/3, addressed his Marines after the award presentation.

"Lance Corporal Byrd's actions contribute to the long, illustrious line of history that we all inherited as Marines," said Gordy. "In the face of danger, Lance Corporal Byrd showed a significant amount of courage and fortitude. Fight, win, then get ready for the next fight, wherever that fight may be. That's what we do."

The Navy and Marine Corps Medal is the highest non-combat medal for heroism awarded by the Marine Corps.

2ndLt Isaac Liston, USMC

ROK Marine Graduates From Parris Island DI School

The U.S. and Republic of Korea (ROK) Marines have fought side by side for more than seven decades on numerous occasions including the Inchon Landing, securing Seoul, and the Battle of Tra Binh. The two nations have maintained a working partnership since the ROK-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty was signed in 1953.

On June 25, an ROK Marine graduated from U.S. Marine Corps Drill Instructor School alongside his American counterparts at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. Master Sergeant Hyuk Kim has served in the ROK Marine Corps for 22 years and has worked with U.S. Marines on multiple occasions. He came to Parris Island to observe, participate in, and collect knowledge of different aspects of the training that U.S. Marine Corps drill instructors receive with the goal of bringing that knowledge back to Korea.

"I think DI school instructors are the best of the best," said Kim. "They are smart, professional and motivating."

Kim was educated on the instruction and care of recruits; drill and marching; and the rigorous physical training that drill instructor candidates must undergo in order to graduate.

"I've learned a lot through the professional attitudes of the instructors and through physical training," said Kim.



Right: MSgt Hyuk Kim of the ROK Marine Corps prepares to lead drill at MCRD Parris Island, S.C., June 18. Kim has worked and trained with U.S. Marines throughout his 22-year career and recently graduated from the USMC's Drill Instructor School.



CPL DANIEL JOHNSON, USMC



CPL DANIEL JOHNSON, USMC

Left: MSgt Hyuk Kim leads drill at MCRD Parris Island, S.C., June 18. Proficiency in drill is a vital part of being a DI, and upon his graduation, Kim returned to Korea having observed, participated in and collected knowledge of different aspects of training.



LCPL MICHELLE BRUDNICKI, USMC

Above: MSgt Hyuk Kim shakes the hand of a fellow graduate of U.S. Marine Corps Drill Instructor School at MCRD Parris Island, S.C., June 25.

Below: During his graduation from Drill Instructor School at MCRD Parris Island, June 25, MSgt Hyuk Kim of the ROK Marine Corps received his iconic USMC campaign cover worn by DIs at the recruit depots.



LCPL MICHELLE BRUDNICKI, USMC

“I wanted to go through DI School to challenge myself. I wanted another challenge in my life and to become a better person.”

Gunnery Sergeant David Yi, an instructor at DI School, was one of the Marines who trained and guided Kim during his time in class. Yi said he saw Kim as a mentor to his juniors in class because of his desire to set the example and succeed in spite of the language barrier.

“Having Master Sergeant Kim attend DI School was very inspirational,” said Yi. “Knowing and understanding that someone like him at the age of 41 was able to keep up with 25/26-year-olds in all aspects of training encouraged everyone else to be better.”

Kim trained with the class of candidates for 11 weeks, going through the same training any U.S. Marine would undergo to become a drill instructor. He completed the course as an honor graduate and was presented with the signature campaign cover worn by Marine Corps DIs. He was also recognized with the “Gung-Ho” award which reflected his determined and motivated spirit during the class.



LCPL ALISON DOSTIE, USMC

Maj David Chester, the environmental officer for MCAS Camp Pendleton, Calif., breaks ground with representatives from Burns & McDonnell and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during a ceremony at Moosa Creek in Bonsall, Calif., June 17. The air station purchased the site to offset the affected habitat lost from clearing trees at the end of Runway 21.

“Although Master Sergeant [Kim] will not work in the capacity of a drill instructor, he made it through the school,” said Yi. “Completing all graduation requirements earned him the campaign cover.”

Bilateral training not only strengthens bonds between the U.S. and its allies, but it also offers an opportunity to share individual strengths from both sides to make for a more effective united force. Kim said the knowledge he learned and relationships he established going through the course will stick with him as he transitions back to his unit.

“I think we motivate each other by exchanging our experiences,” said Kim. “Exchanging experiences, culture and combat power always makes good changes and it improves both U.S. and ROK Marines.”

LCpl Michelle Brudnicki, USMC

Pendleton, Civilian Agencies Partner to Protect Environment

Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton, Calif., is no stranger to protecting the environment. The installation recently was recognized by the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of Defense for its environmental programs—making it the only Marine Corps installation to be recognized at both the service and department levels.



LCPL ALISON DOSTIE, USMC

In a partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, private firms and various local and federal agencies, MCAS Camp Pendleton committed to a 10-year environmental project at Moosa Creek, pictured here.

The air station continued its strong environmental presence when it broke ground on a joint project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and civilian contractors to help restore a riparian habitat at the Moosa Creek Golf Course near Bonsall, Calif., June 17.

The Moosa Creek site is the off-base counterpart to the air station's Clear Zone Project to remove overgrown vegetation at the southwest end of the air station's flight line according to Colonel Tim Anderson, the commanding officer of MCAS Camp Pendleton.

The Clear Zone Project has roots that extend back to a flood in January 1993 which caused more than \$100 million in damage after a levee broke and sent a wave of water across the air station. The flood damaged most of the buildings on the air station as well as the majority of 70 aircraft on the flight line at the time.

After the flood, a plan was proposed to build a 14,500-foot levee, a 2,300-foot floodwall and a stormwater management system. In creating this levee and floodwall, the air station would be protected from a similar storm and flood. An unintended side effect of creating the floodwall and levee however, was isolating a small ecosystem at the southwest end of the runway that was home to the least Bell's vireo and the southwestern willow flycatcher, two Southern California bird species listed under the Endangered Species Act.

That habitat was essentially left alone for a number of years until the trees growing near the end of the runway became a safety concern. The overgrown trees could potentially cause harm to aircraft taking off from the runway, injuring Marines and Sailors. This is where the Clear Zone Project comes in. The project was initiated to manage and maintain the vegetation at the end of the runway to ensure the safety of air station operations. The removal of approximately 25 acres of riparian habitat at the air station will be offset by transitioning it to Moosa Creek, a deserted golf course in Bonsall.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service worked with the air station's environmental office to address the impacts that clearing vegetation at the end of the runway would have on the ecosystem and ensure that there would essentially be a one-for-one offset for the habitat lost on the air station.

"Our partnership with MCAS and MCB Camp Pendleton is essential to conservation of endangered species in Southern California," explained Jonathan Snyder, the assistant field supervisor for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Carlsbad office. "The large areas of intact habitat found on Camp Pendleton support an

incredible diversity of threatened and endangered species, and we appreciate the Marine Corps' efforts to balance mission-critical training with conservation of these precious natural resources."

Burns & McDonnell, a private firm hired for the project, is now responsible for taking the Moosa Creek site and completely transforming it. They will remove the tennis courts, golf course pathways and parking lots. A channel will be created to reactivate the natural floodplain, and ponds will be filled. All of the invasive species will be removed and will be replaced with native species to restore the ecosystem.

"We are thrilled to be a part of this project," said Mark van Dyne, the vice president for environmental practice at Burns & McDonnell. "It's refreshing to see the environmental team at the air station and how proud they are of what they've accomplished, and their passion for the environment, and we're just happy to be a part of it."

While the safety of Marines and aircraft was the priority for the air station in undertaking the project, Anderson

recognizes how important the project was in building relationships. The air station is already looking to conduct additional projects in the future, including working on the original levee that was built decades ago in response to the flooding, and strong relationships will be key to completing them.

"The big thing for us was to demonstrate to U.S. Fish and Wildlife that we were good on our word, which means we would take extra steps and do all of the right things to accommodate for the endangered species," said Anderson.

As Anderson prepares to leave the air station later this year, he points to Moosa Creek and the Clear Zone Project as one of the crowning achievements of his time as air station commander.

"There is nothing else I will do here that will make me more proud than this project," said Anderson. "Our partners in this region and nationally can trust Camp Pendleton and the Marine Corps to do the right thing."

LCpl Alison Dostie, USMC



Crazy Caption Contest Winner



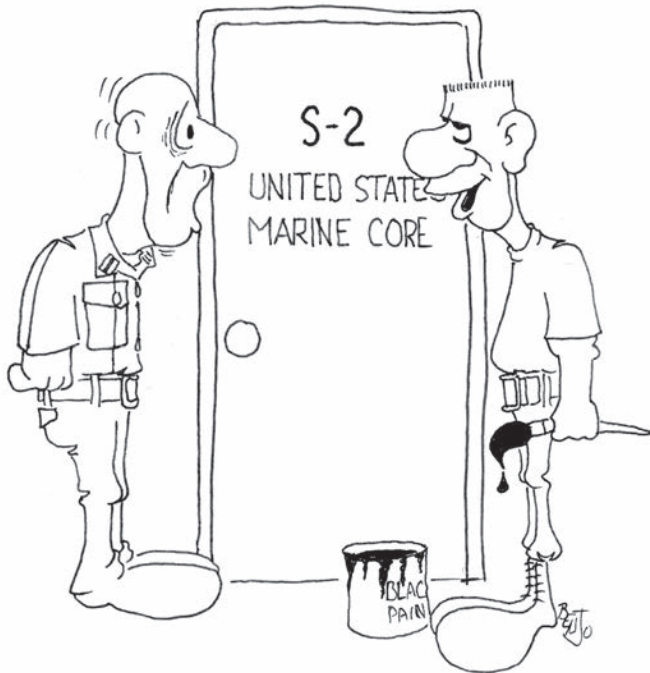
SGT BROOKE C. WOODS, USMC

"Hey General Berger, I have a DI yelling at me not wearing his mask properly!"

Submitted by:
Guy Arnold
Chilton, Wis.

Leatherneck will no longer be publishing Crazy Captions entries. The winning entry from the July issue is published above and will pay \$25 or provide a one-year MCA membership to the winner.

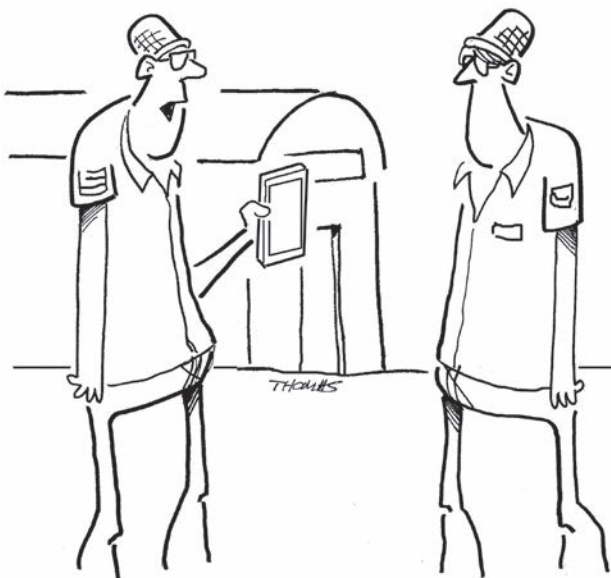
Leatherneck Laffs



"Yes, sir, the general just saw it.
By the way, he really wants to see you."



"It's my Combat Clerk award."



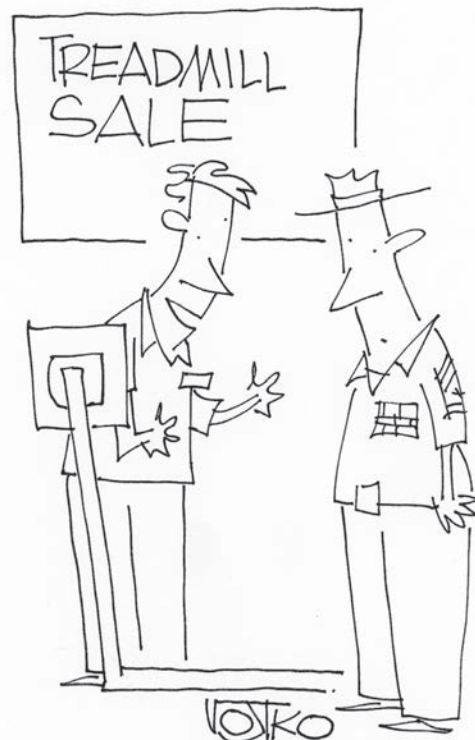
"Sir, negotiations have broken down.
The enemy is blocking our texts."



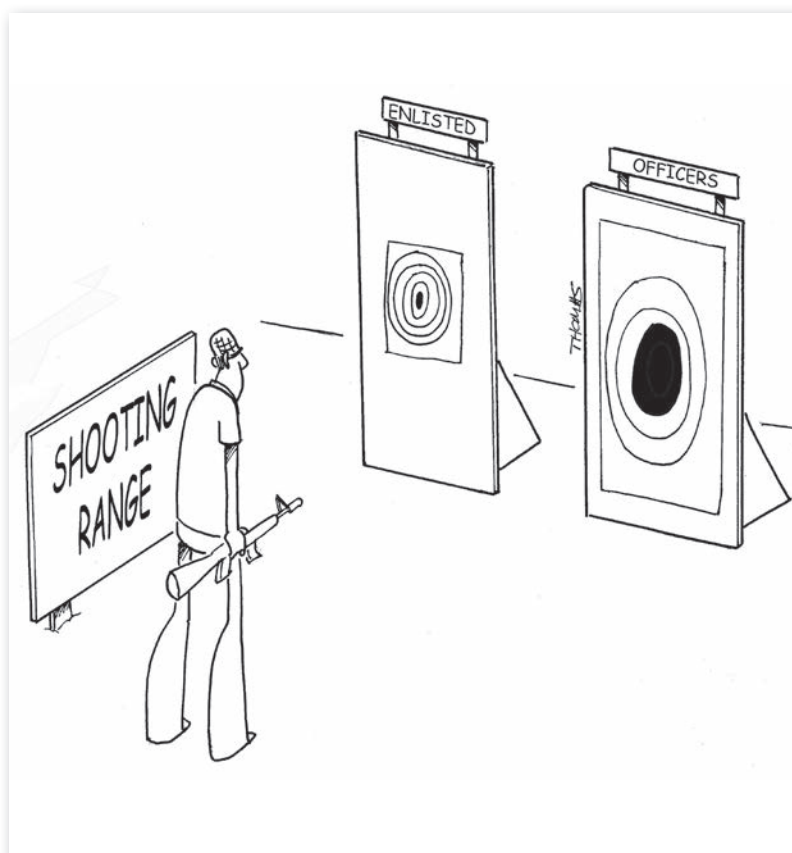
"It's the battalion career planner. He wants to know
where you see yourself in five years."



"Sorry, sir, my mom knew my sizes."



"It's great for drills! It has four settings: Forward March, Double Time, Mark Time and Half Step."



"I just don't feel like a green amphibious monster today."

History of the 6th Marine Division

By Capt James R. Stockman, USMCR

Editor's note: This is the final in a series of articles from the Leatherneck archives about the Corps' Divisions during World War II. Prepared by what was then known as the Historical Division of the Marine Corps, the article traces the 6th Marine Division's activities in the Pacific.

Activated on Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands, on Sept. 7, 1944, the 6th Marine Division was new in name only. For the most part, its units were experienced, and its men seasoned veterans. Two of its three infantry regiments, the 22nd and 4th, had already made names for themselves in the Pacific war. From the reinforcing elements of these regiments were formed, in large measure, the Engineer Battalion, the Pioneer Battalion, the Tank Battalion and the artillery regiment—the 15th Marines. The 29th Marines, less the 1st Bn, had been formed at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in the spring of 1944 and trained at Marine Corps Station New River prior

to joining the Division on Guadalcanal.

In command of the new Division was Major General Lemuel C. Shepherd, and the Assistant Division Commander was Brigadier General William T. Clement, another colorful figure, who served as a colonel on Corregidor and escaped from there by submarine.

The oldest of the three regiments, the 22nd Marine Regiment, was formed at San Diego in June 1942 and within a month was on its way to Samoa. There it trained vigorously until the fall of 1943 before acting as a reserve during the Kwajalein battle and fighting at Eniwetok.

After Eniwetok, the regiment sailed to Guadalcanal to prepare for Guam. The regiment hit Guam side by side with the 4th Marines on July 21, 1944, and quickly drove inland to the left, sealing off Orote Peninsula. Still linked with the 4th, the regiment fought the length of the peninsula against bitter Japanese resistance.



Infantry Marines stand by to wait for artillery support before making another drive against the enemy.



LEATHERNECK FILE PHOTO

The 4th Marines, named for the famous Marine regiment lost on Bataan, was activated on Jan. 8, 1944. It was comprised of veterans from the four Marine Raider battalions. Its had fought on Tulagi, Guadalcanal, Makin, New Georgia and Bougainville. The regiment's first operation was a bloodless battle on the island of Emirau in the St. Matthias group. Next, on July 21, the regiment landed below Agat on Guam. After taking Mount Alifan, the 4th Marines joined the 22nd in the drive down Orote Peninsula.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 29th Marines were formed at Camp Lejeune from hand-picked men and officers. The 1st Battalion fought on Saipan, where it was attached to the 8th Marines. Originally named the 2nd Separate Infantry Battalion, this unit was formed from elements of the 2nd Marine Division in February 1944. On Saipan the battalion aided in the capture of towering Mount Tapotchau, the highest terrain on the island. In this engagement it lost more than 60 percent of its men.

From September 1944 until March 1945, the 6th Marine Division trained on Guadalcanal for its first and only operation—Okinawa. In its training the new Division had two advantages: Its officers and men were seasoned veterans with the combined experiences of almost four years' combat, and its staff structure was organized with an eye on functional efficiency.

On March 14, the Division embarked and the next day sailed for Ulithi, in the Carolines, the staging area for Okinawa. By now the 6th Marine Division, as a part of the III Amphibious Corps, was an element of the new Tenth Army, and on Okinawa, two corps would be landed simultaneously. The III Amphibious Corps was to land the 1st and 6th Marine Divisions abreast with the 6th on the left. Estimates indicated more than 450,000 civilians were on the island and upwards of 60,000 enemy soldiers.

Upon reaching Ulithi, the troops were sent ashore for rest and relaxation, then

transferred to LSTs for the last leg of the journey, which began on March 27, 1945.

April 1, 1945, dawned bright and clear, but the troops on the transports could barely discern the outline of the island through smoke and dust, the result of the preliminary air strikes and naval bombardment. At 8:37 a.m. the assault waves of the 4th and 22nd Marines landed on the Hagushi beaches; the assault troops were astounded to find that there were few of the enemy in the area.

Expectant and apprehensive, the units moved rapidly inland over the rising, terraced ground leading to Yontan Airfield and Hanza Town. By noon, the 4th Marines had captured Yontan Airfield virtually intact.

On the left flank the 22nd Marines moved rapidly abreast of the 4th. By late afternoon, the division had secured the line designated as the O-2 line.

The 1st Bn, 22nd Marines called up from reserve by MajGen Shepherd, landed at 3 p.m. and was assigned a defensive

**The original caption on this 1945 photo said it all:
"The going became tougher later on."**



COURTESY OF MARINE CORPS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Above: On a ridge 2 miles north of Naha, Marines battled strong enemy forces for many hours.

LEATHERNECK FILE PHOTO



Marines of 6thMarDiv use a phosphorous grenade to flush out any concealed Japanese soldiers.

LEATHERNECK FILE PHOTO

position on the left flank of the 22nd Marines facing toward Zampa Misaki. With practically no casualties and with progress a day ahead of schedule, the 6th Division's efforts had proved successful beyond all expectations.

By April 4, the Division had driven across the base of the Ishikawa Isthmus, and, together with the 1st Marine Division, had bisected the island. Thus, Phase II (Campaign for Northern Okinawa) was begun before Phase I (Capture of Southern Okinawa) was little more than started. On this day the 29th Marines were released to the Division as reserve. In daily advances that averaged 7,000 yards, the Division moved rapidly, reconnoitering the inland terrain as it went, and by April 7, had reached the city of Nago at the base of Motobu Peninsula.

MajGen Shepherd ordered the 29th Marines to seek out and destroy the enemy on Motobu. Meanwhile, the 22nd and 4th Marines were ordered to continue on up the remainder of Northern Okinawa. The 22nd Marines advanced along the northwest coast, peeling off companies and battalions to patrol inland. At the same time, the 4th Marines moved slowly along the opposite coast over difficult roads. On April 8, the 29th Marines moved out in three battalion columns, one along the south coast, one along the north coast and the third up the center of the peninsula. Light resistance was encountered but no contacts were made with other than small enemy pockets.

Captured civilians, enemy soldiers, and aerial observation had revealed that the main bulk of the Japanese forces were in Southern Okinawa, but that there was a sizable enemy force on Motobu commanded by Col Udo. By April 10, the 3rd Battalion, 29th Marines, had advanced around the southwest coast and made contact with Udo's force at Toguchi. The 1st Battalion was also in contact with the same force west of Itomi in the center of the peninsula as the 2nd Battalion seized the enemy midget submarine base at Unten Ko on the northeast coast meeting no serious resistance.

In the next three days, contact with the enemy was maintained in the rugged mountainous territory northwest and southwest of Itomi. Ambushes were frequent, and it was soon seen that Udo's force was attempting a form of guerrilla warfare. By April 13, the enemy position was definitely fixed as being in the Mount Yaetake area, where he was known to have considerable artillery and naval guns emplaced in hidden positions in the mountainous terrain.

In choosing Mount Yaetake, Udo had selected excellent ground for defense.

Its commanding elevations provided outstanding observation in every direction, and rough terrain prevented the use of mechanized equipment by the attackers. It was apparent to Gen Shepherd that additional troops would be required to destroy Udo's force, so he ordered the 4th Marines, less its 3rd Battalion, to move to Sakimotobu and join the 3rd Battalion, 29th, which was nearby. Next, he ordered a coordinated attack for April 14 with the 4th Marines driving in an easterly direction while the two battalions of the 29th, near Itomi, drove west and southwest in an effort to reduce the Yaetake position. With the high Yaetake hill mass between them, the two regiments were afforded the opportunity of attacking toward each other without great danger of overlapping supporting fires.

The attack of April 14 was successful, although resistance was bitter and casual-

ties high. One battalion commander was killed and several company commanders wounded. In the zone of the 4th Marines, troops moved rapidly to the first high ground west of Yaetake and secured positions from which to launch the attack of the next day.

The attack was resumed on April 15. The 4th Marines, with the 3rd Battalion, 29th Marines attached, drove up the approaches to Mount Yaetake. The 1st Battalion seized a key hill mass southwest of the Mount Yaetake peak after extremely bitter fighting. At the same time, the 29th Marines continued to drive into the rear of the Yaetake position over rugged terrain against intermittent resistance.

On the next day, the 6th Marine Division prepared to attack the enemy from three sides in a giant nutcracker. The 1st Battalion, 22nd Marines was directed to

advance from Awa, where it had been in Division reserve, and close the gap between the two attacking regiments. By nightfall, and after the hardest fighting, the 4th Marines seized Mount Yaetake. The 29th, now under Col William Whaling, swung to the west and north, destroying fixed emplacements and enemy groups as it moved.

Col Shapley, in command of the 4th, reoriented his direction of attack on the next morning. While his two left battalions held their positions in support, he sent his other two battalions across their front. Opposition was entirely overwhelmed, and nightfall saw both regiments on the high ground south of the Toguchi-Itomi road.

On April 19, the two regiments began a coordinated drive to secure the remaining high ground between the Toguchi-Itomi road and the north coast of Motobu. The



LEATHERNECK PHOTO

6thMarDiv Marines and tanks push their way across the fields into the battered rubble of Naha, the capital of Okinawa.



COURTESY OF MARINE CORPS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Marines of the 6thMarDiv enter Naha City behind a tank.

3rd Battalion, 29th Marines, moved by truck from Toguchi to Itomi and struck rapidly at the crowning hill mass. There they found previously prepared enemy positions unmanned and a considerable number of dead bodies lying where they had apparently been hit by artillery and naval gunfire. It was known that several hundred enemy troops had succeeded in fleeing from Motobu and were at large somewhere in northern Okinawa.

By April 20, all units reached the northern coast of Motobu but it cost the Division 207 men killed, 757 wounded, and six missing. Of the Japanese, 2,014 were killed.

All during the fighting on Motobu, the men of the 6thMarDiv had heard stories of the fighting down south. They had heard that the XXIV Corps had run into a virtual stalemate; that some 60,000 of the enemy were offering fierce resistance from concealed positions; that the enemy was using mortars and artillery on an unprecedented scale; and that the enemy troops in southern Okinawa were excellent soldiers, well-disciplined, and well-prepared to fight a long and costly campaign.

On May 4, responsibility for the defense of northern Okinawa passed from the 6th Division to the 27th Infantry Division as the 6th began to move southward. Two days later the entire 6th Division was in bivouac near Chibana, east of the original landing beaches. According to Tenth Army order, the III Amphibious Corps was to assume responsibility for the western portion of the southern front on May 7.

The overall mission assigned to the 6th Division was to seize Naha and the line of the Kokuba River in its zone of action; assist 1stMarDiv by fire and maneuver; and protect the Corps' right (west) flank.

At 3:30 a.m., May 10, the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 22nd Marines crossed the Asa River. The 1st waded across upstream on the regiment's left while the 3rd got a few men across a footbridge before it was demolished by suicidal Japanese with satchel charges. After that, the 3rd Battalion was forced to use the same crossing as the 1st. As the day wore on, enemy fire became more intense, and casualties were heavy. By nightfall, a bridgehead 1,400 yards wide and about

400 yards deep had been seized.

The regiment's other battalion, the 2nd, was committed on the left flank on May 11, where it covered the 1st Battalion's attack on a coral hill southeast of the old sugar mill near Asa Town. Attempts to take the hill from the flanks failed, and the troops withdrew while USS *Indianapolis* (CA-35) shelled the hill. Just before noon, and despite enemy fire, the engineers succeeded in building a Bailey Bridge across the Asa. Soon afterward tanks rumbled across, and with the aid of their fire power, the infantry succeeded in capturing the hill.

On May 12, all three battalions of the 22nd continued to drive forward against increasing enemy resistance. From his positions on Shuri and Wana Ridges, the enemy was able to deliver heavy flanking fire and clearly observe segments of the 6th Marine Division. MajGen Shepherd ordered the 3rd Battalion, 29th Marines, into the lines on the extreme left.

The Division continued the attack the next day with the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Marines, and the 3rd Battalion, 29th Marines, in assault. Heavy enemy resistance limited the advance to about 300 yards for

the day. Late in the afternoon the other two battalions of the 29th Marines moved in behind the 3rd Bn and prepared to make the Division's main effort on May 14.

As an anchor for a defensive line, the enemy could not have found more suitable ground than that of the Sugar Loaf system. It commanded the surrounding countryside and its flanks and rear were covered by fire from cave and tunnel positions in Half Moon Hill and Horseshoe Ridge. The whole triangular Sugar Loaf system was under observation and heavy fire from Shuri Hill mass to the left

Not yet aware of the tactical significance of the Sugar Loaf position, the 22nd Marines attempted a tank-infantry assault late in the afternoon of May 14. Although enemy 47 mm fire drove the tanks back, troops from Company G, 2nd Bn gained the summit of Sugar Loaf and remained there during the night. But losses were so great that it was necessary to withdraw when the enemy counterattacked the next morning in approximate battalion strength. This counterattack drove the 2nd Battalion back from the ground immediately to the north of Sugar Loaf and finally spread over into the zone of the 29th Marines, who were engaged in an effort to seize Half Moon Hill.

After the counterattack had at last been broken, the 3rd Bn, 29th Marines, finally overcame a fanatically defended enemy pocket in the mouth of the corridor leading into the Half Moon. Meanwhile, the 3rd Bn, 22nd Marines, moved up to relieve the 2nd Bn which had lost more than 400 men in the last three days

The night of May 15 saw the enemy use his artillery and mortars extensively along our entire front lines. The next morning, the 22nd and 29th Marines again attacked in a coordinated effort to reduce the Sugar Loaf-Half Moon position. As soon as the attack began, the enemy replied with unusually heavy fire. On the left of the 22nd Marines, its 3rd Bn worked itself into position to assault Sugar Loaf Hill. Supported by tanks and artillery fire, the battalion moved rapidly up the steep north slope of the hill in the face of extremely heavy enemy fire from mortars, grenades, automatic weapons, and an increasing barrage from Sugar Loaf. Several times the troops reached the top of the hill and closed with the enemy in hand-to-hand fighting, only to be driven back. Finally, with casualties steadily mounting, the battalion was forced to withdraw.

Over in the 29th Marines' zone of action, it appeared that Half Moon Hill might be seized. Working their way forward, closely supported by tanks, troops reached the edge of the ridge by late afternoon. Then the enemy unleashed

Right: Okinawans are escorted to safety by Marines.

Below: Taking cover in the debris of the wrecked city of Naha, infantry Marines pick off Japanese snipers.



COURTESY OF MARINE CORPS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



LEATHERNECK FILE PHOTO

Old Glory is hoisted to the standard at official ceremonies marking the capture of Okinawa. Gen Roy S. Geiger, second from right, salutes the flag.

such devastating fire from Sugar Loaf and Shuri that troops could not remain.

May 16 was perhaps the bitterest day of the entire Okinawa campaign for 6thMarDiv. Two regiments had attacked with all their strength and had been unsuccessful. By now attrition had reduced the offensive capabilities of the 22nd Marines. Aware that the Sugar Loaf defense system had been greatly strengthened during the preceding 24 hours and mindful that the 22nd Marines could no longer attack, MajGen Shepherd shifted the burden of attack to the 29th Marines on May 17.

In preparation for this assault, MajGen Shepherd ordered a tremendous combined arms bombardment, including 16-inch naval guns, 8-inch howitzers and 1,000-pound bombs. Closely supported by tanks and following on the heels of a heavy and continuing artillery barrage, the 1st and 3rd Battalions moved slowly forward to the northern edge of Half Moon Hill.

While these two battalions were engaged on Half Moon, Co E of the 2nd Bn, 29th Marines, attempted a flanking attack around the left, or east, of Sugar Loaf. Three times the company worked its way to the top of the hill despite enemy mortar barrages, machine-gun fire and grenade fire only to be driven off by banzai charges. The last attempt was made as darkness approached. Upon reaching the top of the hill, the company beat back a counterattack, but found its casualties extremely heavy and its ammunition completely exhausted. There was little choice but to withdraw for the night.

Just at dusk, the enemy attempted to reinforce Sugar Loaf and began moving troops in the open. Twelve battalions of our artillery immediately took these enemy troops under accurate time-on-target fire and broke the reinforcement threat. Night found the left flank of the division fairly secure with the 29th Marine Regiment now in position to make its final attack on Sugar Loaf.

At 8:30 a.m. on May 18 the attack was launched. The 1st and 3rd Battalions, 29th Marines, again secured a foothold on Half Moon. Meanwhile, tanks attempted to encircle Sugar Loaf, but enemy mines, 47 mm fire, and artillery fire disabled six and drove the rest back before any great success was achieved. At 10 a.m., as the other two battalions engaged the enemy on Half Moon, the 2nd Bn, 29th Marines, launched an assault designed to send tank-



LEATHERNECK FILE PHOTO

supported infantry simultaneously around each flank of Sugar Loaf.

After an hour of heavy fighting, the company was in possession of the hill and receiving continuous mortar fire from Horseshoe to the south. Co F immediately attacked the Horseshoe and engaged in a hand grenade battle with the enemy entrenched there. During the night, the enemy counterattacked and drove Co F back to Sugar Loaf, but never seriously threatened our positions on that hill.

Now 6thMarDiv prepared to drive on south across the Asato River to the Kokuba Estuary and seize Naha. On the morning of May 19, the 4th Marines, fresh from two weeks of rest, moved up to relieve the weary and depleted 29th Marines. The 22nd Marines still occupied the western half of the Division's front but were in no condition to continue the attack.

After a night of heavy and accurate enemy artillery and mortar fire, the 4th Marines struck at the upper reaches of the Asato River. Part of Horseshoe Ridge was occupied after bitter fighting, and some gains were made in an effort to seize the forward slopes of the Half Moon position. Heavy casualties were incurred from artillery and machine gun fire that came from the Shuri Hill mass. Following an intense 90 mm mortar barrage, the enemy began a counterattack centered on the 3rd Battalion which continued until midnight. It was necessary to commit part of the

regimental reserve before the attack was completely stopped.

On the next day, May 21, the 4th Marines edged down into the interior of the Horseshoe, but further gains were impossible due to extremely heavy resistance. After considerable reconnaissance south of the river, the Fourth Marines moved two battalions across the stream during the afternoon of May 23 and again struck determined opposition. Attempts to bridge the Asato were unsuccessful at first. On May 25 the 4th Marines resumed the attack and seized most of the north-south ridge line west of Machishi. That night the 3rd Battalion fought off an enemy counterattack.

On May 28, the 29th Marines commenced the relief of the 4th Marines while the 22nd Marines completed the capture of urban Naha prior to noon. Again, MajGen Shepherd reoriented his attack. He planned now for the 22nd Marines to cross the north-south canal and, in conjunction with the 29th Marines, to drive southeast along the high ground toward Shichina, in a course parallel to the Kokuba Estuary. With the 29th Marines holding on its left, the 22nd Marines crossed the canal and launched an attack toward Shichina. Small, well-entrenched rearguard elements delayed the advance. It wasn't until June 1, and after hard fighting, that the Shichina area fell and the two regiments reached the north fork of the Kokuba River.

MajGen Shepherd, CG, III Amphibious Corps, ordered the 4th Marines to make a dawn landing on the peninsula, June 4.

After an intense preliminary bombardment, the 4th Marines landed two battalions on Oroku at 5:51 a.m. the same day. Early enemy resistance was light, and the Marines moved rapidly inland. Tactical surprise was achieved but could not be capitalized upon fully, however, because of mud, mines and fire.

Fighting raged on Oroku as the enemy resisted from caves and fortified positions. Action was slow and costly.

The converging forces of the 4th and 29th Marines convinced the Japanese that they were doomed and their efforts futile on June 12. During the afternoon, some groups came out waving white flags and surrendered. Others pressed grenades to their stomachs and committed suicide. Still others held their positions and died, offering no resistance, but refusing to surrender. On June 17, Corps officials ordered the division to pass through the right elements of the 1stMarDiv and seize Kuwanga Ridge, part of Ibaru Ridge, and the Kiyama Gusuku hill mass.

At 3 a.m., June 17, the 22nd Marines moved forward to the northern slope of Mezado Ridge, where the 1st Division

was engaged in its 48th straight day of savage fighting. The 1st and 3rd Battalions attacked at 7:30 a.m. against increasing enemy resistance. By late afternoon, the 3rd Battalion had captured the key high ground around Hill 29, overlooking Kuwanga Ridge. Next morning the 2nd Bn advanced rapidly to Kuwanga Ridge, most of which was seized by late afternoon.

Meanwhile, the 3rd Bn was engaged in cleaning out enemy pockets in the Mezado area. There, while inspecting his regiment's attack, Col H.C. Roberts, the commanding officer of the 22nd Marines, was shot through the heart by a sniper.

The 4th Marines assaulted and seized Ibaru Ridge before noon of June 19. They immediately ran into heavy resistance. Although a foothold was at last gained on the high plateau before dark, the key terrain was still in the enemy's hands.


At 7 a.m., June 20, 6thMarDiv launched an attack to seize the remaining 5,000 square yards of ground and destroy the enemy. The 4th Marines ran into heavy mortar and small arms fire as it fought in the approaches to Kiyamu-Gusuku Ridge. At the close of the day, two companies of the 2nd Battalion had succeeded in capturing the peak, which was known as Hill 80.

On the Division's right, the 29th Marines moved to the south coast against little opposition. An LCI, equipped with a loudspeaker, cruised just offshore along the southern coast and broadcast to the beleaguered Japanese, telling them how to surrender.

Next morning, June 21, the 4th Marines attacked from the rear. After two hours of hard fighting, the position was overrun and all organized resistance in the 6th Division's zone of action had ended.

After mopping up in its zone of action in southern Okinawa, the Division settled into bivouac areas by July 1. A month later the division moved to its base camp on Guam, where it was preparing to train for another operation when the war suddenly ended.

Though its 18-month career was short, the 6th Marine Division has left a rich heritage. This spirit was perhaps best defined by an Army officer who served alongside Marines in several island operations and who praised the 6th in these words:

"We got along fine with every Marine Division and enjoyed working with them, but the 6th was the most professional outfit I ever saw. All they wanted to do was to attack." 



These Japanese surrendered to the 6thMarDiv.



Iwo Jima is still a drab and sinister isle, but thousands of Seabees and Army engineers have built a mighty base upon the ashes and rocks of its battlefields. Blasted wreckage of a Japanese ship frames this view of Quonset huts above the littered east beach where Marines landed.

IWO: D+180

By Sgt Duane Decker, USMC

The first morning we were awakened in the dark by a heavy drone of airplanes overhead. The drone went on and on and on. What made it peculiar was that it did not get louder and it did not get softer. It was like somebody had played a Victrola record and the needle was stuck.

The Army corporal, awake in the next sack, must have seen us sit up to listen.

"It's the B-29s on the milk run," he explained.

We fell back in the sack, thinking with pleasure of that convoy of bombs

streaming overhead, airmail express from the Marianas to The Place. But we'd hardly fallen asleep again when something else woke us up.

This was a series of sharp, angry roars which sounded about 10 feet above the top of the tent. Outside, still half asleep, we looked. We watched one escorting Mustang after another, each seeming to have been catapulted straight into the air from some giant slingshot. They went screaming into the skies while the B-29s droned on in an unruffled obligato.

We went back to the sack. An hour later when we got up for chow, the B-29s were still droning away. Suddenly some more

Mustangs began to roar out after them.

"How long does this go on?" we asked.

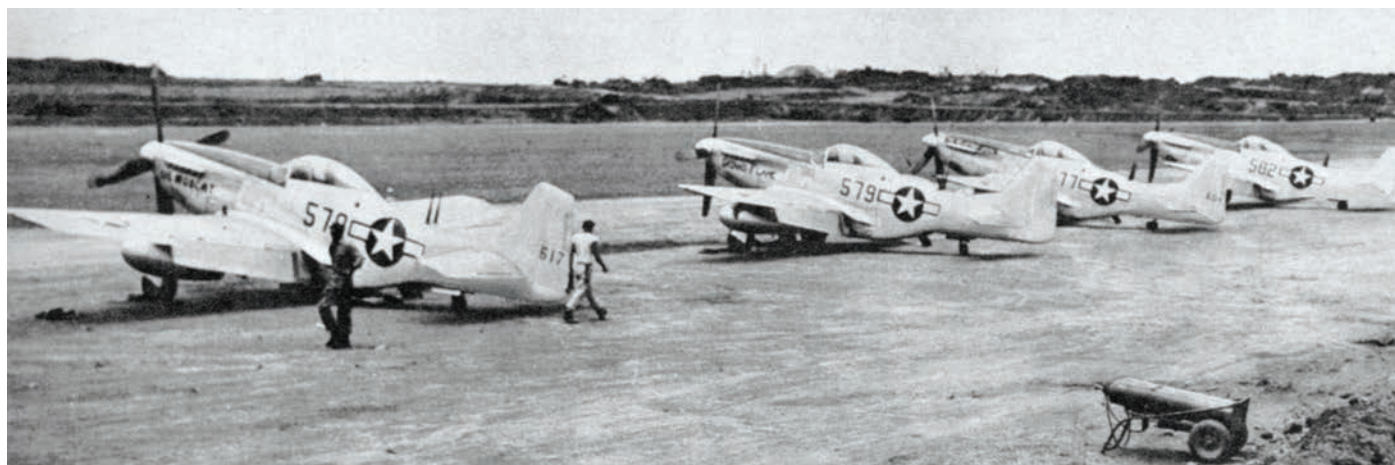
The corporal glanced at his watch. "Maybe 15 or 20 minutes more. By this time, I can just about tell when they're getting near the end."

"It's a long milk run."

"Just average," he said. "If you go up to Motoyama No. 2 this afternoon, around 3:30, you can watch the B-29s that got hit when they limp in here."

We were staying at Island Command Headquarters, six months after the Marines had landed. This was Iwo, the secured base, the trigger of the Big Gun pointed at Honshu and Kyushu.

Below: Mustang fighter planes stand ready for their next mission along the blacktopped air strip of Motoyama Field No. 2. Iwo's main business today is aerial war, and the drone of powerful engines can be heard everywhere above the noisy confusion of construction in highest gear.



It is still an ugly, sinister island and it probably always will be. No one in his right mind would ever set foot on this black ash heap by choice ...



Where the loose volcanic ash once was torn and furrowed by shellfire, it now lies smoothly on the carefully tended Marine graves. Suribachi stands as a monument above this cemetery.

It is still an ugly, sinister island and it probably always will be. No one in his right mind would ever set foot on this black ash heap by choice but it has turned in six months from the most famous battlefield in the Pacific to a beehive of construction activity.

Seabees and Army engineers already have turned Motoyama No. 1 and No. 2 into modern airfields with sleek, blacktop

strips. No. 3 is well on the way. All manner of roads cross and re-cross the island—dirt roads, to be sure, but good ones. Quonset huts are popping up all over.

Huge warehouses are being filled and drained and then filled again with an endless chain of supplies. Ships pour in and out of the anchorage, day after day. Hills and caves and rocks that get in the way of progress are blasted to the high

heavens. But above all the noise and confusion of activity, Iwo's main business stands out like a beacon. Everywhere you hear that inevitable drone of airplanes.

Nowhere in the world has a greater degree of concentrated construction been compressed into 5 square miles than on Iwo. Where the Japanese, when they held it, filled it up with 20,000 combat troops and a few thousand construction

workers, we filled it up with thousands of construction workers and fewer combat troops.

Of course, 80 percent of this construction work is being done by Seabee battalions, and since Seabees are notoriously double-threat men, you have a very high combat potential. But with the island chock full of fighter planes and bristling with antiaircraft guns, the Japanese would have about as much chance of effecting a landing there as they'd have at Oahu.

Suribachi, directly behind us, is covered at the top with a vast gingerbread network of complicated gizmos. A jeep and a truck can be seen crisscrossing the mountain on the way up, following the road which now goes diagonally back and forth across the side of it, like a casually unspooled ribbon.

Everyone still lives in tents without decks. The Quonsets are all warehouses or administrative lashups. Water is rationed. Illumination in the tents is strictly candles or kerosene lamps. At least once a week there has been an air raid, but none of them has amounted to much. G-2 tells you that the damage from them has been negligible thanks to the Japanese's more serious preoccupation with Okinawa shipping.

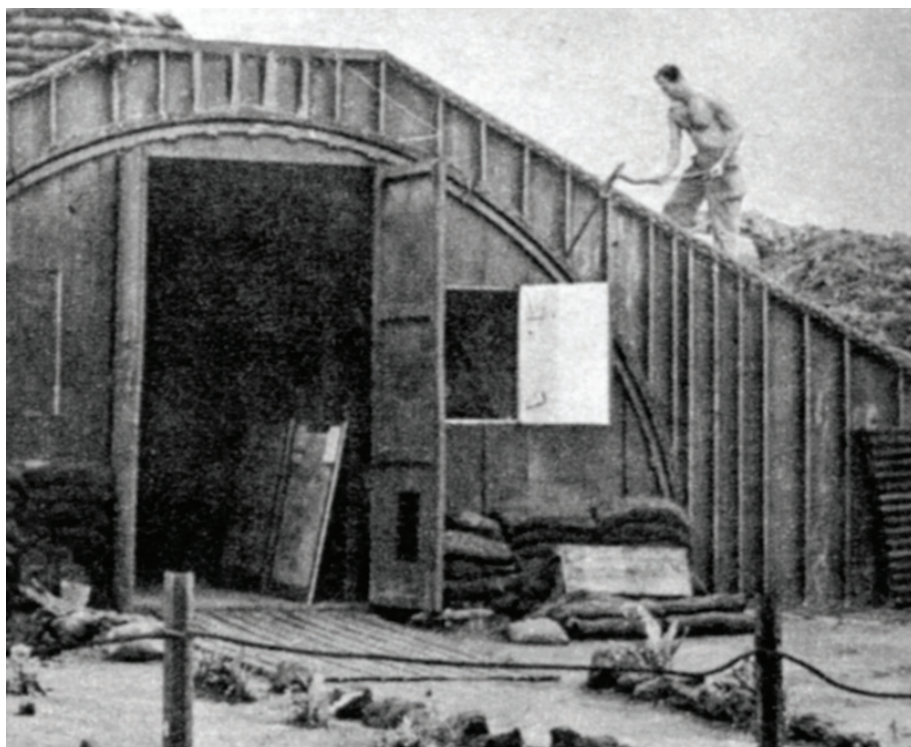
Every enlisted man of the Garrison Force here (with exception of the top pay grades) pulls guard duty from 7 until 7



Above: "Manila John" Basilone was only one of the many great Marines who paid the bitter cost of Iwo.

about once a week. Life here is more inconvenient than it is rugged. But still, you're sharply aware that the war isn't so many miles away.

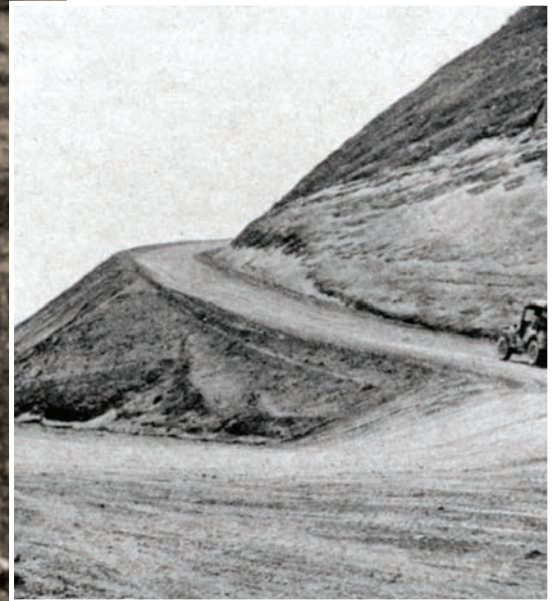
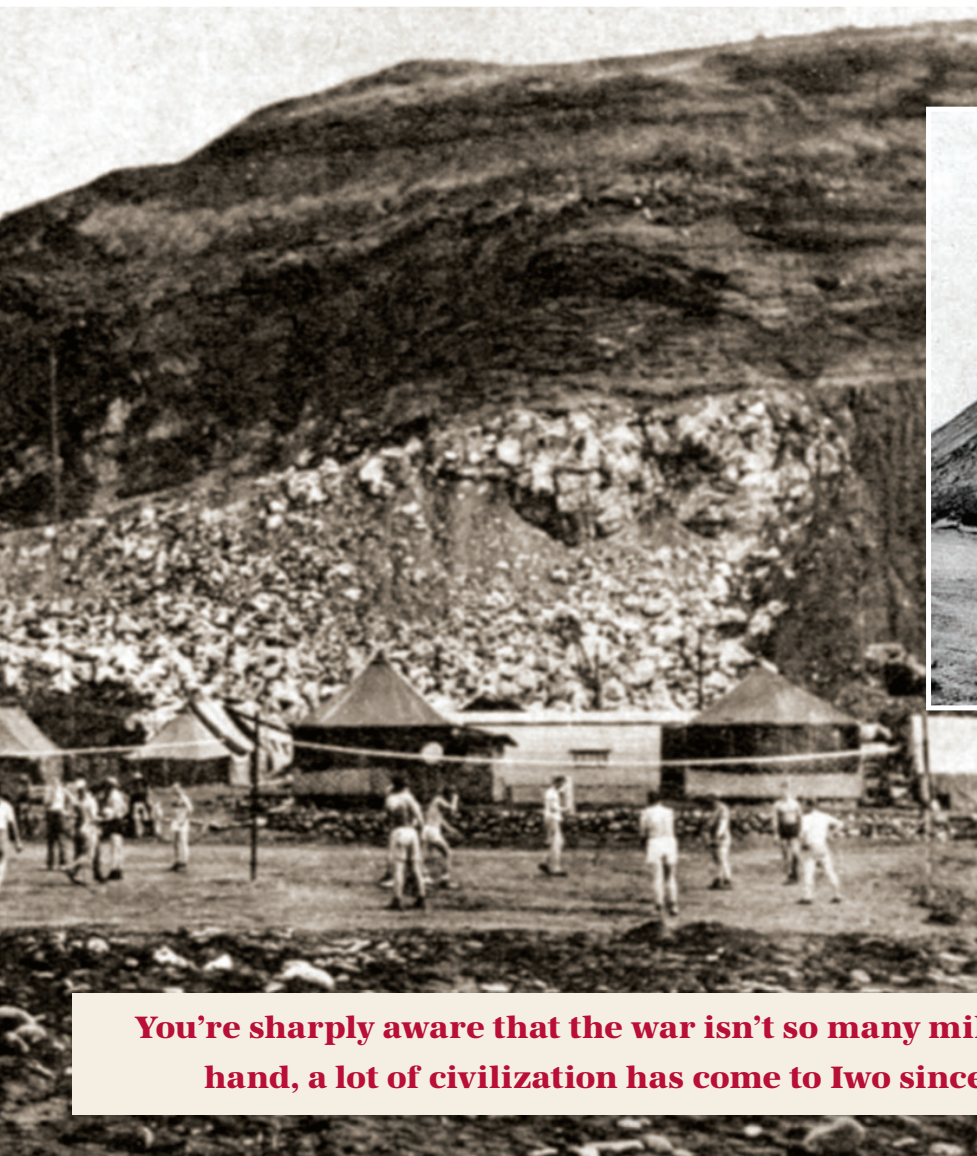
On the other hand, a lot of civilization has come to Iwo since the Marines left. There are a couple of lively volleyball games going on every afternoon at the foot of Suribachi. And not far from the volleyball courts, you can see a long ice



Above: An antiaircraft battalion headquarters is fortified for protection against continuing Japanese air raids.

Right: Beyond the shattered concrete of a Japanese pillbox lies this large supply dump. Warehouses are under construction, but huge piles of materiel under canvas and in the open show that Iwo is far from a completed base. Everyone lives in tents since Quonsets must serve other uses.

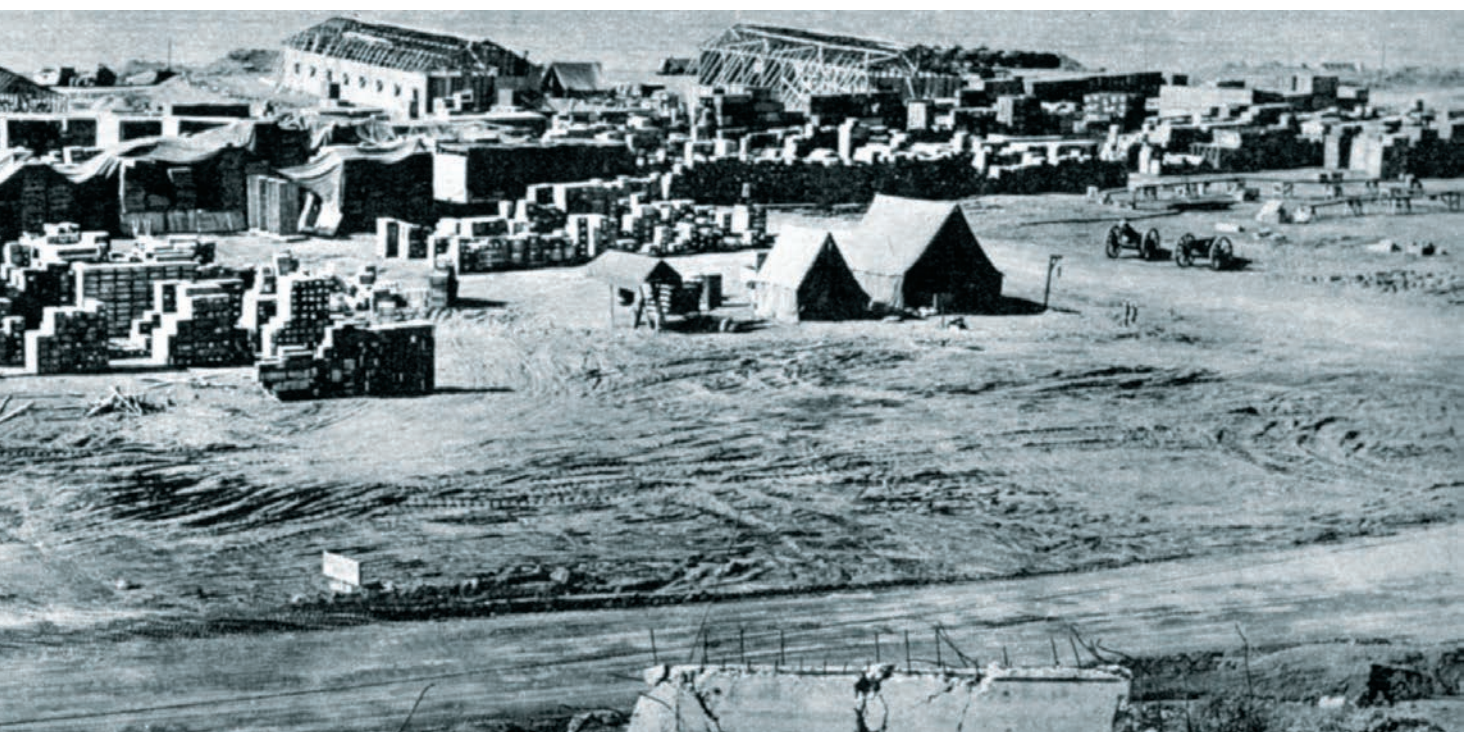




Above: This road winds in hairpin turns up the steep, bare slope of Mount Suribachi.

Left: Marines fought through a thick belt of Japanese fortifications at the foot of Mount Suribachi, where volleyball games are now played every day.

You're sharply aware that the war isn't so many miles away. On the other hand, a lot of civilization has come to Iwo since the Marines left.



The new hospital on the north end. Three main avenues of one hospital area are dedicated to the three Marine Divisions which fought for the island.



The enlisted man now gets three beers or Cokes (warm) twice a week. And once a week we can watch the officers sweat it out in the long whiskey line.

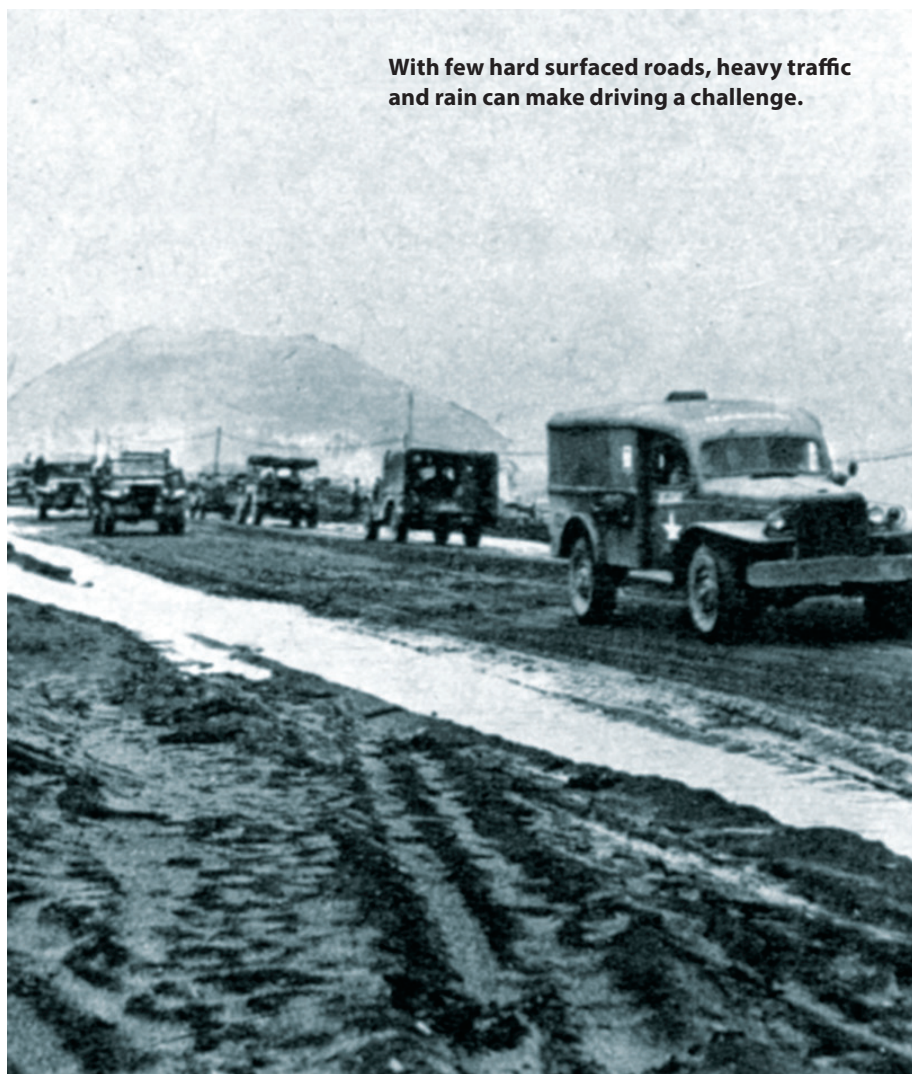


Many things are needed for modern warfare, even in the most advanced of our bases. Seabees built and are operating this plant which produces asphalt at the northern end of the island.

The Japanese had vegetable gardens on Iwo and so do Army garrison troops. This tomato patch near the east shore gets plenty of care with cans protecting plants from wind and rain.



With few hard surfaced roads, heavy traffic and rain can make driving a challenge.



cream line form about three days a week. The enlisted man now gets three beers or Cokes (warm) twice a week. And once a week we can watch the officers sweat it out in the long whiskey line.

Then there are the Iwo showers—a department where “The Porkchop,” as some of them like to call this Rock, has it over the rest of the Pacific Rocks for sheer luxury. On Iwo you take hot showers, thanks to those sulphur springs. While it comes out of the ground scalding hot, by the time it’s distributed to the overhead vats that serve as showers, it’s a fairly nice temperature.

There are movies now, at least every other night in each area. There is a mimeographed morning news bulletin. There are night school courses at Suribachi College (it’s the mess hall by day) in bookkeeping, Spanish and a lot of other things. A radio station was being set up then and is probably going by now. The Seabees have a big asphalt plant. There’s laundry service. There’s a patch of tomatoes under cultivation. And believe it or not, they sell coat hangers at PX.

But no matter where you go or what you look at or listen to, you can’t forget for a minute what Iwo primarily stands for in the scheme of the Pacific war. Because there is scarcely a minute of the day when you can’t see or hear at least a dozen planes buzzing overhead.

Editor’s note: Photos were taken by Sgt John Jolokai, USMC. 

Passing the Word

Compiled by Sara W. Bock



Lowe's Supports N.C. Veterans By Backing New Transition Center

Retail giant Lowe's Home Improvement reaffirmed its commitment to veteran employment by teaming up with the Carolina Panthers and the Veterans Bridge Home (VBH) to donate \$90,000 and an additional \$25,000 in gift cards to the newly established Veterans Transition Center in Charlotte, N.C., which was unveiled May 24.

Lowe's has long been a supporter of veterans, currently employing nearly 20,000, and offers workforce training, scholarships and a 10 percent discount in its stores to active-duty and retired military personnel, veterans and their spouses. Its Honor Our Military Everyday (H.O.M.E.) program, announced during Military Appreciation Month, partners with Operation FINALLY HOME, which provides custom, mortgage-free homes and modifications to wounded, ill and injured servicemembers and Gold Star spouses; the United Service Organization (USO); and American Veterans (AMVETS).



Officials from Lowe's, the Carolina Panthers and the Veterans Bridge Home (above) participate in the ceremonial grand opening of the new Veterans Transition Center in Charlotte, N.C., May 24. The new center includes a Salute to Service Lounge, pictured, a gathering area that Lowe's provided both the concept and the building materials for. (Photos courtesy of Lowe's)

VBH's mission is to support veterans' transition to civilian life by connecting them with career, housing and social networks. After outgrowing its 4,000-square foot offices, the organization looked for a bigger space that would connect more veterans with the resources they need and provide a comfortable space for

building social connections.

Contributions by Lowe's and the Panthers funded the Veterans Transition Center, a 10,000-square foot, state-of-the-art co-working space and community center for veterans, military servicemembers and their families—the first of its kind in the Carolinas. The center

features a “Salute to Service” Lounge, a community living room and gathering area that includes private family rooms as well as large tables, sofas, and other sitting areas conceptualized by Lowe’s and the Carolina Panthers. Lowe’s also contributed surplus high-quality building materials from other construction projects, subsidizing building costs.

This project is especially close to the heart of Lowe’s Executive Vice President of Stores, Joe McFarland. McFarland is a Gulf War-era Marine veteran who served for six years as an aircraft ordnance technician. He knows firsthand that the transition from military life can be hard on families.

“I remember receiving my own separation papers as a husband and a father,” said McFarland. “There’s no doubt that the transition journey takes courage, and we think this transition center will make that path ... easier for Marines and all branches of the military.”

For more information about Veterans Bridge Home, visit <https://veteransbridgehome.org>

Jacqueline Jedrych

DOD Looks to Expand Child Care Fee Assistance Program

Furthering its commitment to provide additional child care options to meet the needs of servicemembers and military families, the Department of Defense (DOD) will initiate a new pilot program to grant fee assistance to military families for full-time, in-home child care providers.

The department recognizes that child care is a critical support for military families with children.

“Our military parents cannot be focused and available for their mission without safe and reliable care for their children,” said Stacey Young, director of the DOD’s office of military family readiness policy.

The DOD currently provides support to families through a range of child care solutions. On-installation care is available at child development centers, certified family child care homes, and before- and after-school care programs. Other options include fee assistance for community-based child care and free access to a subscription service that connects families with flexible, hourly care.

The new pilot program will explore fee assistance for military families who have determined that full-time, in-home child care provided by a nanny or similar caregiver is the best solution to fit their needs. The program will cover full-time care for a minimum of 30 hours to a maximum of 60 hours of child care weekly. Care is not limited to Monday through Friday or by time of day. This allows in-home providers



LCPL JONAH LOVY, USMC

A teacher reads with her students in the Child Development Center at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C. Recognizing the unique and varying needs of military families, the DOD has initiated a new plan to expand its child care fee assistance program to military families who opt to employ in-home providers like nannies.

to be used for rotating shifts and weekend care to meet the nontraditional schedules of military families.

“The Department of Defense is taking another important step to support families with child care solutions by piloting a program that explores the viability of providing fee assistance for full-time, in-home child care services,” said Patricia Montes Barron, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy. “This is just one of many initiatives to increase access to affordable child care, including support provided for community-based fee assistance and hourly care. We understand the need is great, and the time is now.”

This pilot program will be operated similarly to the child care fee assistance program currently in place for servicemembers using community-based care facilities. A third-party administrator will be selected to oversee the program, verify servicemember and provider eligibility, and distribute fee assistance payments to approved providers of in-home care. The amount of fee assistance provided is determined based on the servicemember’s total family income. The administrator will also ensure providers successfully complete and maintain current background check requirements, as well as provide information on tax requirements to the parent who will be the employer of the in-home care provider or employee. Military parents who employ care providers in their home can contact

Military OneSource tax consultants any time they have questions about these tax implications.

In its first year, the pilot will be offered in the five regions with the highest demand and longest waitlists for DOD-facilitated child care—the National Capital Region; Hawaii; San Diego, Calif.; Norfolk, Va.; and San Antonio, Texas.

Single or dual active-duty and guard or reserve servicemembers on active duty, with a full-time working spouse or spouse enrolled full-time in a postsecondary institution currently on the Military ChildCare.com waitlist in one of the five regions are eligible to participate. If families are not yet on the waitlist but need child care, they can create an account at MilitaryChildCare.com and submit their request for in-home care.

Families will be responsible for finding their own in-home care providers. They may use the expanded child care service available at no cost through Military OneSource to search for local providers. Providers must be U.S. citizens at least 18 years of age, with a high school diploma or equivalent, and must be able to read, speak and write English.

Providers must successfully complete requirements for background checks and complete 32 hours of training covering topics that include CPR and first aid, child abuse prevention, safe sleep and care for children with special needs, if applicable.

DOD



DPAA Accounts for Korean War Casualty

The Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced in July that Marine Private First Class Henry E. Ellis, 22, of Roanoke, Va., killed during the Korean War, has been accounted for.

In late 1950, PFC Ellis was a member of Headquarters Company, 1st Service Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He was killed in action on Nov. 30, 1950, while defending the convoy of which he was a member near Koto-ri, North Korea. His body was not immediately recovered, though many deceased Marines were later recovered and buried in the United Nations Cemetery at Koto-ri as U.N. forces withdrew from the area.

During Operation Glory in 1954, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea returned the remains of approximately 4,200 individuals, of which nearly 3,000 were determined to be American. During the subsequent processing and identification of these remains, none were associated with Ellis, and he was declared non-recoverable. At the end of the Operation Glory identification process, 848 sets of remains were interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu, Hawaii.

In March 2012, historians, anthropologists and odontologists at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, a predecessor to DPAA, conducted in-depth research to support the exhumation of several sets of remains. On Nov. 5, 2018, DPAA disinterred the remains of eight unknowns and transferred them to the DPAA Laboratory at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for analysis.

To identify Ellis' remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA analysis.

DPAA

Ronald A. Arnold, 87, of Buffalo, N.Y. He was wounded in the Korean War. He later had a career in radio and TV broadcasting in Buffalo.

SSgt Irving R. Auger, 90, of Haverhill, Mass. He served in the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Paul E.A. Bardal, 79, of Minneapolis, Minn. He graduated from boot camp in

1964 and served with VMR-234 as a crew chief for the C-119 Flying Boxcar.

Sgt Joseph Barno, 92, of Levittown, Pa. He joined the Navy during WW II. Following his discharge, he enlisted in the Marine Corps. He served at the Chosin Reservoir during the Korean War. His awards include the Purple Heart. He was a member of the D.A.V., the American Legion and the VFW. He also was a member of the MCA and a longtime *Leatherneck* reader.

John E. Collins, 93, of Parker, Colo. He enlisted in 1944 and was assigned to E/2/23, 4thMarDiv during the Battle of Iwo Jima. He was wounded during the fighting on March 6, 1945. After the war he earned a degree in petroleum engineering and went to work for Chevron Oil in Texas and New Mexico. He was an avid private pilot and was a member of the MCA.

George G. "Jeff" Ehlen Jr., 96, of Portland, Ore. He enlisted during WW II and served in the Pacific. He saw action on Guadalcanal, Bougainville and Iwo Jima, where he was wounded.

James R. Fidler, 75, of Cordova, Ill. He enlisted and completed a tour in Vietnam. He also served at MCB Camp Lejeune.

Capt John "Jack" Fitzmaurice, 76, of San Diego, Calif. He was commissioned in 1967 and went to NAS Pensacola, Fla., for naval flight officer training. In Vietnam he flew combat missions as a radar intercept officer in the F-4 Phantom with VMFA-542 and VMFA-115, surviving the ejection from a burning aircraft while serving with VMFA-115.

MSgt Walter "Fritz" Gemeinhardt, 97, of Central Point, Ore. He enlisted in 1942 and was a paraMarine. After retiring from the Marine Corps, he pursued his passion for building models of WW II aircraft.

Jack C. Gruber, 101, of San Antonio, Texas. He enlisted in 1938 and served until 1944. He saw action on Guadalcanal and was wounded on Guam. He later had a career in federal service at Kelly AFB.

Alice E. Gunnerson, 91, of Santa Clara, Calif. She enlisted when she was 21 and served for three years. She later worked for the State Department.

Maj Richard J. "Dick" Hedloff, 91, of Litchfield Park, Ariz. He enlisted when he was only 15 in 1944 and was allowed to remain in the Marine Corps after his underage status was discovered. After WW II, he was commissioned and served

for 20 years as an infantry officer, retiring in 1967. His duty stations included MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., and MCAS Yuma, Ariz. He later had a 23-year career in civil service as the Yuma base management engineer.

Robert W. Herrick, 78, of Nipomo, Calif. He served a tour in Vietnam as a gunner in F/2/3, 3rdMarDiv. His awards include two Purple Hearts.

Cpl Willie S. Hickman, 92, of Florence, Ala. He was a veteran of the Korean War who was assigned to 2nd MAW at MCAS Cherry Point.

LtCol H. Lee Holloway III, 69, of Richmond, Va. His 24-year Marine Corps career included assignments to HML-167, HML-367, MAG-26 and the Defense Supply Center. He also commanded MALS-26. He was a graduate of the USAF Command and Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. He later had a career in consulting.

HMCS Ronald C. Hornsby, 82, of Burnet, Texas. He was a corpsman who served in the Navy for 24 years. He was assigned to a Marine unit in Vietnam and then later spent most of his career as a submariner. His awards include a Navy Achievement Medal with combat "V."

Matthew Kubarski, 94, of Niagara Falls, N.Y. He was born in Poland and came to the United States when he was a young boy. He enlisted in 1944 and was on a ship bound for the Pacific when the war ended. He completed his enlistment in the Aleutian Islands.

WO George V. Lampman, 93, of Charlottesville, Va. He enlisted on his 17th birthday in 1944 and served with 1stMarDiv in China. In 1949 he was one of 20 MSG Marines assigned to the newly established U.S. Embassy in Seoul, South Korea. In June 1950, after the evacuation of the embassy following the invasion by North Korean forces, he served briefly at the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. Other assignments included MCAS Cherry Point, N.C. and Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., where he was a course writer at the Marine Corps Institute. After his 1967 retirement, he worked for the federal government.

Linda D. Lukins, 62, of Grant Town, W.Va. She served at bases in California and Hawaii.

Sgt Perry A. Mallette, 89, of Detroit, Mich. He was the recipient of the Navy Cross for his actions in Korea on July 6, 1952. While assigned to Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Marines, 1stMarDiv (Rein), he was

accompanying a forward observer team during the assault of an enemy hill position when they came under intense enemy mortar and small-arms fire. They were forced to abandon their wire communications and continue the assault with only a radio. Acting as a wireman, Sgt Mallette was wounded after he volunteered to remain with his team, repeatedly exposing himself to a barrage of hostile fire, while they continued to move forward. While he was receiving medical treatment in a sheltered location, he observed machine-gun fire coming from an enemy bunker. According to the award citation, "he refused further medical assistance, arose from his stretcher and although extremely weak and bleeding profusely, proceeded to assault the bunker with hand grenades, reaching a point within 25 feet of the emplacement before he was wounded again and forced to submit to evacuation."

After the war, he attended college and embarked on a career as a teacher and actor in community theater productions.

Clyde Nelson, 97, in Aitkin, Minn. He enlisted in the Navy in 1943 and served as a corpsman with 1stMarDiv in the Pacific. He was wounded on Peleliu. After the war, he returned to his hometown and became a carpenter. Throughout his career, he built and remodeled numerous homes.

Richard M. "Dick" Panchyshyn Sr., 85, of North Chesterfield, Va. He was a UH-1 Huey crew chief who served for 20 years. He was a veteran of the Korean War and the Vietnam War. His awards include the Purple Heart and four Air Medals (Strike).

Clarence A. Robinson, 87, of Vienna, Va. He saw action during the Korean War. His awards include the Bronze Star with combat "V" and the Purple Heart.

Cpl Ronald L. "Ron" Russell, 81, in Riverbank, Calif. He was a mechanic with VMF(AW)-542 at MCAS El Toro and MCAS Iwakuni. He later had a career with the police department in Modesto, Calif., beginning as a patrolman and rising through ranks to become a sergeant.

Filomeno "Filo" Sanchez, 77, of Manzano, N.M. He was a Marine who served from 1961 to 1964.

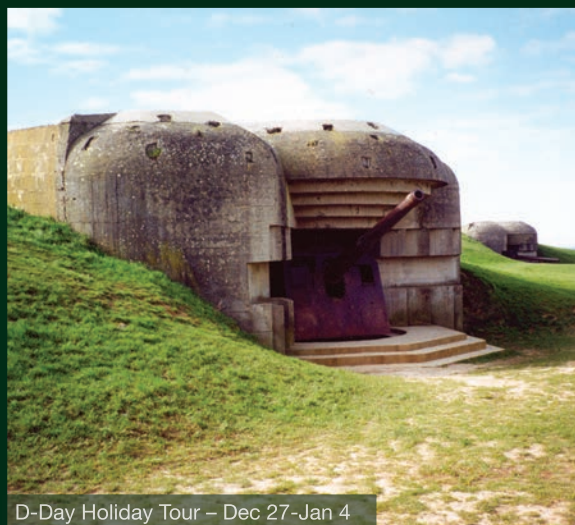
LtCol John R. Stevens, 100, of San Francisco, Calif. He was a veteran of WW II and the Korean War. He was assigned to the 1st Defense Bn on Oahu when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Later in the war, he saw action on Okinawa. During the Korean War he was the CO of "Able" Co, 1st Bn, 5th Marines and participated in the landing at Inchon, leading his Marines over the seawall. He saw action in Seoul and at the Chosin

Reservoir. His awards include the Bronze Star with combat "V."

After his retirement from his 23-year Marine Corps career, he worked in telecommunications and information technology companies. He also led the effort to have a Korean War Memorial built in San Francisco.

Capt John D. Yeagley, 99, of Los Angeles, Calif. He flew combat missions in the South Pacific during WW II and is credited with sinking two enemy destroyers. Upon his return from the Pacific, he trained flight instructors on combat tactics. After the war, he had a career in the aerospace industry. His awards include four Distinguished Flying Crosses and 14 Air Medals.

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. 🇺🇸



D-Day Holiday Tour – Dec 27-Jan 4

MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS, INC



13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY,
STE 202 WOODBRIDGE, VA 22193

(703) 590-1295 • www.miltours.com
mhtours@miltours.com

UPCOMING TOURS

NOV 3-13

WWI Armistice Day Parade
Paris-Belleau Wood-Reims

DEC 4-11

80th Anniversary of Pearl
Harbor – Waikiki

DEC 4-13

Battle of the Bulge
Bastogne – Brussels

DEC 27 2021-JAN 4 2022

D-Day Holiday Tour of
Normandy

FEB 19-MAR 3

Vietnam Battlefields – "Tet/
Hue"

MAR 21-28

Iwo Jima – Guam

APR 16-29

Vietnam Delta to the DMZ

APR 30-MAY 6

MHT Civil War Gettysburg,
Bull Run & Antietam

MAY 22-31

WWI Battlefields
Paris-Belleau Wood-Reims

MAY 27-JUN 9

D-Day & The Bulge

JUN 1-9

D-Day "The Longest Day"
France – Normandy

JUN 12-25

Cathedrals of Northern
France – Normandy

JUL 30-AUG 4

"Bloody Tarawa"

JUL 31-AUG 8

Guadalcanal 80th
Anniversary

AUG 13-28

Germany – Rise & Fall of
the Third Reich

**10% MCA
MEMBER DISCOUNT**

READ the NEW MHT BLOG on
the WEBSITE: www.miltours.com

USMC VETERAN OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1987

SOUND OFF
[continued from page 9]

country Cua Viet R&R Center jungle rot. I was a rifleman in Bravo 1/3 and what I remember most about our short stay at Cua Viet was our corpsmen insisting that we grunts spend as much time as possible in the ocean. This was to have the most exposure to saltwater to help heal our jungle rot. What we called jungle rot was mostly infected cuts and bug bites from the effects of six weeks in the bush. The saltwater does promote healing. Also, we sailed down the river in World War II landing craft.

Sgt James P. Harper, USMC (Ret)
Saline, Mich.

Salute to Navy Corpsmen

The June 2021 issue of the *Leatherneck* magazine is a fantastic tribute to our Navy Corpsmen. In 2008, "Kilo" Co, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines held a reunion in Quantico, Va., with the theme "Corpsman Up!" to pay tribute to the Navy corpsmen who served with us in Vietnam. Fortunately, several of our corpsmen were able to attend the event and they eagerly participated in the memorial service by carrying and placing the memorial wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in



HM3 Stephen Barrett, "Kilo" Co, 3rd Bn, 1st Marines, who was killed in action Jan. 25, 1968, (above) is interred at the Memory Gardens Cemetery and Memorial Park, right, in Colonie, N.Y. (Photos courtesy of Jack Stubbs)



Washington, D.C. I've enclosed a photo of those corpsmen as they prepared for the ceremony. Each of the corpsmen were presented with a special challenge coin with the FMF corpsman logo and "Corpsman Up!" theme.

One of our corpsmen who was not at the reunion was HM3 Stephen Barrett, who was KIA on Jan. 25, 1968. At a previous

Kilo Co, 3/1 reunion, Chris Giordano, who was the last Marine saved by Doc Barrett, informed me that Doc's gravesite was near my home. I was able to locate the gravesite at the Memory Gardens Cemetery and Memorial Park in Colonie, N.Y., just 2 miles away. Doc Barrett was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart posthumously. Also buried with him is his



Visit
[MCA-PLANS.COM/GROUP](https://mca-plans.com/group)
to learn about the products
currently offered.



COVERAGE WITH YOUR BEST INTERESTS IN MIND. MCA GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM

With insurance coverage backed by MCA, you can count on expert advice, exclusive group rates, and personalized customer service.

Take full advantage of your MCA membership today!

Visit **insuremca.com/group** to learn about the products currently offered:

- ✓ Vision Insurance
- ✓ Dental Insurance
- ✓ Pet Insurance
- ✓ Long-Term Care Benefit Program
- ✓ Medicare Insurance Plans

211791-MCA-AP-PAD

Corpsmen from "Kilo" Co, 3rd Bn, 1st Marines pose for a photo at their reunion held in Quantico, Va., in 2008. Left to right: Bruce Novak, Bert Racik, Steve Foltz, Jack Cassidy, Robert Runge, Robert Niles, and John Silvernail.



COURTESY OF JACK STUBBS

brother, Stanley, who was an Army medic and was KIA in 1970. Each Memorial Day, Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day, I go to the cemetery to clean around the grave markers and place American flags on them.

As was mentioned several times in the *Leatherneck* tribute, these corpsmen are very special to us Marines. We are brothers.

Jack Stubbs
Albany, N.Y.

Editorial Irish Pennants

In the article "From the Corps to Capitol Hill: Marine Veterans of the 117th Congress Continue Service to Country" in the July issue of *Leatherneck*, the list of additional Marine veterans currently serving in Congress did not include Rep. Jack Bergman (R-MI) who served in the Marine Corps Reserve and retired as a lieutenant general in 2009. We apologize for the omission.

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



The Marine Corps Association would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following companies for sponsoring awards presented at Marine Corps Recruit Depots Parris Island and San Diego throughout the year.



Sponsor of the
High Shooter Awards



Sponsor of the
Chesty Puller Honor Graduate
Awards at Parris Island



Sponsor of the High PFT Awards

Thank you to these companies for their ongoing support and to all of our supporters for helping us recognize Marines!

To find out how your company can support our award programs, please call 703-640-0169 or email l.mitchell@mca-marines.org



Reader Assistance

Edited by Sara W. Bock

Reunions

• **Marine Corps Engineer Assn.**, Sept. 23-25, Fredericksburg, Va. Contact Maj Charlie Dismore, USMC (Ret), (512) 394-9333, www.marcorengasn.org.

• **East Coast Drill Instructors Assn.**, Oct. 7-10, Parris Island, S.C. Contact SgtMaj Kenneth Miller, USMC (Ret), (828) 499-0224, usmcpidi@charter.net.

• **Marine Security Guard Assn.**, Sept. 30-Oct. 4, Alexandria, Va. Contact Steve Maxwell, (440) 506-3311, usmcmax@oh.rr.com.

• **USMC Vietnam Tankers Assn.**, Sept. 15, Warwick, R.I. Contact John Wear, 16605 Forest Green Terrace, Elbert, CO 80106, (719) 495-5998, johnwear2@verizon.net.

• **Marine Corps Cryptologic Assn.** is planning a reunion in September, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact Edgar Kitt, 2250 Heavenly View Dr., Henderson, NV 89014, (702) 454-1646, edgarkitt@earthlink.net.

• **Marine Air Traffic Control Assn.**, Sept. 19-26, San Antonio, Texas. Contact Steve Harris, (830) 460-0953, sandkh2@gmail.com.

• **26th Marines Assn. (26th Marine Regiment, and supporting units, all eras)**, Sept. 30-Oct. 4, San Diego, Calif. Contact Sonny Hollub, (512) 825-4730, sonnyusmc@gmail.com, www.26thMarines.com.

• **USMC Weather Service**, June 19-24, 2022, Overland Park, Kan. Contact Kathy Donham, (252) 342-8459, kathy.donham@hotmail.com, or Dave Englert, engertd@psci.net.

• **11th Marine Regiment, OIF (20th anniversary)**, March 31-April 1, 2023, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Contact Casey Harsh, casey.harsh@gmail.com. Facebook group: The Cannon Cockers of OIF-1 (20-Year Reunion 2023 Group).

• **STA Plt, 2/8 (1989-1993)** is planning a reunion. Contact Mike Moriarty, mmoriarty81@comcast.net.

• **7th Engineer Bn Assn. (RVN)**, Sept. 9-12, Arlington, Va. Contact Norm Johnson, (810) 300-0782, nwgj@outlook.com.

• **11th Engineer Bn (RVN, 1966-1969)**, September 2022, O'Hare-Des Plaines, Ill. Contact Gene T. Spanos, (847) 532-2963,

genethemarine@gmail.com.

• **2/9**, Nov. 8-12, Arlington, Va. Contact Danny Schuster, twoninencoic@aol.com, www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org.

• **"Stormy's" 3/3**, Sept. 27-30, Branson, Mo. Contact Burrell Landes, (303) 734-1458, bhanon@comcast.net, www.stormys33.com.

• **1/3/1 (RVN, 1968-1969)**, Sept. 9-12, Tampa, Fla. Contact "Woody" Woodard, (727) 253-0961, december251968@hotmail.com.

• **M/3/7 (RVN)**, May 11-14, 2022, Annapolis, Md. Contact George Martin, (443) 822-3597, m37bulldog@aol.com.

• **Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, Task Force Leatherneck (2009-2010)**, May 13-15, 2022, Quantico, Va. Contact reunion committee, taskforceleatherneck@gmail.com.

• **Marine Barracks Sasebo, Japan**, Oct. 25-27, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact Bob McCarthy, (515) 274-9110, coach430@aol.com.

• **Philippine Embassy Marines (1976-1977)**, Nov. 10, North Carolina. Contact Tim Craig, phildream2017@gmail.com.

Cheers to 246 years

AND TO CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY TOGETHER! GET YOUR BIRTHDAY BALL SUPPLIES AT THE MARINE SHOP.



SHOP TODAY AT WWW.MARINESHOP.NET

• **Marine Detachment, U.S. Naval Disciplinary Command Portsmouth, N.H.**, Sept. 20-25, Scranton, Pa. Contact Don Ferry, (972) 334-0609, don.ferry1942@gmail.com.

• **TBS 3-64**, April 5-7, 2022. Contact Hugh Doss, hudoss@aol.com.

• **TBS 3-66 & 4-66/38th and 39th OCC**, Oct. 25-28, Las Vegas. Contact Jack Sheehan, (401) 255-0387, jacksheehan@town.me.com, www.usmc-thebasic-school-1966.com.

• **TBS 4-67, 5-67, 6-67 "Rally at the Alamo,"** Oct. 11-14, San Antonio, Texas. Contact Ken Pouch, (860) 881-6819, kpouch5@gmail.com.

• **TBS, Co F, 6-70**, Oct. 21-24, Quantico, Va. Contact Col Tom Kanasky, USMCR (Ret), (202) 366-3156, tlkanasky@earthlink.net, or Col Mitch Youngs, USMCR (Ret), (703) 493-9435, mitchyoungs@verizon.net.

• **TBS, Co I, 9-70**, Oct. 7-10, San Diego, Calif. Contact Mike Hoeferlin, (573) 268-3824, mike.hoeferlin@gmail.com.

• **TBS, Co C, 3-72**, is planning a 50th-anniversary reunion. Contact Col Joe Mueller, USMCR (Ret), (818) 815-8331, jnm21213@yahoo.com.

• **TBS, Co D, 4-73**, is planning a 50th-anniversary reunion in 2023, Quantico, Va. Contact Col Bill Anderson, USMCR (Ret), (540) 850-4213, binche57@yahoo.com, or Col Bob Donaghue, USMCR (Ret), (617) 840-0267, ip350haven@comcast.net.

• **Plt 1187, San Diego, 1969**, is planning a reunion. Contact T.E. Miller, (618) 520-9646, or Mark Elder, (314) 322-8516.

• **Plt 3028, San Diego, 1966**, is planning a reunion. Contact MSgt Bob Rees, USMC (Ret), (619) 940-9218, bobrees86@gmail.com.

• **USMC A-4 Skyhawkers**, Oct. 21-24, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact Mark Williams, 10432 Button Willow Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89134, (425) 327-6050, usmcskyhawker21@gmail.com.

• **Marine Air Base Squadrons-49**, Sept. 18, Earlville, Md. Contact Col Chuck McGarigle, USMC (Ret), (609) 291-9617, (609) 284-2935, col_of_mar_ret@comcast.net.

• **HMM-165/VMM-165 (all hands, all eras)**, Oct. 21-24, Glendale, Ariz. For details, visit www.165whiteknights.com.

Ships and Others

• **USS Canberra (CA-70/CAG-2)**, Oct. 13-17, Pittsburgh, Pa. Contact Ken Minick, 2115 Pride Ave., Belpre, OH 45714, (740) 423-8976.

• **USS Saratoga (CV/CVA/CVB-60)**, Oct. 20-24, Mobile, Ala. Contact Bill Lack, williamlack@gmail.com.



Order now!
Amazon.com & Apple iTunes
Paperback • Kindle

Listen on Audible &
Apple Audiobooks

Read more at: **DonutHoleBook.com**

DONUT HOLE

A biography by
R.C. LeBeau

A Marine's Vietnam War Story

★★★★★
Amazon reviews:

I've read numerous personal stories, in various services and locations, from Vietnam. This, by far, has been the best which I've read to date. An excellent read, with exceptional detail and honesty.

Kindle reader

I was in that battle. This book was awesome. Brought back a lot of personal memories. Couldn't help but get emotional when you read the names of the KIAs.

Don Hammett

Includes:
Task Force Miracle
*Battle 1-day casualties
were second only to the infamous*
"Hamburger Hill"

Mail Call

• Karen E. Hanlan Baerwald, 788 W Quiet Place LP, Coeur D'Alene, ID 83815, (208) 659-3932, to hear from anyone who knew her fiancé, **PFC FINLEY**, who was **KIA Oct. 1, 1967**, while serving with **K/3/7**.

• Elise Sillemann, (803) 669-8516, elisesillemann00@gmail.com, to hear from anyone who can provide the platoon number for **George Alvin MEST Jr.**, who attended **MCRD Parris Island, 3rd Recruit Training Bn, Feb. 1, 1961-May 5, 1961**.

Wanted

Readers should be cautious about sending money without confirming the authenticity and availability of products offered.

• Glen Sherratt, 323 E 16th St. N, Newton, IA 50208, (641) 521-7238, wants a **recruit graduation book for Plt 294, San Diego, 1960**.

Sales, Trades and Giveaways

• Bill Wooldridge, 16 Corl Ln., Webb City, MO 64870, bilwool@hotmail.com, has **Leatherneck back issues** he would like to trade for copies of the **Nam Comic Books**.



THE SAMUEL NICHOLAS SOCIETY

A LASTING GIFT FOR MARINES

By leaving a gift to the Marine Corps Association Foundation in your will or other estate plan, you become a part of this special group. Your generous, lasting gift will ensure Marines are always prepared to serve and fight, no matter the challenges they face.



For more information, visit
**mca-marines.org/
legacy-gift-planning**

If you have already included MCAF in your will or estate plan, please let us know. We want to thank you for your commitment to our Marines.

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 email to s.bock@mca-marines.org, or write to Reader Assistance Editor, *Leatherneck* Magazine, P.O. Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134. 🐼

Saved Round

By Owen Linlithgow Conner



BRAVERY IN THE GREAT WAR—Through a gift from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va., recently acquired the medals of Claggett Wilson, an American “Modernist” artist and a decorated Marine officer.

Born in 1887, Wilson attended Princeton University, but left to study art at the Julian Academy in Paris, France. He was a teacher at Columbia University and the Teacher’s College in New York, N.Y., from 1915 to 1916.

On June 6, 1917, he enlisted in the Marine Corps. He was quickly promoted to sergeant due to his fluency in French. Within weeks he arrived in Saint Nazaire, France, and was assigned to the 5th Marine Regiment. A short time later, he was selected for officer training. He was attached to the French Army where he was later gassed in action. In recognition of his bravery, he received the French Croix de Guerre (with star). Wilson was again gassed while fighting at Belleau Wood. Staying in the fight, Second Lieutenant Wilson would later receive the Navy Cross for his “...exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service...” for the Saint-Mihiel offensive and Meuse-Argonne.

After the war, Wilson became a famous portraitist, muralist, decorator, and designer. His works can be seen today in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Brooklyn Museum. He is arguably best known for his series of paintings that depict his wartime experiences, painted when he returned to France in the 1920s.

Author’s bio: Owen Linlithgow Conner is the uniforms and heraldry curator at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.



The portrait (above) of 2ndLt Claggett Wilson was taken shortly after WW I. Wilson’s Navy Cross (left) is now in the collection of the National Museum of the Marine Corps. (Both photos courtesy of National Museum of the Marine Corps.)

Right: The wartime sketch depicting the fighting in France was drawn by Claggett Wilson and is now in the collection of the National Museum of the Marine Corps.



COURTESY OF NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

MADE FOR VETS LIKE ME

“ I didn’t think I was eligible for USAA because I wasn’t an officer. But a Marine buddy of mine told me that wasn’t the case anymore. ”

Cpl Dipre | U.S. Marine Corps | Enlisted '79

USAA is made for those who honorably served.
All ranks. All branches. All generations.

Visit USAA.COM/MCA or call 877-651-6272



**WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF
WE'RE MADE FOR™**



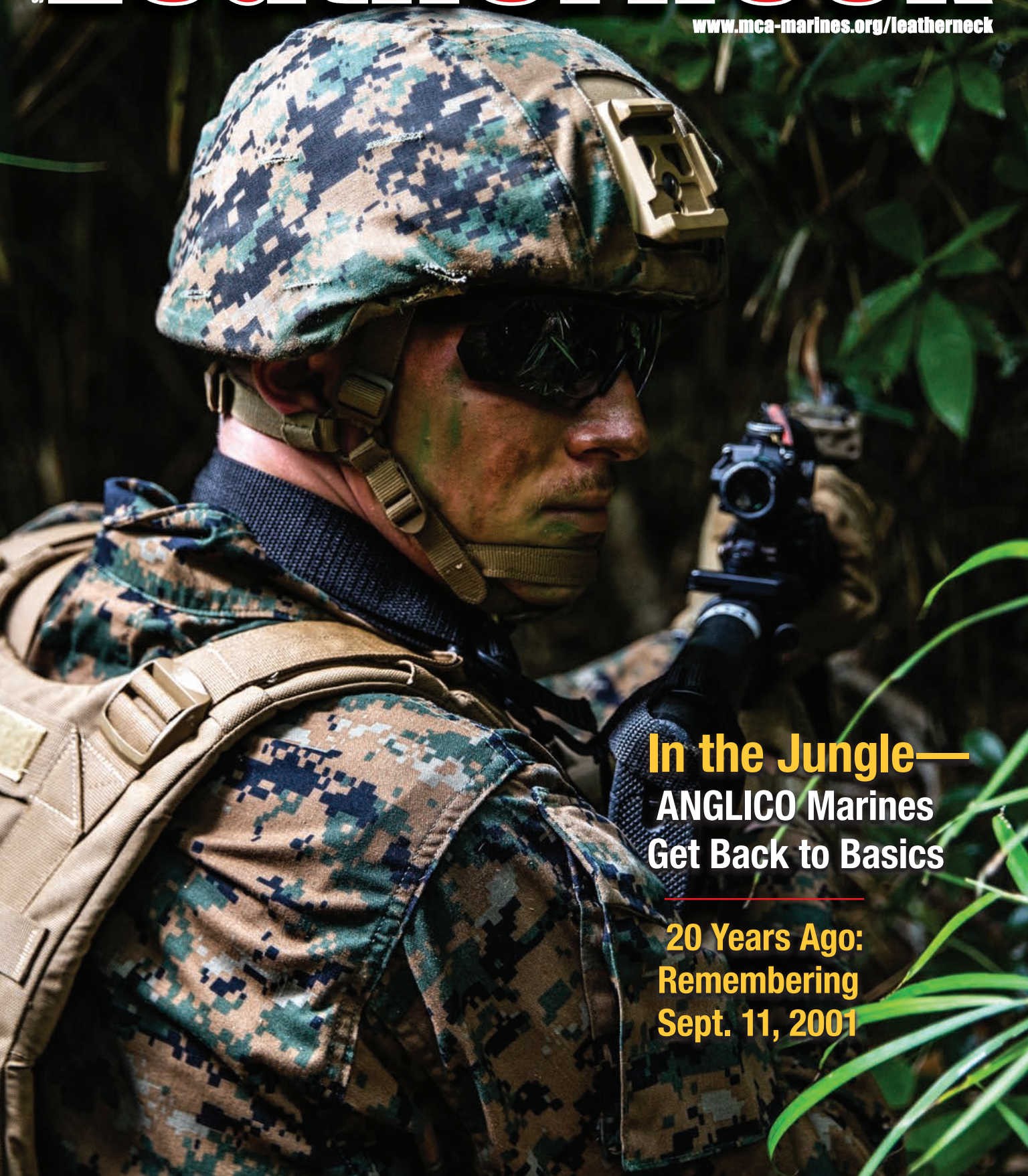
USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates. Use of the term "member" or "membership" refers to membership in USAA Membership Services and does not convey any legal or ownership rights in USAA. Restrictions apply and are subject to change. To join USAA, separated military personnel must have received a discharge type of "Honorable." Eligible former dependents of USAA members may join USAA. No Department of Defense or government agency endorsement. The Marine Corps Association receives financial support from USAA for this sponsorship.
© 2021 USAA. 276893-0621-MCA

SEPTEMBER 2021

MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES

Leatherneck

www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck



In the Jungle—
ANGLICO Marines
Get Back to Basics

**20 Years Ago:
Remembering
Sept. 11, 2001**

The New

Marine Corps Association App

Is Here!

GET CONNECTED

The Marine Corps Association is proud to present our new mobile app!

- Access both the Marine Corps Gazette and Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines in one app
- Upcoming events, the Gazette blog, and additional articles are also available
- Access to our professional development resources – coming soon!

GETTING STARTED

1. Scan the QR code to the left or search "Marine Corps Association" in the App Store.
2. Hit the "Get" button and follow the prompts to download the app. When the download is complete, hit "Open"
3. When in the MCA app, hit "Account" on the bottom right-hand corner of your phone or tablet screen
4. If you are already a paying member of MCA, select "Forgot Password"
5. Next, provide the email associated with your MCA membership and hit "Send" to reset your password through a verification email
6. Once you've selected a new password, go back to the MCA App, log in, and start browsing Leatherneck, Gazette, and more!





8071

Intelligence SOCS are specially trained to conduct interdisciplinary intelligence operations in politically sensitive, hostile, or denied areas, using special (low or reduced signature) means of collection, analysis, and reporting. Intelligence SOCS are often required to perform the intelligence cycle in abbreviated time, with increased requirements for information accuracy and reliability, with less manpower than other intelligence forces, using SOF unique equipment sets and in the support and execution of SOF core activities and/or operations.

Intelligence SOCS are proficient in SOF-specific processes, the use of SOF specific authorities, and inter-agency coordination procedures to de-conflict and augment intelligence operations.



**MARINE
RAIDERS**