

Pass In Review

October ————— 1988





GySgt. James Dunn instructs his students on how to march with the NCO sword.

They move as one; arms swinging and legs stepping in flawless unison. Their cadence is marked by the click of their heels and the metallic jingle of their swords.

They are "sliding and gliding" down Centerwalk in one of the

most prestigious positions during a Friday Evening Parade -- parade staff.

Although the competition for these highly coveted positions takes place every February, the training and preparation for the competition begins each fall at the

Barracks' Ceremonial Drill School.

The school is held each fall for all the newly joined staff NCOs and officers to introduce them to ceremonial drill.



photo by Cpl. J.D. Moore

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October 1988

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Marine Barracks
Washington, D.C.



photo by Cpl. J.D. Moore

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On this months cover Capt. Franklin McNeil Jr. practices return sword during a Ceremonial Drill School officer class. (More photos and story on pgs. 9-10)

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C.O.'s View



LtCol. Peter Pace Commanding Officer

September was another very busy month. We finished the 1988 parade season Sept. 2 with a superb performance for the secretary of the navy. The following week, all Barracks Marines gathered in the bleachers to hear our commandant speak. Gen. Gray's sincerity was evident as he praised each of you for the contributions you are making to our Corps. His follow-on visit to the Marine Corps Institute gave him the chance to see his MCI Marines at work.

We also had numerous ceremonies in the Washington, D.C. area and the Battle Color Detachment travelled to the major commands on the East Coast. We also wrapped up the rifle range detail and numerous other annual training events.

Many of you are completing two-year tours to the Barracks. As you return to the fleet, please take with you my personal thanks and that of all your fellow Marines for a job well done!

For you Marines recently joined, welcome aboard! Your tour here will be challenging and rewarding. We're glad you've joined us.

We'll be busy in the coming months. Each company has a unique and demanding mission. Our challenge is to accomplish each of our primary missions and to use our available training time wisely so that each of you also learn the Basic Warrior Skills needed to survive and win in battle. We're going to do this and have some fun along the way!

Barracks Talk

How do you think the Redskins will do this year?



**LCpl. William Rasgorshek,
D & B Co.**

"Without Doug Williams there's no way they'll be able to hold out against the underdog teams."



**Cpl. Don Rohn,
"A" Co.**

"I think they'll make the playoffs, but I don't think they'll repeat the Superbowl."



**LCpls. Dave Knapp (top)
and Ben Vickers, "B" Co.**
"We hate the Redskins."

Trashcan Leadership

When we first became interested in the Marine Corps, I'll bet not one of us was drawn in by the medical benefits, good retirement plan, pay raises or even the opportunity to advance in rank. We were drawn by the spirit of the Corps, the camaraderie and gun-fighter reputation that are synonymous with the title MARINE.

Unfortunately, as time goes by we sometimes find ourselves thinking more about getting promoted and getting ahead and less about leadership and esprit de corps. Whenever I recognize that attitude I remember a tough old Gunny who taught me the essence of leadership in an unusual way.

My story is set at Officer Candidates School at Quantico. It is summer and the heat of the day is magnified by the drill grinder we happen to occupy. We are a group of 40 "college boys" rolled together into a formation you might be tempted to call a platoon. The platoon sergeant, who had been around us for the past several days, would not make that mistake.

We had been attempting some movement of close order drill when it was obvious to all from the platoon sergeant's mood that we were not performing as well as he wished. In disgust he moved all of us over to some bleachers and began a loud and emotional lecture about how we needed to work together and how close order drill would instill that type of teamwork and discipline.

About halfway into his tirade, my attention was drawn away from its appointed place of duty to the Dempsey Dumpster in the near corner of the deck. I noted that a major and a sergeant major, two ranks we lowly officer candidates never saw, were circling and closely inspecting the dumpster. Before I could figure out what they were doing, I heard my name shouted and my attention returned to the cold, hard stare of the platoon sergeant. I was caught! My mind had been UA. I knew my punishment would be swift and painful. Perhaps it would be his

favorite, "Push-ups forever, ready, begin." Or he just might make me repeat the lesson he had just given. I knew I could not. Instead, he walked me to the dumpster and without so much as an explanation said, "Git in."

Climb in I did and as soon as I was clear the door closed behind me. I thought it had been hot on the parade deck, but the dumpster was even hotter. I literally stewed in there for a while and when the door opened again, I was alone with the platoon sergeant. My peers had gone back to the barracks. I knew what this must mean; death without witnesses. To my surprise, he calmly ignored my offense and the punishment I had endured and proceeded to make the point he had tried to make while I was otherwise engaged.

He began by telling me that it was his responsibility to instill in us a sense of leadership and cohesion. If I were to survive the program I would be called upon to do the same; to lead and to train HIS Marine Corps' most precious commodity-- the individual Marine. At that point he abandoned the role he had been playing and spoke to me straight. He said, "When you put on them bars it ain't the power that's important, but the responsibility." At first I didn't understand the significance of his words, but as I thought about it I realized what he was telling me.

We earn the privilege of promotion as we prove ourselves worthy of the next higher rank. We advance to the next rank and take on new tasks and obligations and the responsibility for yet more subordinates. We earn the privilege to lead these subordinates and we actually work for them!

What need do we have of a sergeant who cannot take responsibility for a squad-size unit? What use is he if he can't look out for his Marines and get them what they need? What use is a captain or major, or even a general if he does not recognize and contribute to the well-being of his or her Marines? That was the lesson. Advancement and rank are not ends in themselves, they are not for our personal use or glory, but to aid us in better serving those in our charge -- the individual Marine.

It was a lesson I never forgot and I still can't pass a dumpster without reliving that moment. Funny thing is, some people get their best leadership lessons from books; mine came out of a trashcan. Thanks, Gunny.

Maj. W.M. Kennedy

Former Administrative Officer

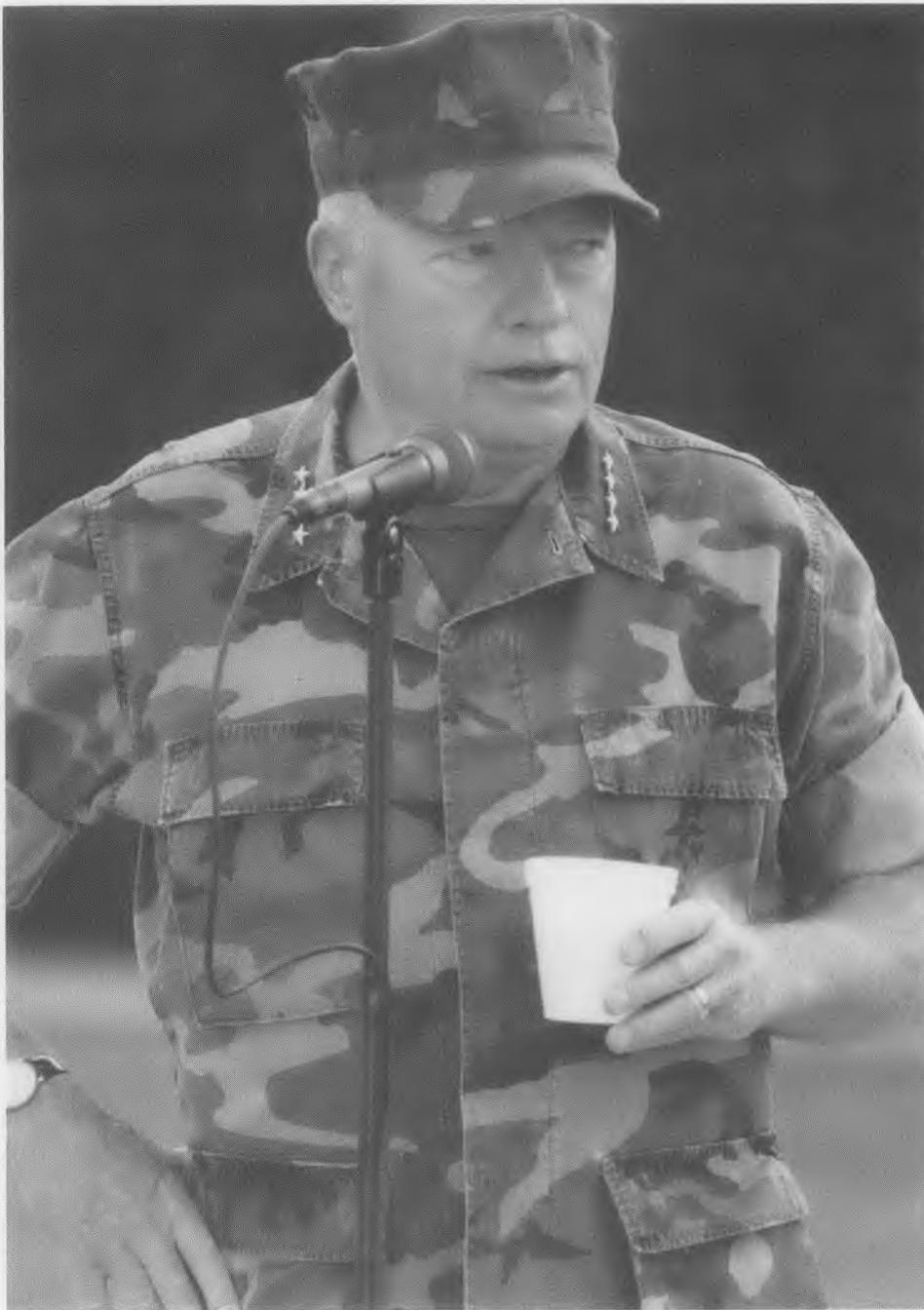


photo by Cpl. J.D. Moore



CMC SPEAKS OUT

Editor's note: Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. A.M. Gray, gave an impromptu speech to 8th & 1st Marines Sept. 7. The following article consists of selected parts of his address that specifically concern Marines stationed at the Barracks.

"Our new big program is called the Marine Battle Skills Program, of which Basic Warrior

Training in Boot Camp is only the first part."

"Phase two of the program will be conducted at the Schools of Infantry for all Marines and will be called Basic Marine Combat Training, and by the way, the infantrymen will do the same thing as everybody else except they'll be at the School of Infantry for 10 weeks instead of four or five. And when they

come out of there, they're going to be commandos -- period."

"And then there's another stage. Stage three, and that's the sustaining and maintenance of this training and improvement that goes on in the Fleet Marine Force and in the supporting establishment and you'll be a part of that."

"What I want here is not everybody doing the same thing,



photo by SSgt. Matthew Perez

but everybody doing what they ought to be doing within the context of their mission and tasks that they have today."

"Clearly, if you serve at Quantico, or Albany or here you're not going to go to the field as frequently as others, and so that time must be precious used. We'll have some standards and guides for the commanders to look to to develop their own plans and programs to keep you where you are and make you better. And that will go on throughout the Corps."

"And over a period of time you're going to get to do some of that kind of training, too. We're going to jazz it up a little around here, less of these details and a little more time out in the field.

I think we need to balance it out. The sergeant major tells me we're looking at 200 more performances this year than we had last year. I'm going to walk that one back a bit."

"I also want to say a word or two about your relationship with me and how I see it. There's a school of thought that says that I don't like you as much as I like the Marines that are out in the Fleet Marine Force; out in the combat and combat support units. That's hogwash!"

"There's only one Marine Corps and there's only one kind of Marine that I like, and that's a good one! One that has joined the long line of 'soldiers of the sea'; who has volunteered; who has dedicated him or herself to

professional excellence; who endeavors to grow morally, mentally and physically; who has that inner self-discipline that sets us apart from the others; one who, like legions of others throughout the Corps, asks for so little and yet gives so much. Those are the kinds of Marines I like and certainly you fit that description to a 'T'. We have a high level of excellence and we'll maintain that."

"There's also a school of thought that says I don't have any room in the Marine Corps for women Marines. That's even dumber than the first idea! And I'm gonna tell you why; everything that we've said and everything that we've put out policy-wise has been just the opposite. Your

Marine Corps today stands at an unprecedented level of readiness and preparedness and we could not be where we are without our 10,000 women Marines. And if anybody wants to disagree with that we can do it anywhere you want; in my office or behind my quarters. And as I've said, they will be treated with dignity and respect. They're Marines -- not Women Marines or Eskimo Marines or any other kind -- just Marines."

"I want to tell you how terribly proud your commandant is of all of you and what you mean to our Corps and to our country. Now you may say, 'Well, anybody can get up and say that,' and that's true, but some of you know me a little better than others and you know I don't say anything unless I mean it."

"An awful lot has gone on in the past year, an awful lot of good here, and I think that's very significant because Marine Barracks 8th & I, your command, has always been the epitome of our Corps. It really stands out like a shining light or a beacon for the rest of the country to look up to. Clearly, the thousands of upon thousands of people who flock here every Friday night, or who go to the Iwo Jima Memorial every Tuesday evening during the summer months think so."

"I think they come here because they want to be with the best, and they want to see the best perform. And so when I say to you that in my judgement you have improved this year, even upon the great operation last year, I think that's very significant. And that improvement comes in many ways. Not just in the ceremonial type operations, which indeed, are second to none in the world, but I also think that when you walk around the Barracks and

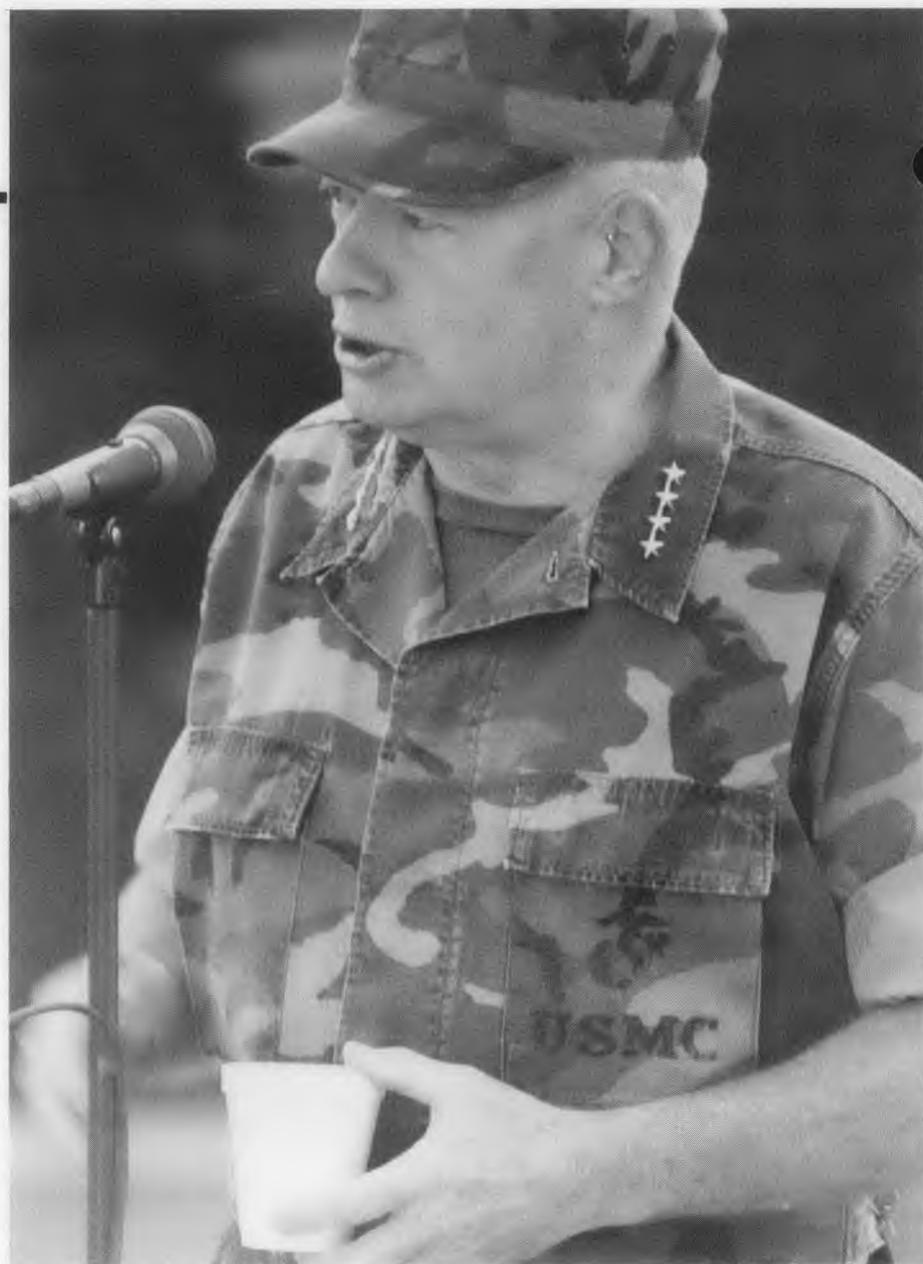


photo by SSgt. Matthew Perez

look at the area it looks immaculate. It looks even better, if that's possible, than it did a year ago-plus when we came on board and I think that's a real tribute to all those who toil in the trenches; the maintenance platoon, and the "weeds and seeds" platoon and all those who are directly, or indirectly involved, whether you're in S-1, S-2, S-3, or S-4, whether you're providing security here at the Barracks or at Camp David or at the White House you're all doing an excellent job."

"From the messhalls to the PX, the support you've provided, the number of visitors that were hosted, the photography, which is

always superb -- for all of this, your commandant really came out here this morning to say thank you. I also want to thank you as a collective group for the enormous shot in the arm that you give our Marines and sailors and the officers and staff NCOs and NCOs that come here from Quantico, Camp Lejuene, Cherry Point or wherever. When they come to Marine Barracks 8th & I and they observe all that you do they leave here better Marines, and I think that's probably your number-one mission as you perform here and throughout the country."

PIR staff report



GySgt. James Dunn demonstrates present arms to a CDS student.

Sliding and Gliding

They move as one; arms swinging and legs stepping in flawless unison. Their cadence is marked by the click of their heels and the metallic jingle of their swords.

They are "sliding and gliding" down Centerwalk in one of the most prestigious positions during a Friday Evening Parade -- parade staff.

Although the competition for these highly coveted positions

takes place every February, the training and preparation for the competition begins each fall at the Barracks' Ceremonial Drill School.

The school is held each fall for all the newly joined staff NCOs and officers to introduce them to ceremonial drill.

"The course is designed to give all of the new staff NCOs and officers a working knowledge of the style of sword manual and marching style unique to 8th & I,"

said SgtMaj. L.R. Sanders, Barracks sergeant major and chief staff NCO instructor.

The major differences between ceremonial and regular drill are in the sword manual, marching and commands.

"Here at the Barracks we have 'ceremonial at ease', our unique style of draw and return sword, present arms and the slide and glide style of marching," he said.

The students must also learn how to "pop" the sword back into their shoulder and carry sword in a more restful position.

In addition to the differences in the sword manual, the Marines are taught the ceremonial way of marching.

"In regular "fleet" drill Marines take 30 inch steps, but here we have to teach them to take shorter steps and to roll the ball of the foot inward as they step. The total effect is a much smoother and graceful movement," said Maj. L.E. Leggett, operations officer and chief officer instructor.

"What we're looking for is a sharp crisp look that people visiting the Barracks expect to see," he added.

The staff NCOs and officers are also taught to take the individual sword, drill and voice techniques and apply them in the actual parade sequence.

"They're taught all of the movements that are executed during a Friday Evening Parade, to include voice techniques for giving commands," Sanders said.

The enlisted and officer classes are held separately and are two hours long, every work day for three weeks. However, to become proficient enough to be selected for the parade staff takes about three to four hours of practice every day until tryouts, according to the sergeant major.

Even though the majority of the students won't actually perform in a Friday Evening or Sunset Parade, they are still taught ceremonial drill.

At anytime during the year an extra commitment could come up. With 8th & I's staff NCOs and officers trained in ceremonial drill, finding someone to do the job wouldn't be that difficult.



Capt. James Thomas practices return sword.

The class also gives the students a taste of the hard work and determination that it takes to become a member of the parade staff.

"It gives everybody in the class an appreciation for the dedication of those in the staff," said Leggett. "It may look easy for someone who knows how to do it, but once they actually try sliding and gliding they realize how difficult it really is."

The instructors who teach the 26 staff NCOs and nine officers are picked for their experience and ability, said Sanders.

"Outstanding proficiency with the sword and other aspects of the drill and the ability to teach their fellow staff NCOs or officers is what I look for," he said.

The staff NCO instructors this year are Sanders, GySgt. James Dunn, GySgt. Clifford Harvey, GySgt. Ronald Roland and SSgt. John Martin. Leggett, Capt. Jim Barry and Capt. Doug Jones are the officer class instructors.

Even if the students don't serve on the parade staff the skills they learn can always be applied once they return to the fleet.

"When our Marines return to the fleet people expect more of them because they were at 8th & I," said Capt. Charles Pangburn, a student. "People expect them to be an authority on drill."

story and photos by

Cpl. J.D. Moore

Sports



B Co. couldn't hold back the Band's bats.

Band #1 in softball

The Marine Band, in a must win situation, thrashed B Co. 30-10 to force the second and deciding game of the Barracks softball tournament.

The Marine Band struck hard with 10 runs in the top half of the first inning. But B Co. rallied in their half with five runs to close the lead, 10-5.

The Band continued to score, adding two in the second inning, five in the third and four in the fourth. Strong defensive play by Sgt. Bill Perry at second base and by GySgt. Matt Becker, MSgt. Barry Stoner and SSgt. Paul Kellner in the out field, kept Bravo Co. from scoring again until the fourth when they added three more runs.

The bandsmen continued to dominate at the plate, adding six runs in the fifth to stretch their lead to 27-8. Bravo added another run in the bottom of the fifth and both teams scored a run in the sixth. The Marine Band added two in the top of the seventh, then shut B Co. down to end the game 30-10.

The Marine Band got homeruns from SSgt. John Barclay, Becker, Perry, Stoner and SSgt. Roger Kantner and doubles from SSgt. Jaimie Spass and SSgt. Brad Weaver to power the offensive attack.

The Band's win forced a second game to decide the Barracks championship. The Marine Band advanced during the tournament with a 5-3 win over

the Drum and Bugle Corps and a 10-3 win over A Co. The Marine Band fell into the losers bracket in the double elimination tournament when they lost 6-3 to Bravo in the third game of the tournament. However, the bandsmen bounced back to beat D & B 14-9 to advance to the final games with B Co.

In the second game the Marine Band again loss the toss and Bravo elected to be the home team. The Band jumped off to a four run lead in the first. Good defensive play up the middle by shortstop Barclay and second baseman Perry kept B Co. from scoring until the third when they scored their only three runs.

The Band continued to score in the next three innings, adding two in the second, two in the third and four in the fourth. They then added two insurance runs in the top of the seventh to end the scoring at 14-3.

Good defensive plays by SSgt. Andy Schuller and GySgt. Phil Franke at third helped shut Bravo Co. down.

**story and photo by
Sgt. Joseph Steele
Marine Band PAO**

Fire prevention week

President Reagan has declared Oct. 9-15 Fire Prevention Week.

It has been observed since 1922, when President Warren Harding proclaimed the week to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. That fire destroyed four square miles of the city, killed between 250 and 300 people and drew attention to the need for fire safety.

The theme for Fire Prevention Week 1988 is, "A Sound You Can Live With -- Test Your Smoke Detector."

"The idea is to remind people to check their smoke detectors regularly," said Navy Cmdr. C. Perry, an assistant for safety policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management and Personnel. "Smoke detectors can save lives, but only if they are working."

But awareness of other fire-safety facts is as important as having working smoke detectors. For this reason, American

schoolchildren, including those in the DoD Dependents School System, are learning fire safety.

Some of the things being taught:

- More than one-third of the burns suffered by children aged three to eight are the result of playing with matches or lighters. Young children need to know that matches and lighters are tools for adults, not toys. Older children should remind their parents to store matches and lighters where young children can't reach them.

- If clothing catches fire, remember: stop, shout, drop, roll and cool. That is: Stop running, because that will fan the flames. Shout, don't run, for help. Drop to the floor and cover your face. Roll back and forth to put out the flames. Cool a burn with cool water.

- Install smoke detectors outside sleeping areas and on every level of your home. Test them monthly with real smoke--

stand under the detector with a lighted candle. Change the batteries every year whether they're still working or not.

- Fire kills hundreds of children every year, but more die from smoke than flames. If a fire starts: get out fast; call for help from a neighbor's home; crawl low, under the smoke; test the door -- if it's hot or there is smoke, use another way out; once you're out, stay out.

- Parents should be aware that children under five may panic in a fire and hide under a bed or in a closet. Young children need special help to escape.

story by

Evelyn D. Harris

AFIS

One vote decides race

How many times have you heard someone say, "I'm not voting because my vote won't count anyway?"

Your vote does count. It may not decide the election, but it shows that you are a responsible citizen concerned about your elected officials. After the 1984 presidential election, 10.4 percent of the servicemen and women surveyed said their primary reason for not voting was "My vote wouldn't matter."

To illustrate how one vote does matter, we can revisit a recent election in Ohio where a Naval ensign's absentee ballot created a tie in a race for a Marysville, Ohio, city council position. The absentee ballot was cast by the son of Candidate Albert Westerholme who had trailed by one vote in the Nov. 3, 1987 election. Westerholme's son was on duty aboard ship in the Mediterranean. Ohio law required a tied election to be decided by

the toss of a coin. Westerholme lost the coin toss but later gained his seat on the city council when another member resigned.

So you see -- every vote does matter. Be sure to vote this year. See you unit voting officer today.

Federal Voting

Assistance Office



photo by MSgt. Andrew Linden

Cartoonist Jeff MacNelly (left), creator of the comic strip "Shoe," meets the Marine Band's tuba section leader, MGySgt. Thomas Lyckberg (right). One of "Shoe's" characters, Skyler Fishhawk, joined the Marine Band this summer where he played an "M-1 tuba." Band director Col. John Bourgeois (center) presented MacNelly with a certificate naming Skyler Fishhawk as an honorary member of the Marine Band's tuba section.

Back in time

"Fall-back" time this year is Sunday, Oct. 30. That's when you set your clocks back one hour and standard time resumes--officially, at 2 a.m.

You won't have to do this, however, if you are visiting Arizona, Hawaii, the Eastern time-zone portion of Indiana, American Samoa, Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands. These places are exempt by law from observing daylight-saving time and, therefore, remain on standard time.

Under standard time, it gets dark one hour earlier in the evening; thus, an "extra" hour of daylight in the morning. This suits some and is opposed by others.

Farmers, for example, like

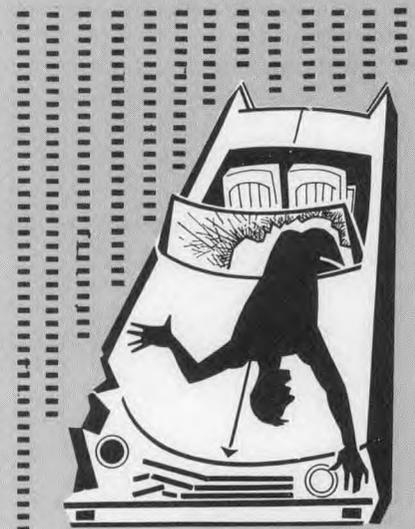
more daylight in the morning to do their chores. Others like more daylight in the evening -- to get home from work and school and to run errands in the evening. The controversy has continued over the years.

Last year, a bill was passed that affects the time daylight-saving time resumes in the spring. It is now the first Sunday in April instead of the last. Standard time, however, still resumes the last Sunday in October.

story by
Evelyn D. Harris
AFIS

A Sobering Fact

Every 22 minutes someone dies as a result of drunk driving.



Chaplain's Corner

For those who train for a race like the marathon you know that you should set a goal. You have to be willing to spend many hours in training to accomplish that goal.

In the Christian life we also have a goal. That goal is to achieve nothing less than the likeness of Christ. The Christian life is like running a marathon and at the end of each day we should ask ourselves, "Am I any farther toward my goal?"

The writer of Hebrews explains to us that we are all in a race, we could call it "The Great Race". Hebrews 12:1-2 reads, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith..." in

order for us to win this race we need to "throw off everything that hinders us."

The athlete must discipline himself or herself and must get rid of any extra weight that might hinder them from reaching their goal. In this "Great Race" we too must lay aside any "weight" or sin that would hinder us from living like Christ.

Also, if we are going to win this "Great Race" we must have perseverance. Anyone who has prepared for a marathon race knows that you can't stop training the first time you experience a few sore muscles. You must train and run many long hours in order to reach your goal, and so it is for those who want to be Christ-like. We must persevere when the troubles and trials of life come. We can't look back, but we must forge ahead, and at the end of each day we should be closer to our goal.

The most important thing we need to remember is to fix our eyes on the goal. For the marathon runner it is the finish line 26 miles down the road. For all of us in the "Great Race" we need to fix our eyes on Jesus. In the marathon race there are no losers because anyone who spends that much time and effort will be a better person for having done the work. But there is only one real winner, the one who finished first. In the "Great Race" everyone who finishes the course that is set before them is a winner. Come join "The Great Race" and be a winner.

by LtCmdr. James
Griffith USN
Chaplain

Worth Repeating

"Courage is doing what you're afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you're scared."

-- Eddie Rickenbacker,
WWI flying ace

"The responsibilities of an officer are quite analogous to those of a policeman or a fireman. The better he performs his daily task, the less frequently does he have to take direct action."

-- Gen. George S.
Patton Jr.



Feature

Ask Da Gunny

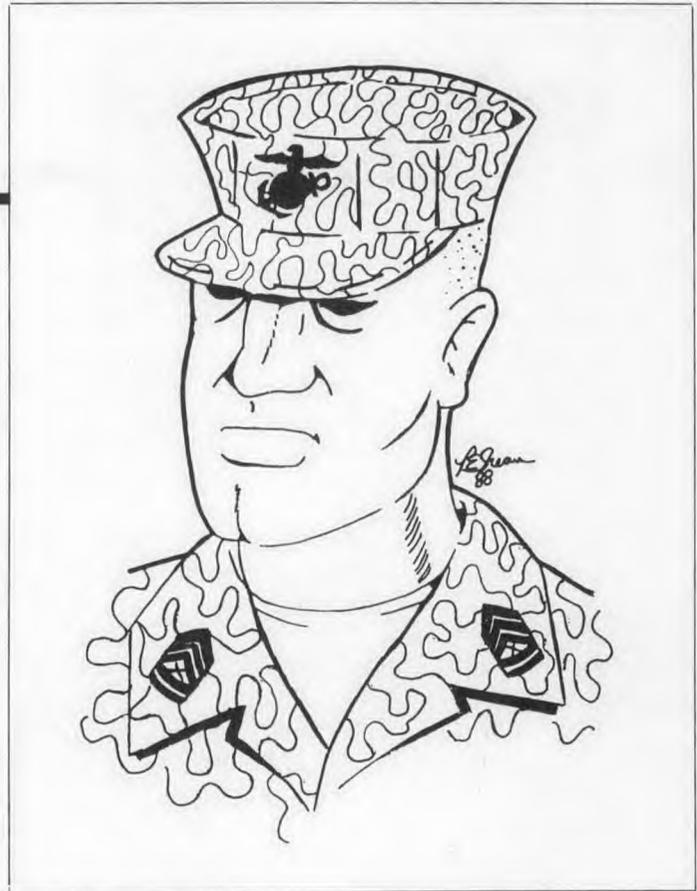
There's no doubt about it. Marine Corps dress blues are the best looking uniforms in the world. There's just something about an eagle, globe and anchor on a snow white barracks cover and a deep navy blue blouse accented by red piping. A red blood stripe running down both blue trouser legs. And as if that isn't enough, there's all of those gold buttons and medals and ribbons and badges to brighten it all up. But why do dress blues look like they do? There has to be some reason behind all of those fancy buttons and badges. Well fear not, because Da' Gunny has all the answers!

Lets start with those sharp looking trousers. Now most Marines will tell you that NCOs and officers wear a blood stripe on their trousers to remember the high number of Marines of those ranks that died during the assault on Chapultepec Castle in the Mexican War in the 1840s. That's makes a good tradition, but it's not really true. Marines have been wearing red stripes on blue trousers on and off since shortly after the Revolutionary War.

Next we have those useless flaps of extra material on our shoulders called epaulets. The epaulet is a decorative amplification of the shoulder strap. Back in the old, old Corps shoulder straps were used to prevent bandoleers of ammunition from slipping off a Marine's shoulder.

And what about those ribbons and medals that we wear on the left side of our chest? This tradition can be traced from the practices of the early crusaders. The crusaders wore their badge of honor of their order near their heart. Also, the left side was the shield side of the fighters because the large shield carried on the left protected both the heart and the badge of honor. With our medals we continue this practice today.

Then there is one of the most distinguishing characteristics of dress blues -- the stock collar.



This stylish (and uncomfortable) type of collar was originally worn by Marines to protect their necks from enemy cutlasses. Although original made of leather, the collar has survived various uniform changes and is still with us.

All over the dark blue blouse are shiny gold buttons. But have you ever taken a good look at one of them? If you did you would find an eagle holding a rope in its beak, standing on top of an anchor. Over the design 13 five-pointed stars are arranged in a semi-circle. The 13 stars represent the 13 original American Colonies and the eagle and anchor represent our ties with our nation and the sea. With the exception of the use of six-pointed stars, this is the same style button that was used on Marine Corps uniforms in 1804. It is the oldest military insignia in the still in use in the United States.

So you see, there's more to Marine Corps dress blues than all the glittery medals and buttons, and colorful piping and blood stripes. There's a lot of tradition and history, the stuff that has kept our Corps "The World's Finest" for over two hundred years.

Semper Fidelis,

Smedley D. Smut
Smedley D. Smut
GySgt USMC

From the attic...

The officers of Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. pose by a Gatling gun in front of the Commandants House in 1896. Lt. Joseph H. Pendleton, namesake of Camp Pendleton, Ca., stands at the far right.

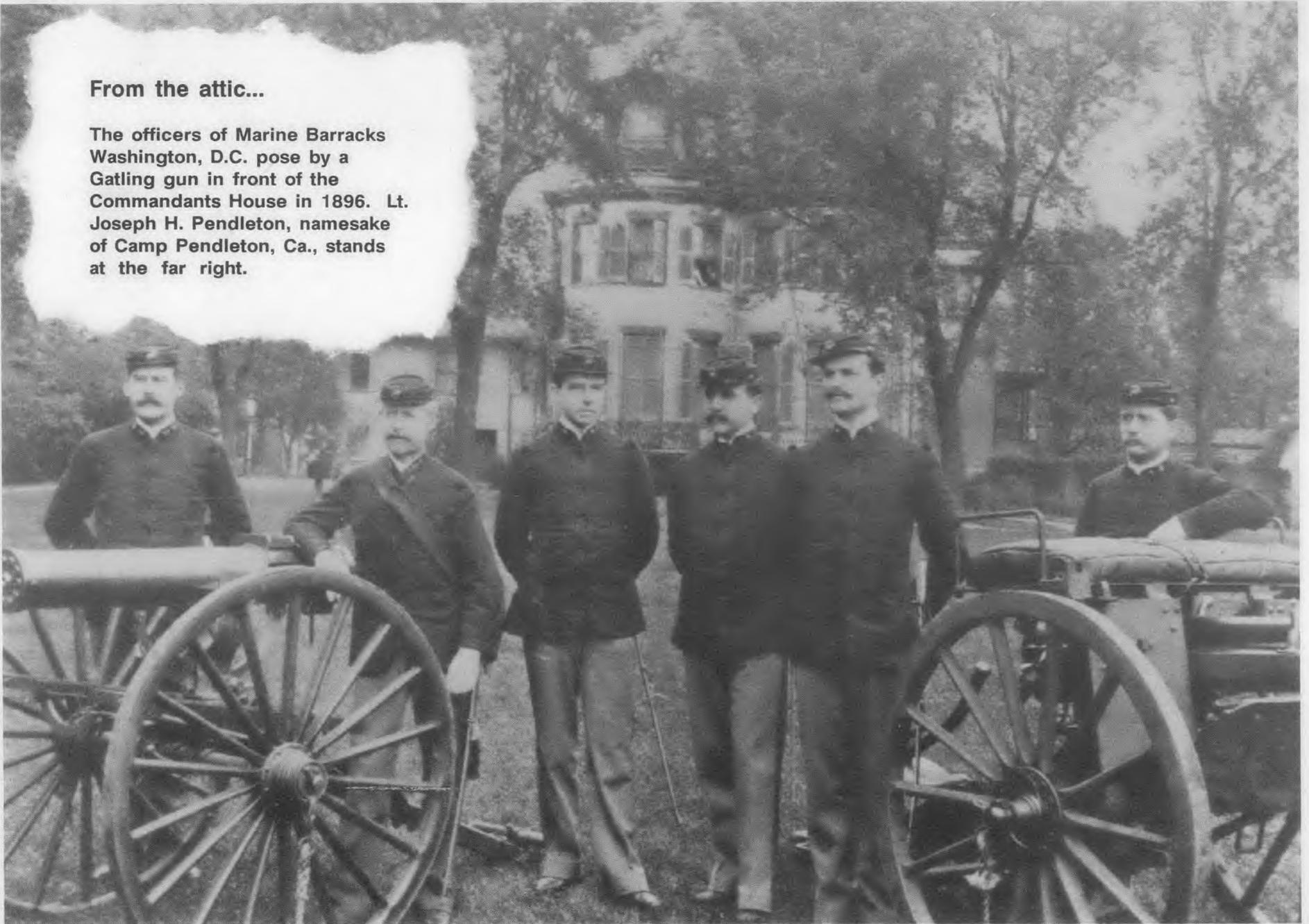


photo courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps Historical Division