

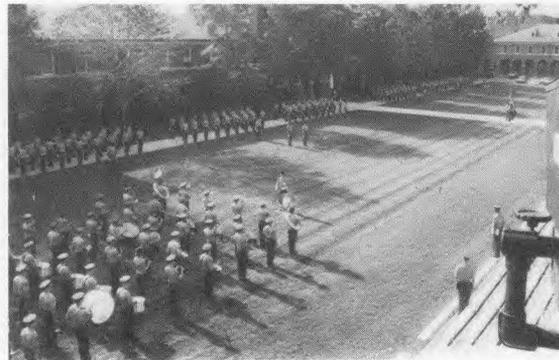
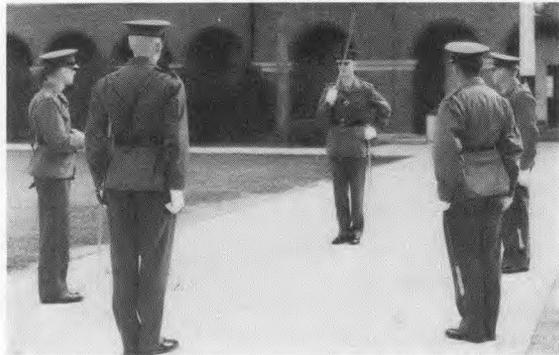
**INSIDE**  
*Amphib Training  
Making it Pretty  
In the Air*

# Pass in Review

*Serving Marines at the oldest post of the Corps*

April 1986

*In Preparation for Parade Season "86"*





# The Raven's End

*In arctic cold and tropic heat  
He carves his rugged way  
Nothing promised, fate uncertain  
He lives from day to day.  
Mortared buildings burning red,  
Screams of the dieing, stares of the dead-  
The U.S. Marine is there.*

*Fear is an animal in his guts  
Sweat is salt in the eye  
Death is a flat-black rifle  
Vengeance, the warrior's cry  
Invisible claws that rip and tear  
through shrapnel-slicing gunsmoke air  
The U.S. Marine is there.*

*He moves through the twilight of the gods  
Scenes that maim and rend  
The very fabric of his mind  
Cold steel his only friend.  
A blackened soul in a trembling husk,  
Face, a grinning skull in the dusk  
The U.S. Marine is there.*

*When the cry goes forth for a breed of men  
Who will carry the colors with zeal  
And never falter beneath the lash  
Of their enemies fire and steel;  
Though their leaders fall, comrades die  
And the very gates of hell swing wide-  
The U.S. Marine will be there.*

**by Cpl. Carl Reed**



## ABOUT THE COVERS

**Front-Eighth and "Eye" Marines gear up for another season of ceremonies and parades. Everyone gets involved. No one is excluded. That sense of teamwork brings on a feeling of excitement. The thrill of the parade.**

**photos by Sgt. C.D. Chambers**

**Inside-SSgt. R.P. Hummell of B Company, (front), leads his unit during Amphibious Warfare Training at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Norfolk Va. Training is an important element in every Marines life.**

**photo by SSgt. Rick Odermann**

**Back-Cpl. T.C. Cannon, A Co., (top), takes down LCpl. T.A. Schitzler, B Co., during the Barracks wrestling smoker March 27. Cannon finally pinned Schitzler at the 3:44 mark of the match. There were 12 matches in all.**

**photo by Cpl. Carl Reed**

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# Pass in Review

Marine Barracks, Wash., D.C.  
Vol. 6, No. 3 April 1986

## Features

### 7 AMPHIB TRAINING

"B" Company Marines take to the field to take part in Amphibious Warfare Training — Something a little different from their daily ceremonial duties awaiting them in the rear.

### 10 MAKING IT PRETTY

Things have changed since the days of Colonel Commandant Archibald Henderson and Corporal Brown. Like the maintenance of the grounds in and around the block of 8th and "Eye." Grounds Maintenance keeps up long tradition with teamwork and pride.

### 12 IN THE AIR

Every year around this time 8th and I Marines get a feeling of excitement. Could it be Parade Season?

## Departments

**Viewpoint** ————— **4**

**Newsline** ————— **14**

**Sports** ————— **17**

**Barracks Bulletin Board** ————— **18**

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# Viewpoint

## CAREER PLANNING a job sometimes misunderstood

Years ago, Marines stayed in the Corps because their platoon sergeant or squad leader convinced them it was a good life. Not so long ago, the Marine Corps began its career planning program with what we refer to as "collateral duty" Career Planners. Some of these Marines were assigned this duty because they were too "short" to make the next cruise or had been relieved of their regular duty, and various other reasons too lengthy to mention.

Those days are over. In the mid-60s to early 70s the program became more and more intense. Larger, tax free bonuses were offered to Marines on active duty in Viet Nam. A lot of Marines, even then, took the money and ran. Upon returning to the States, they soon discovered that "garrisonville" was not for them. The Corps, as well as other services changed their system as far as the bonuses were concerned. It was then, and still is today, by MOS, or Occupational Field. Some Marines rate a bonus, some don't. As far as the Career Planner is concerned, don't grab the money and, six months later wish you were in "hometown USA," because you're not. Once a Marine re-dedicates him or herself to Corps and Country, there is no turning back. Career Planners are saying don't re-up just for the money. Today's Career Planners are all school trained, and for the most part, hand picked by HQMC. This assignment is designed after the Career Recruiting Tour. Once assigned as a Career Planner by HQMC, that Marine will plan careers "forevermore."

Marines usually come to see the Career Planner for mainly, a re-enlistment interview, either at the 14, six or three month point away from the EAS. Here at Marine Barracks, most Marines want a lateral move (another MOS), and a duty station of their choice. First and foremost, if you are in an MOS that is "short," you are not eligible for the LAT move. Other qualifying factors will intervene as the interview continues. For example, in order to be qualified for the Electronics Maintenance OccFld, the Marines must possess a GT of 120, EL of 115/120 and have successfully completed at least one year of algebra. Oh, you must not be color blind. So, as you can see, even if your OccFld is "over" you still will have other obstacles to overcome, just to make a LAT move. At this point during the interview, the Career Planner gets one of these, "If I can't make this LAT move, I'll get out!"

The Career Planner has only one good question for that statement, and that is "And do what?" About 90 percent of the time the Marine will scratch their head, re-cross their legs, light up a smoke, and finally say they are going

to be a state trooper, city police, FBI, CIA, and in one case the IRS. The Career Planner's thoughts are if you are all that qualified, why are you trying for a LAT move to the Airwing? This has absolutely nothing to do with law enforcement. So, when it comes right down to it, the Marine is very undecided. The young Marines at the Barracks have only served only at 8th and I. Upon their return to "hometown USA," their old high school buddies are generally married, in debt or gone. Other friends ask, "Where were you overseas?" Your only answer will be, "I spent my last three years marching at 8th and I, Washington, D.C."

What this all comes down to is this: Most of today's young Marines came in the Marine Corps because they were looking for one of two things; travel and adventure or educational opportunities. How can you take advantage of this if the only two places you've been is recruit training and Washington, D.C.? Your missing the opportunity of a lifetime. You may never see Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Europe or the Philippines. Not to mention South America, or Africa. At least a tour of the West Pac or the Med would give you young Marines something to tell your grandchildren about.

In the last six months, there has been at least two Marines that have gotten out, and later came back in. They were lucky. Not to many who get out are afforded the opportunity to return to our ranks. The Marine Corps is not counting on these types to fill our quotas. We are pushing "Quality, Not Quantity." This is just one more reason for the "early out" program currently underway at HQMC. Basically, its the same thing as if you worked for a large business firm, quit and tried to come back to work for them. Do you honestly think that a civilian business firm would re-hire you? I doubt it. Someone else was praying you would quit so he/she could have your job. However, in a good many cases the Good Ole Reliable USMC will take a few back, or at least put you on a waiting list for a short time. First term Marines should talk to some of the Staff NCO's at the Barracks. Ask them if they got out once and came back or if they know another SNCO that has. Chances are very good that their answer will be yes.

Admittedly, staying on for a second "cruise" is a bigger decision than it was when you first decided to enlist. Your parents, high school principal and maybe the president of the PTA was in on the first decision, but they are not around to help you decide on your next big decision. See your Career Planner. Stay Marine. Stay Proud, regardless or your MOS or duty station.



# Commander's View

Spring is here and directly behind it is the Parade Season. The ingredients are all present for a fantastic season. With what you have accomplished up to this point, I have no doubt that it will be super.

The citizens who come to view our parades are totally impressed. They are our guests along with being our countrymen. In these times of reduced budgets you make a positive impression for our Corps. For those reasons, it behooves us to give that added effort.

Your families are welcome and I encourage all of you to make arrangements for them to see our parades. The Dependents Parade will go on May 2. Break a Leg!

## Barracks Talk

What type of facilities or services would you like to see added to or improved on here?



We have some good facilities already. However, we do have a new hack and stomach machine on order.

**Sgt. John L. Jones**  
SplServ.



George Washington University used to come over and give college class in the BEQ classroom. It has been about a year and a half since I've seen that. It's kind of nice to be able to take courses in the BEQ.

**Cpl. Jeffrey R. McCrary**  
MCI Co.



We have just about everything. From my standpoint, I think we should take care of what we have. Then we wouldn't have to replace things so often.

**Cpl. Edward P. Harris**  
HQSVC Co.



Well it haven't been here long enough to see what it was like at the post, but as far as I can see we need some decent parking without any hassles from the local city authorities.

**Pfc. Wayne Sanchez**  
HQSVC Co. MT

# Happy Birthday

## 8th and "Eye"



by Sgt. C.D. Chambers

**O**n an overcast, but warm spring day two fine horses cantered through the southeast section of the Capitol City carrying riders of great importance. The men, dressed in elegant clothing of the time, appeared to be good friends — every now and then a chuckle, a laugh, but beneath the jovial exchange there was an obvious concern. A concern that focused on a very important and needed site for construction to house hundreds of men. Both men agreed that the land selected should be near the Navy Yard and also within marching distance of the Capitol one and a half miles away. After riding much of the day they found what they were looking for; it was a tract on the surveyor's map identified as "Square Number 927."

This could've been the scene 185 years ago when President Thomas Jefferson and Lieutenant Colonel William Ward Burrows, the 2nd Commandant, rode through the southeast section of Washington, D.C., March 31, 1801, and selected the site for a Marine Barracks

As the story goes, on March 6, 1801, two days after Jefferson succeeded John Adams in the Presidency, the Secretary of the Navy, Benjamin Stoddert, wrote Burrows in-

forming him that \$20,000 had been appropriated for the erection of a Marine Barracks. The secretary indicated he had no preference for a location, so the site for the barracks was left to Burrows.

The Commandant, however, was not left to roam Washington alone. President Jefferson, a personal friend of Burrows, was deeply concerned with the welfare of the Corps, and accompanied him.

In June 1801, Jefferson authorized the purchase of Square Number 927 for the building of a "permanent military garrison at the seat of the government..."

The cost of the square had been estimated at about \$4,000, but evidently due to the importance of the land the price climbed to \$6,247.18. The tract measured 250 feet east to west, and 615 feet north to south. Its dimensions have never changed. The final price of the land average about four cents per square foot. Today, that city block is valued at \$58.53 per square foot or \$9 million—but to the Corps it's priceless.

Commandant Burrows accepted the suggestion of the Secretary of the Navy that Marine mechanics and craftsmen be used in the erection of the barracks, and Military Occupational Specialties of the day were hastily tallied on a table of Organization which would give the project an addi-

tional construction crew.

After five years of appropriations, totalling a little more than \$11,000, Marine Barracks was completed.

It seemed only fitting and proper that since President Jefferson personally issued the order to have the barracks constructed, that an officer of equal position return to see the order had been carried out. But years passed during which time the barracks was ravished by the British. Damaged buildings had to be rebuilt and a number of modifications were made to the barracks as well as the Home of the Commandants. Then a century and a half later, it finally happened.

On June 18, 1962, Gen. David Shoup, the 22nd Commandant, wrote to President John F. Kennedy, inviting him to attend a parade on Thursday, July 12. In this letter the general remarked, "A follow-up inspection by any Chief Executive to affirm compliance with President Jefferson's orders appears to have been somewhat delayed. This silppage has reached a rather lengthy period of 161 years."

The President accepted Gen. Shoup's invitation and every President since has likewise visited Square Number 927, the "Oldest Post of the Corps."



# AMPHIB TRAINING '86

story and photos

by SSgt. Rick Odermann

**T**hey do more than drill.

More than 150,000 spectators view precision marching exhibitions at the Corps' "oldest post" and at the Iwo Jima Memorial every summer. Dozens of public performances on the East and West Coast in the Spring and Fall, and numerous burial and color guard commitments comprise an ever changing schedule. To be "sharp" hundreds of hours are poured into drill and rehearsal.

Standing at an average of six-feet one inch tall, the blue/white clad leatherneck's performance is the epitome of drill perfection — a trait that marks Marines with distinction.

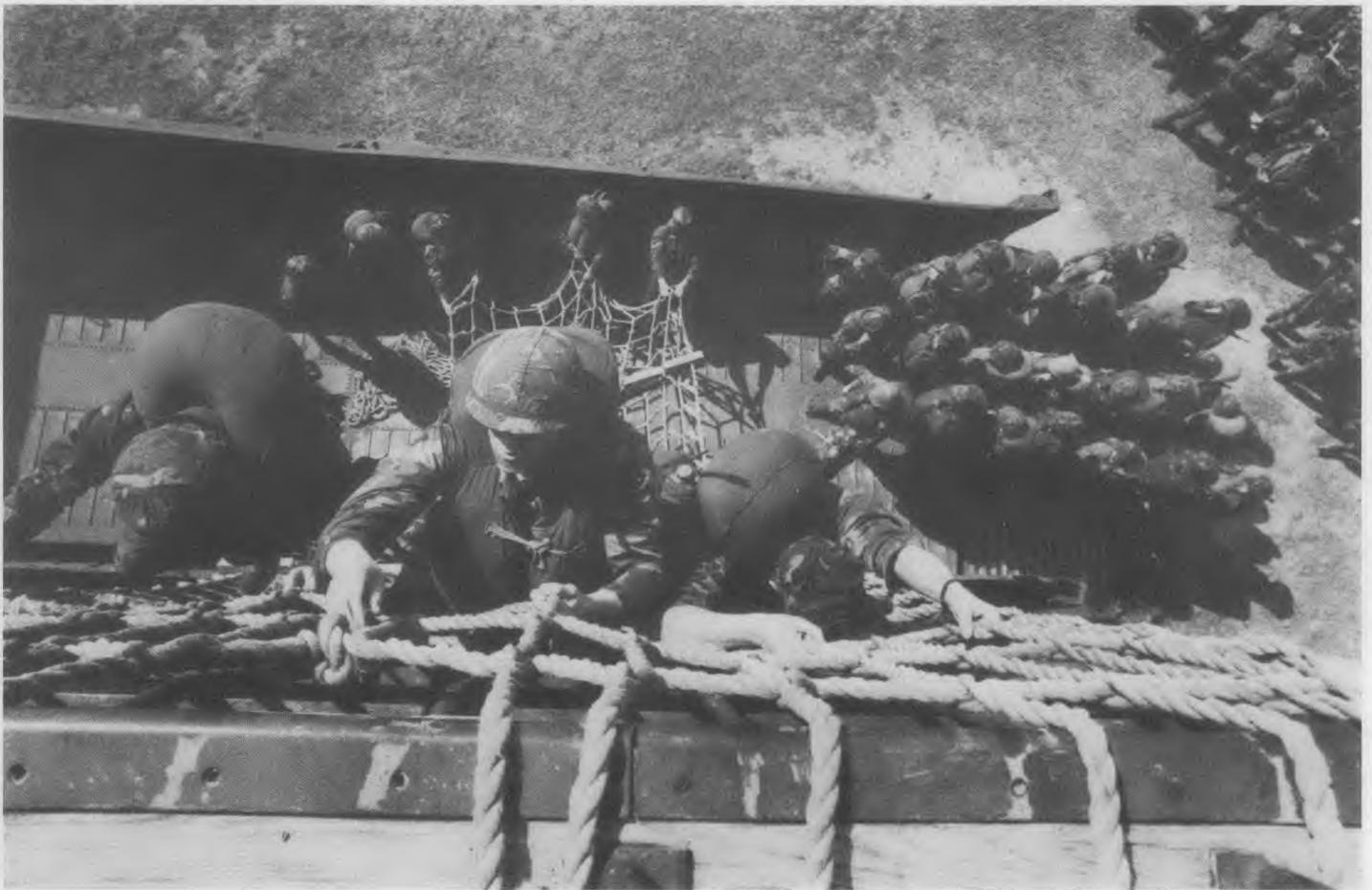
But, when they are not drilling on the "grinder" or in the "hole" (underground parking lot) they hone basic Marine skills, borne during 11 weeks of boot camp and infantry training school, in the field.

So began a five-day amphibious

warfare refresher course for Marines of Company B and a squad from Headquarters and Service Company, here, and seven soldiers from Company H of the U.S. Army's "Old Guard" at Fort Myers Va.

Not much is stirring at 5 a.m. at the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, in Norfolk, Va. In fact, there is not much stirring anywhere at "zero dark thirty."

In this predawn darkness, 120



**"B" Company Marines participated in every phase of Amphibious Training, from descending from ships, via latter ropes, to charging the beach.**

waited silently for the word to move out. Moist air, clung to exposed faces and necks and formed a cool clammy surface, awakening anyone in formation not fully aroused by the first sergeant's revellie.

**A**s the column snaked its way down the winding road, there was no mention of the upcoming parade atmosphere enveloping their "Post" back in Washington. The ceremonial parades that so fully dominate their lives, seemed somehow removed from their minds, replaced by the reality of Marine field training.

The three-mile "recon shuffle" to the messhall set the stage providing the atmosphere intended for training that would follow. After chow another recon shuffle to a classroom in an auditorium set the course in motion.

A sincerely stated "No question is a dumb question" preceded by a vigorous greeting of "Good Morning Marines!" introduced Capt. Albert Barnes, one of four course directors assigned to the Tactical Training

Branch at Little Creek. The broad shouldered Californian assured his audience that his staff was happy to have them aboard.

"Unlike regular infantry units that train constantly in amphibious warfare and raids, Barracks Marines have a basic day-to-day mission that precludes them from training as much," said Barnes. "That lack of repetitive training motivates them (Barracks Marines) to put more heart into it."

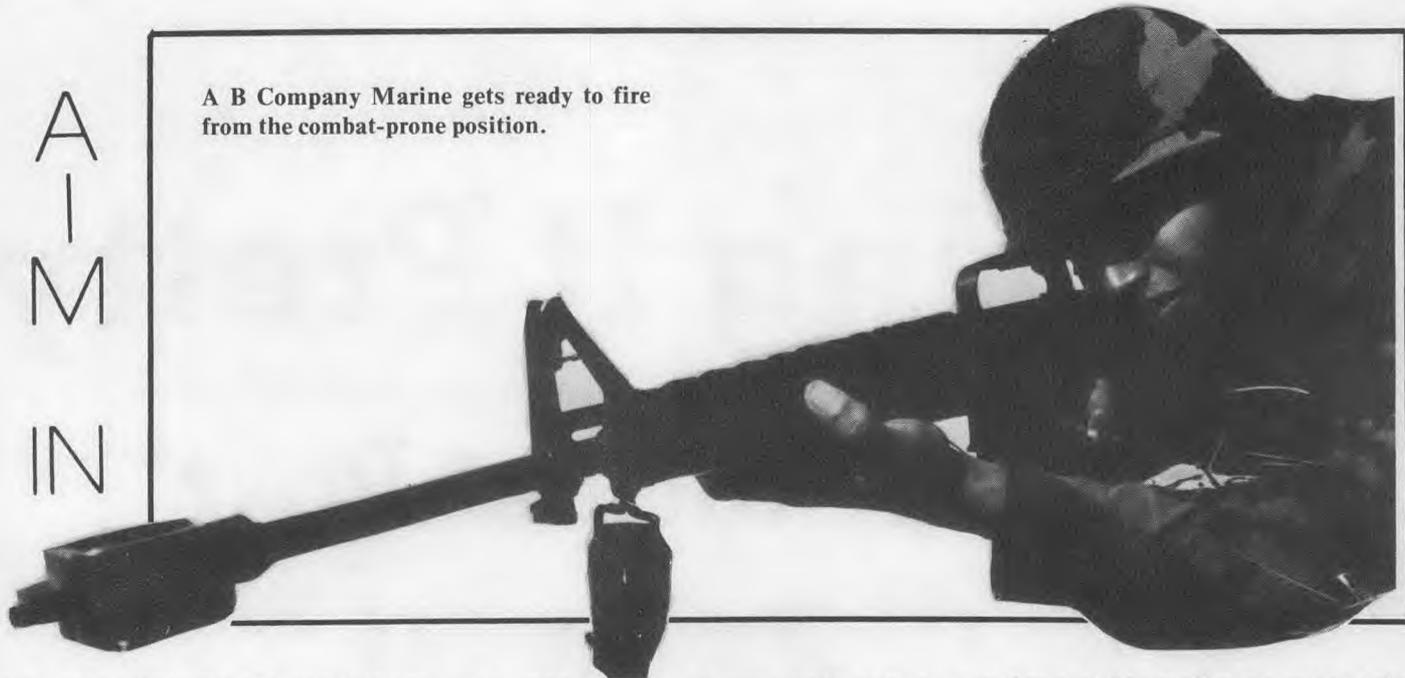
The course is designed for overall unit performance with special emphasis placed on individual and small unit leaders.

Course instruction includes orientations in shipboard life, ship-to-ship movement in landing craft, techniques of debarkation and breaching beach obstacles, amphibious raids, squad assaults on fortified positions and culminates in a company size amphibious assault landing exercise.

"All of them (B Company Marines) are pretty sharp and they learn fast," said 1stSgt. Lonnie Sanders of B Company. "They get out in the field about once a month, but seldom get

A  
I  
M  
I  
N

A B Company Marine gets ready to fire from the combat-prone position.



to an area where we can conduct amphibious training," he said. "Because of that, and the fact that we have an annual turnover of 40 to 60 percent, most of this type of training is new to these Marines. They are selected come to the Barracks after graduation from basic infantry training."

Army Staff Sgt. William M. Winford II, added that the training is a good opportunity for the soldiers for many of the same reasons. "These men are new in the Army," said Winford. "The opportunity to train here is great and the chance to train interservice is even better."

According to Capt. Barnes the Branch instructs 25 companies of Marines and 15 companies of soldiers annually. "Additionally," said Barnes, "We instruct midshipmen and special forces units."

Barnes was quick to point out that although the primary mission of the Army is the air-land battle, it's secondary mission is to work with Marines in amphibious landings.

The amphibious refresher course is conducted on a year round basis. However, there are many restrictions that preclude the instructors from always being able to complete and entire training course.

Frigid, chest-high water caused the instructors to cancel some beach assaults. However, the leathernecks were able to conduct one landing. "Mother Nature doesn't always cooperate with us," lamented Army Sgt. 1st Class Darby, a Branch instruc-

tor. "The cycle is always a little slower in the winter months due to training safety requirements."

While the weather seemed to play a part in the overall scheme of the larger exercises, a very important objective was accomplished on a smaller scale.

"One of the primary things that I hope my troops get out of all of this is for the small unit leaders to take charge," said Capt. Stanley Gray, commanding officer of B Company. "It motivates me to see them taking the initiative and physically guiding, by the arm if necessary, a Marine in a squad and moving him into the proper position."

The efforts of the company com-

mander and his staff were evident in the final remarks made by instructors of the training branch.

"I've never seen such enthusiasm," remarked Darby, upon conclusion of the exercise. When asked what their strong points were Darby responded, "Although they tended to bunch together probably due to the fact that the area is quite small, they showed exceptional understanding of shift of fire. Also their movement up to fortified positions and scheme in blowing them up was outstanding."

They're on of the best units we ever had," said Darby. "It's motivating to the instructors here when we get the chance to work with a group like this."



Under heavy smoke screens, Marines advance up the beach.

# Making it Pretty

## at the "oldest Post"

story and photos

by Sgt. C.D. Chambers



Pfc. J.T. LeMaster vacuums up the street in early spring.

“

...Corporal Brown has always been tailored to attend to the grounds and outside porches around the house occupied by me; I have to request that he be so continued unless it should be necessary to give other employment or duty...”

Even as far back as the days of the Grand Old Man himself the Barracks at 8th and I Streets has needed grounds keepers. Colonel Commandant Archibald Henderson wrote this message to the officer-in-charge of the Barracks, while Henderson himself went off to fight the Seminole Indians in the spring of 1836.

The commander of the Barracks doesn't go off to fight Indians anymore, but the need for the grounds of the "oldest Post" to be a model of landscape beauty is still essential to the mission here.

Grounds Maintenance, "Weeds and Seeds," the grounds crew, has also changed in size and responsibilities since the days of Corporal Brown. Today at least 18 Marines here take charge in various duties of gardening, maintenance and overall cleanliness of the Barracks.

The grounds "team" works long and hard hours through the summer of parades. Their motto is: "If it doesn't belong there, pick it up. If it does belong there, get it there. If it's there and it's ugly, make it pretty."

And that's exactly what happens before every Friday and Tuesday Parade throughout the summer. After the parade is over, after 4,500 people



**Cpl. Vince Dowd supervises two of his Marines cleaning the sidewalks along 8th street.**

have seen a spectacle of landscape beauty, the crew "breaks it down," and cleans up, only to set up for another parade next week.

Sgt. Rodney Rozier has been the NCOIC off-and-on for the last two years. "Basically, this job is mind over matter, or mind over body," said Rozier. "Fridays and Tuesdays through the summer is when the mind game starts. We're up working at zero-dark-thirty making it look good and we're still cleaning up when everybody's gone home.

Rozier said working in grounds can be a thankless job. But, he said, he enjoys the responsibility and camaraderie that his "team" has.

"Most people come from other sections like guard or a marching company," said Rozier. "We give them a fresh start here. We give them responsibility and they respond with hard work," he added. "The morale and camaraderie we have is great and the Marines enjoy it down here whether they like the job or not."

"It's not a fun job," commented Cpl. Vince Dowd, two year veteran of the section. "But, we make it fun. We're tight down here," he added. "We have to be."

To make it fun, one of the things



**Kathy Zimmer, horticulturist, takes care of the spring "flower planting."**

the crew takes pride in is their speed in "breaking down." That means moving such things as chairs, mats, ropes and whatever else doesn't belong.

"Last year," said Dowd, "Our record was 10 minutes, 28 seconds at the Iwo Jima and 28 minutes, 30 seconds here at the Barracks. We'll break those records this year," added Dowd. Break them or not the crew

will definitely try.

"More than that," commented Rozier, "When people come here they are impressed by the way the grounds look. That makes our job worthwhile," he added. "Sometimes it's too bad they don't know what kind of work really goes into all this."

Camaraderie, friendship, teamwork is what makes grounds run as smooth as silk, according to the crew.

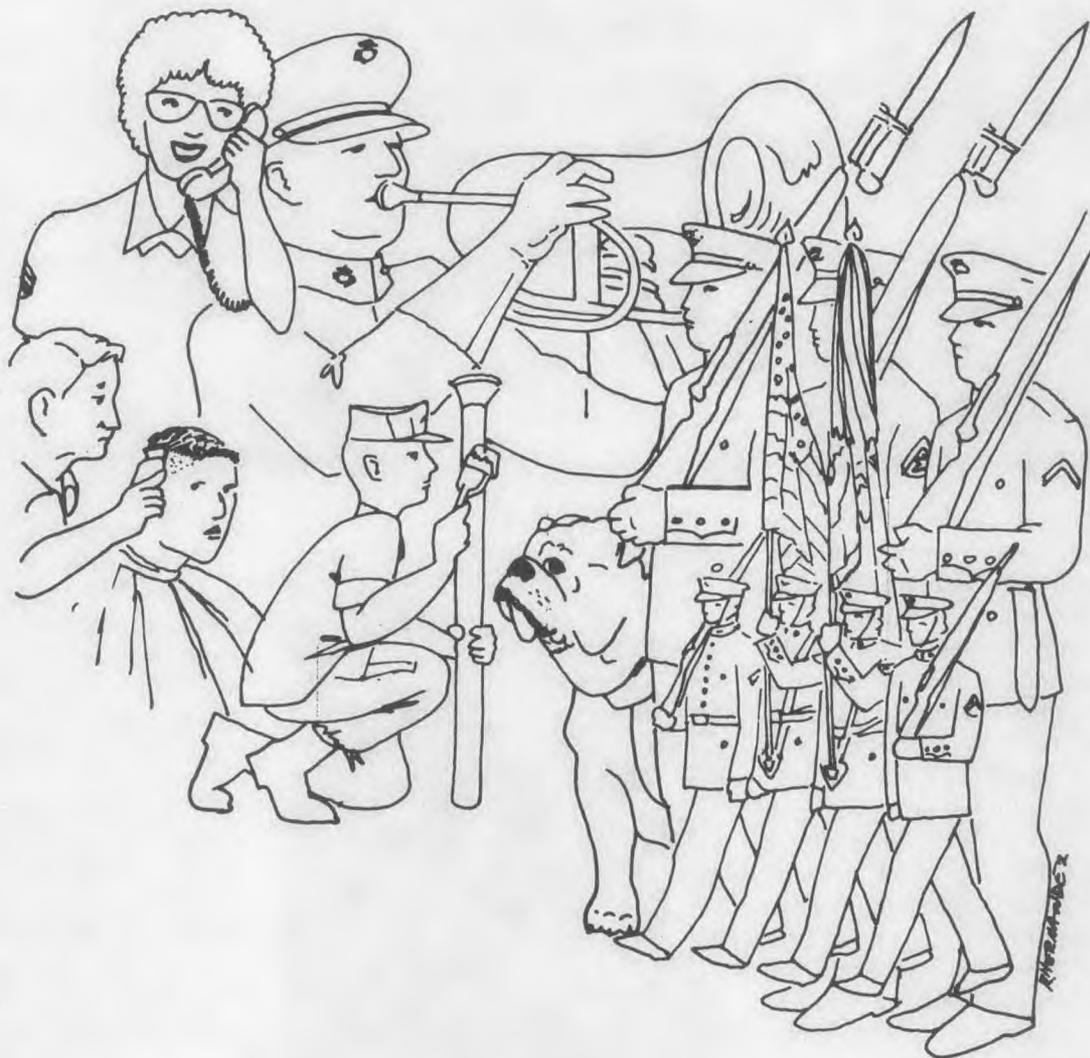
"Sometimes it gets to us," said Rozier, "It's like nobody really notices. But, we keep in mind here that if we don't look good, no one will look good," he added.

There's a wall in the Grounds Maintenance office that has stood with signatures of ex-grounds Marines since, well, forever, according to Dowd.

"Everyone that's worked here signs their name on that wall," said Dowd. "We're like family. When you leave here and put your name on that wall, you can always call back knowing you've got a friend."

# IN THE AIR

## Parade Season



**I** by Sgt. C.D. Chambers

It's springtime at the "oldest Post." The winter chill has gone and the sun seem to glow brighter and bring warmer days.

*Something is in the air.*

The bang of rifle butts crashing against concrete echos around 8th and I's quadrangle of buildings. Marines of Grounds Maintenance are busy at what they do best, "making it pretty." The sound of "adjutant's call" rings

from centerwalk.

*It is in the air.*

The ceremonial practice of the Marines becomes more intense. The temperature is consistently warm. The grass is green and smartly clipped. Sidewalks and curbs are painted. Shrubs are neatly pruned. Brass is shined to a sparkle. Metal bleachers are on line and touching across the west side of the spacious parade deck.

There's no doubt, parade season is

in the air.

Every year around this time Marines here get a certain "gut" feeling. It's a feeling of excitement, even with the knowledge of long hours of hard work ahead.

For 8th and I's leathernecks, parade season is a total team effort. No one is excluded. Everyone participates whether playing a musical instrument, marching tall and proud, handing out brochures or cleaning up

**“When parade season is here, you get excited. You get that chill. You just can’t wait to don the blue/whites and hear the cheer of the crowd. You can’t wait to get on the deck under the lights. It’s a great feeling!”**

after each and every parade.

Yes, that warm spring breeze sends a slight chill up and down the spine of every 8th and I Marine. From the lowliest private to the commanding officer, the “parade fever syndrome” is felt.

“When it gets warm here everyone starts thinking about it (parade season). It really brings on enthusiasm. You can just feel it, especially when the bleachers go up,” said Cpl. Mary Craven, of the adjutant’s section and two-year veteran of parades.

Craven said she likes parade season because everyone’s attention is focused on the parades. Plus, she said, she likes to keep very busy in the office.

And busy is right. Craven, also the NCOIC of parade reservations, said her office can receive about 300 calls a day during the heart of the season, and sometimes 500-600 on the day of the parade. The office will book an average of 4,500 to 5,000 guests for each Friday Evening Parade.

Her work on Friday, however, is not over with. Now comes the evening job for the parades where her uniform changes from summer service “charlies” to ceremonial blue/whites. She will work the “information booth” for approximately the next two hours, where she’ll be asked questions about seating, gates, and maybe a little parade history about this evening’s performance and the Tuesday night Sunset Parade held at the Iwo Jima Memorial.

This is just one Marine’s parade season schedule. There are hundreds

of others maybe with different jobs, but never the less important.

Like the basic “stars of the show” for example; the actual marchers and musicians. They earn their keep as well and are just as excited as any other leatherneck here.

“When parade season is here you get excited. You get that chill,” said Sgt. Michael Hayes, three year B Company veteran of parades. “You just can’t wait to don the blue/whites and hear the cheer of the crowd. You can’t wait to get on the deck under the lights. It’s a great feeling,” he added with a smile.

**H**ayes though, will be the first to admit that it’s not all fun and games. Many hard hours of drilling and preparation go into each Friday evening and Sunset parade.

For example, Friday starts off with a 7:30 a.m. formation and warm-up before colors and the start of Phase I rehearsal. An hour and a half later, after critiques are given, Phase II starts. That might end around 10:45 a.m. The rest of the day is prep time. Chow, haircuts and uniforms are taken care of. The Marines must form up again at 6 p.m. and draw weapons at 6:30. Formation again at 7:15 p.m., warm-up at 7:40. The parade is about to begin, 9:10 p.m., march-on, crowd cheering, lights glowing. The ceremony ends at 10:30 p.m. That’s it for the performers. However, it’s not over for everyone.

Grounds Maintenance, the clean-up crew, “weeds and seeds”, that has

worked since zero-dark-thirty, will begin “break-down.” They’ll probably finish around 11:30 p.m.

“We start thinking about parade season months in advance,” said Sgt. Rodney Rozier, NCOIC of the crew. “We try to plan and motivate ourselves. We put in some long hours during the summer and we just have to tell ourselves it’s important,” he added.

And important they are. As usual they’re the first ones here and last ones to leave. The Tuesday Sunset parade routine is much like Friday, but Grounds is always there, making it pretty, breaking it down and then making it pretty again, next week.

Well, maybe not everyone gets excited about parade season. Sgt. Robert Eppard, Post Supply administrative chief, had this to say. “I don’t get excited about it (parade season). I’m not enthused about parking detail. It can be a real pain,” he added. “It’s tough to feel good about the parade because all I do is park people. I don’t perform.” Eppard, with a smile, added however, “I do feel proud when I put the uniform on and the comments I hear about the performance after the parade motivates me and makes me feel a part of it all. I guess it’s kind’a exciting when you think about it.”

Well, maybe everyone isn’t as enthusiastic as others, but the parade fever is here. And with that, the goals, as Col D.J. Myers, commanding officer here, stated “is for this year’s average parade to be as good as the very best from last year!”

# Newsline

## FitRep read-out service informing Marines

(HQMC) - Marines received word in November 1985 that, as the first stage of the Fitness Report Audit Program, a copy of their Master Brief Sheets would be mailed to them from HQMC on an annual basis (MCBUL 1610 of Nov. 15, 1985). The MBS is a chronological listing of all fitness reports that have been entered into the Automated Fitness Report System. The brief sheet is used as a performance summary in the selection and promotion process.

The decision to provide Marines with a copy of their MBS was just one of several changes made to the overall Performance Evaluation System after an in-depth review which concluded early last year. When the Commandant made results of that review known, he emphasized the integrity of a system that has served the Corps well for many years. At the same time, he called for administrative improvements in the reporting process, removed some of the distance between the Marine being reported on and the reporting senior, and cut the umbilical cord between fitness reports and performance counseling.

MBSs will be sent on a monthly basis, based on the last digit of a Marine's social security number. With the MBS, Marines will receive an audit sheet and instruction. It is then their responsibility to verify personal administrative data and to ensure that there are no gaps in the reporting periods. Assistance will be available at the local command for those who need help in auditing the MBS or in making corrections to discrepancies that might be discovered in the audit.

In stage two of the Fitness Report Audit Program, those Marines entering the promotion zone will be mailed copies of their Official Military Personnel File eight to 10 months before their selection board convenes. This will allow them to make a complete audit of their performance records by comparing the OMPF with the MBS. Many of the administrative errors that hampered the promotion process in the past will be eliminated by this involvement of both Marines and their chains of command.

Marines who are in transit during the time they would normally receive their MBS will receive their brief sheets once they are established in their new unit.

Marines who desire MBS for purposes of filing a petition with the Board for Correction of Naval Records or the Performance Evaluation Review Board, should contact the Career Counseling and Evaluation Branch at 694-1734/2335.

## HQMC offers career counseling

HQMC - The Career Counseling and Evaluation Branch at HQMC receives nearly 300 telephone calls per month from enlisted Marines. In the space of 30 to 40 minutes experienced career counselors can provide an accurate appraisal of an individual's competitiveness for promotion, identify positive or negative trends in their performance and make suggestions for improvement. The service is extended to all Marines in the grade of sergeant and above.

Professional career counseling from the Career Counseling and Evaluation Branch has been available to enlisted Marines since March 1984 when the HQMC Career Planning Branch was reorganized. A similar

program for officers is also in effect.

Why should Marines seek career Counseling from HQMC when they already receive counseling at their commands? The answer according to MSgt. Robert Gardner, is that HQMC career counselors are able to look at a Marine's entire career by reviewing their official military personnel file. Commanding officers, on the other hand are limited to personal observations while the Marine is a member of their command.

Many of the calls counselors receive are from Marines wanting to know why they weren't promoted. For the answers the counselor requests each Marine to call back at a prearranged time, normally two to three weeks later. That gives the counselor sufficient time to obtain and analyze the Marine's OMPF.

The counselor reviews all fitness reports' performance indicators, checking for long term consistency or improvement in the Marine's markings by the various reporting seniors. Normally, counselors will look at the last five years of a Marine's record since that is the time window promotion boards generally review. Trouble spots are identified as "roller coaster" patterns or an abrupt shift in markings. Outstanding to average, for example, in personal appearance.

Section C comments also play a vital role in helping counselors draw an accurate performance picture. What reporting seniors say and how they say it has tremendous impact on decisions made by promotion boards. Consider the difference: "Sgt. Marine is an outstanding leader in all aspects. His personal appearance is an example for all to follow. Sgt. Marine has received numerous articles of commendatory correspondence during this reporting period."

Or, "Sgt. Marine is a good worker and meets the minimum requirements for personal appearance. Though he exhibits no outward desire to excel, he is a reliable individual and can be

counted upon to get the job done in a satisfactory manner.”

Section C comments like these, paired with performance indicators from reports covering an extended period of time, provide counselors valuable insight into a Marine's character and abilities. According to Gardner, what the counselor finds may not always be what the Marine wants to hear, but it will, more often than not, place a career in perspective.

Marines should not wait until after a promotion board announces its results to review their career. In fact, Gardner recommends that Marines call the counseling branch well in advance of entering the promotion zone. Sergeants should call once they have about two-and-a-half years in grade; staff NCO'S should call about a year-and-a-half prior to entering the promotion zone.

Counseling is available through either a personal visit to HQMC or by telephone. Marines who decide to pay a personal visit should call ahead when possible to allow counselors time to pull the individual's OMPF and prepare an analysis. Telephone appointments may be made by calling AUTOVON 224-1734 (24-hour line) or (202) 694-1716, 1734 during normal working hours, Eastern Standard Time.

## Accidental discharges concerns CMC

(HQMC) - There are too many accidental discharges of weapons, said the Commandant in a white letter published Feb 6, and most of them are caused by horseplay or negligence.

Voicing his strong concern about weapons safety, Gen. Kelly pointed to a poor track record of improvement since 1982 when a previous white letter addressed the same problem.

“...We have closely monitored reports and investigations pertaining to these incidents, and they show that little progress has been made in reducing the number of accidental discharges,” he told commanders.

Investigation reports provide a sobering picture of the problem. In 1985, 48 accidental discharges were reported. Of those, 39 were found to be caused by either horseplay or negligence on the part of the Marine involved. Thirty of the incidents occurred with the .45 caliber pistol.

Administration alone won't cure the problem, Gen. Kelly pointed out. “Leaders are failing to provide Marines armed in the course of their duties with a degree of weapons familiarity and personal supervision essential to reducing the number of accidents. We must reemphasize the importance of these fundamental principles, expand the education of the individual...And instill a genuine appreciation for the dangers inherent in the performance of duties while armed with a firearm.”

The key to correcting the problem, said the Commandant, is personal involvement and attention to duty by each leader. This relief, and not allowing Marines to become complacent and over confident. “Far too often ...we fail to take immediate and decisive corrective action when seemingly minor violations occur,” he said.

In a final note, Gen. Kelley cautioned against creating new regulations or imposing unrealistic restrictions upon armed Marines. “As a professional force in readiness we must understand the effect that accidental discharges have upon the welfare, safety, and morale of the individual Marine and the unit as a whole,” he concluded.

## Tourist Passports advantageous for Marines

(HQMC) - The current interest in having Marines remain inconspicuous while traveling overseas, makes it advantageous for them to have a tourist passport in their possession.

Many Marines stationed overseas who apply for passports for international travel often find they lack the proper citizenship documentation required to complete applications for a tourist passport.

ALMAR 36/86 (CMC MESSAGE 120722Z Feb. 86) recommends Marines anticipating orders overseas apply for a tourist passport prior to departing their parent command. If applications can't be completed prior to leaving CONUS, Marines must ensure they acquire and take sufficient proof of their citizenship to their new command.

According to State Department officials, a birth certificate is acceptable proof of citizenship but it must bear the state seal of the local Bureau of Vital Statistics and have a file date within one year of birth. The requirement for a birth certificate is waived if the Marine can present an expired passport that was issued on good citizenship evidence.

In cases of adoption, adoption papers must be furnished with the birth certificate. Naturalized citizens must present either a previous American passport or their original naturalization certificate.

*Continued on next page*

# DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

*Continued from  
previous page*

Marines and their families can apply for tourist passports when they apply for their dependent passports in conjunction with overseas travel.

The current costs for tourist passports are \$42 for individuals 18 years or older (valid for 10 years) and \$27 for those less than 18 (valid for 5 years).

For more information about passports, consult Marine Corps or Department of State passport agents as listed in enclosure (3) of MCO 5512.4L.

## Extensions suspended until June 30

(HQMC) - The reenlistment success achieved by career planners in the first five months of fiscal year 1986 together with and unexpectedly large number of extensions into the next fiscal year have exceeded the year-to-date plane in these two retention categories by over 1,000 Marines. Although it remains our objective to reenlist every qualified Marine deserving of further service, the current trend of excessive short-term extensions could prevent such reenlistments if extensions would cause us to exceed the congressionally authorized end strength of the Marine Corps.

To better manage the retention of Marines coming to their expiration of active service during FY 86 and to prevent the development of an over end strength position, the following actions are required:

Effective immediately, requests for extension of enlistment are suspended until June 30, 1986 for FY 86 EAS

Marines if the extension would cause the new EAS to shift into FY 87.

Reenlistment requests from FY 86 EAS Marines will continue to be approved until June 30, 1986.

After June 30, 1986, extension requests will be approved in only those numbers that the authorized end strength of the Marine Corps will allow with the priority going to short and balanced skill fields.

Commanding Officers are directed to counsel all Marines with an EAS of April 1-Sept. 30 1986, who desire to be retained beyond their current EAS, that the priority of retention will go to Marines who desire to reenlist and extensions will be held in abeyance until all reenlisting Marines have been processed.

Marines with FY 86 EAS who currently have been approved for an extension or a reenlistment of three years or more are directed to execute their reenlistment or extension on or before June 30, 1986.

Marines with an EAS beyond Sept. 30, 1986 are not affected by this policy. Reenlistment and extension requests from Marines with an EAS during FY 87 and beyond will continue to be processed according to the "Career Planning and Development Guide."

The following extension categories are not affected by this policy:

Local authority to approve extensions of enlistment to Marines in receipt of permanent change of station orders.

Marines extending to obtain obligated service to accept promotion to the grade of gunnery sergeant or above.

Marines extending to qualify for transfer to the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.

Marines in short MOSs who desire to extend for deployment may submit requests during this period.

Exceptions to this restrictions may be requested from CMC when an undue hardship would occur.

# Sports

## THE WORD from Spl.Serv.

Special Services has just a few more events planned before the start of Parade Season. The recreation program is planned and coordinated to afford everybody the opportunity to enjoy the events we sponsor. However, if you feel that we don't have anything here that interests you we have a suggestion box that seems to only collect dust or if you and to just come to the office and talk to us were always open to suggestions.

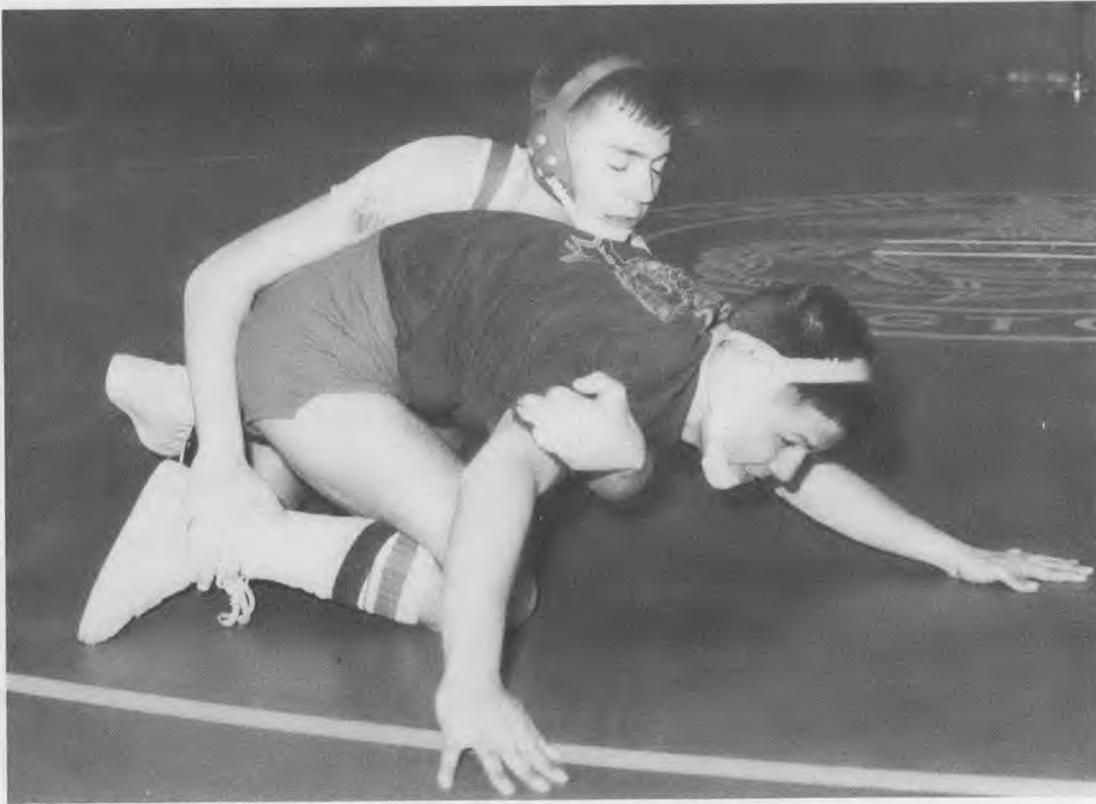
Discount tickets are on sale now; Busch Gardens are \$8.70, Kings Dominion are \$6.95 and Wild World are \$5.00. We have information Brochures on all of those attractions.

We have a Barracks wide challenge involving Individual Records. The events and names of the current records as of March 20 are: Pullups 39, Sgt. Jones, SplServ; Situps 1000, LCpl Swanek, B Co.; Bar Dips 46, LCpl. Looney, B Co.; Pushups 78, LCpl. Chapple, A Co. Come on down and test your strength. The Events must be verified by a Special Services representative.

## Bks Softball Team Recruiting

The Barracks' softball team is looking for a "few good players." Tryouts will begin sometime in the second week of April. Games will go Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer. For further information contact Sgt. Chambers of PAO at ext. 3-4173/4497.

# Wrestlers go after it



(Above)-LCpl. C.W. Korn, HQSVC Co., (top), reaches under LCpl. E.R. Cano, MCI Co., working for the pin. (Below)-LCpl. R.A. Casselli, Scty Co., (top), wrestled two matches, winning both.

photos by Cpl. Carl Reed

More than 250 Barracks Marines watched on as 23 wrestlers took part in the Barracks wrestling smoker March 27. The following are the results:

LCpl. R.A. Casselli, Scty Co., outpointed LCpl. F.E. Therrian, Grd Sec., 8-3.

LCpl. C.W. Korn, HQSVC Co., pinned LCpl. E.R. Cano, MCI Co., in a time of 2:10.

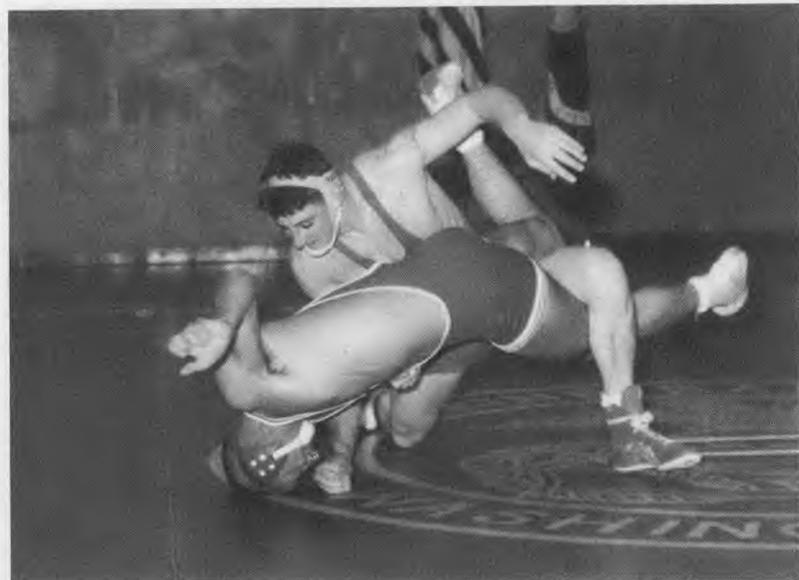
LCpl. J.S. Privette, A Co., outpointed LCpl. D.S. Lif, B Co., 8-6.

Cpl. T.C. Cannon, A Co., pinned LCpl. T.A. Schnitzler, B Co., in a time of 3:44.

Pfc. J.M. Vivona, A Co., pinned Cpl. K.J. Murphy, Scty Co., in a time of 2:03.

LCpl. R.K. Vanwert, MCI Co. pinned Cpl. N.A. Montefiori, B Co., in a time of 2:30.

Cpl. C.D. Boyd, HQSVC Co., outpointed Cpl. T.J. Kepschull, B Co., 4-3.



Pfc. P.A. Lyons, A Co., outpointed LCpl. D.J. Wilbert, B Co., 15-6.

Pfc. M.H. Swain, B Co., outpointed Cpl. C.L. Warffeli, Scty Co., 8-2.

LCpl. T. Konitzer, MCI Co., outpointed Pfc. Warren, A Co., 6-1.

Cpl. J.C. Hayes, MCI Co., outpoint-

ed Cpl. J.C. Hackett, MCI Co., 11-3.

LCpl. R.A. Casselli, Scty Co., pinned LCpl. DeFoer, MCI Co., in a time of :46.

Cpl. D.L. Enger, HQSVC Co., outpointed Cpl. V.L. Lovett, Grd Sec., 10-4.

# Barracks Bulletin Board

## Promotions Joins Awards

### A Company

#### Promotions

Cpl. S.A. Tennessen  
Cpl. C.L. Johnston  
LCpl B.A. Miller  
LCpl N.E. Kalin  
LCpl R.S. Fritter  
LCpl J.T. Keiter  
LCpl H.G. Lewis  
LCpl M.B. Stone  
LCpl D.J. Sullivan  
LCpl R.S. Wylie

#### Joins

Pfc D. Middleton

#### Merit Mast

Sgt. W.S. Stewart Jr.  
Cpl. S.A. Tennessen  
Cpl. C.L. Johnston

### B Company

#### Promotions

Cpl R.V. Smith  
Cpl D.L. Hasbrouck  
LCpl W.P. Cattrell  
LCpl D.K. Looney  
LCpl R.F. Williams  
LCpl S.A. Witter  
LCpl O. Gallegos Jr.

#### Navy Commendation Medal

LCpl J.M. Schmidt

#### Merit Mast

Cpl J.P. Jessen  
Cpl J.P. Erlse  
Cpl D.L. Henry Jr.  
LCpl D.S. Swanek  
LCpl R.A. Stephens  
LCpl D.R. Nichols  
LCpl D. Johnson  
LCpl J.S. Kinnard

LCpl T.J. Kepschull  
LCpl T.R. Sorby  
LCpl D.D. Brazeal

#### Letter of Appreciation

LCpl R.A. Vasel

### HQSVC Company

#### Promotions

Cpl S.A. Ambrose  
Cpl E.F. Ward  
Cpl D.L. Crocker  
LCpl G.A. Mathis  
LCpl K.A. Johnson  
LCpl N.D. Napalean  
LCpl G.L. Fetterolf  
LCpl C.C. Crum  
LCpl A.L. Jackson  
LCpl S.A. Kibbey  
LCpl R.M. Bettelyoun  
LCpl R.S. Mey  
LCpl P.E. Phair  
LCpl W.A. Halfmenan  
Pfc J.E. Shea

#### Merit Mast

LCpl R.R. Sonnemann

#### Joins

SSgt F. Barfield  
Sgt A.W. Jeppers  
LCpl R.I. Robinson  
Pfc T. Affeldt  
Pfc F.E. Therrien  
Pfc J.R. Petrowski  
Pfc M.P. Abrams  
Pfc D.M. Jenkins  
Pfc B.C. Hilbrant  
Pfc R.C. Newman  
Pfc E.D. Bain  
Pfc R.L. Milland  
Pfc G.P. Dyer

Pfc L.J. Avila  
Pvt R.J. Stern  
Pvt B.K. Dunbar  
Pvt R.F. Skinner  
Pvt A.H. Pillar

### Scty Company

#### Promotions

Cpl A.N. Brenner  
Cpl E.A. Baruch  
Cpl C.L. Warffeli  
Cpl B.L. Courneya

#### Merit Mast

Cpl J.A. Becker

### MCI Company

#### Promtions

Cpl M.T. McCrory

#### Joins

GYSgt R.E. Roland  
SSgt J.D. Martin  
SSgt J.C. Witherite  
Sgt G.C. Muller  
LCpl C.R. Stevenson  
LCpl B. Slayton  
LCpl M. StClair Jr.  
Pfc C.A. Fravel  
Pfc S.W. Loomis  
Pfc L.K. Anderson  
Pvt B.L. Kraemer

### Drum and Bugle Corps

#### Promotions

Cpl W.C. Dolan

#### Joins

LCpl S.W. Schmidt

## Club Beat

Along with the rest of the Barracks' the Club Section will be very busy during the month of April. A number of private parties have been booked, including the Officers Mess Night on 8 April, the B Company Dining-In scheduled for 18 April, and the SNCO Mess Night slated for 25 April.

Action in the Enlisted Club includes the continued performance of those Wednesday-Night DJ's and free Thursday Night movies shown in the club lounge by Special Services. The amateur night scheduled for 9 April should bring out some fine talent and good prizes for the winners. Be there and judge for yourself!

We are still looking for help with ideas for a new mural in the Enlisted Club, bring your suggestions to the manager, SSgt Ross. We will also be saying goodbye to SSgt Baker who will depart with PCS orders to Yuma, Arizona.

The Clubs personnel would like to thank all of you who helped make the Guard Section Mess Night such a success on 14 March. To do a good job on these Mess Nights and Dining-Ins requires a lot of hard work, and the Marines here at the Barracks have never let us down, thanks again for helping out.

## WORTH REPEATING

**"I**mpress upon the mind of every man, from the first to the lowest, the importance of the cause and what it is they are contending for."

George Washington

**"D**o your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less."

General Robert E. Lee

**"T**he race may not be to the swift, nor the victory to the strong, but that's how you bet."

Damon Runyon

**"I**f you drink, don't drive — don't even putt."

Dean Martin

**"A** collision at sea can ruin your entire day."

Attributed to Thucydides,  
5th Century B.C.

**"W**e can't all be heroes, because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by."

Will Rogers

**"N**ever let the fear of striking out get in your way."

Babe Ruth

