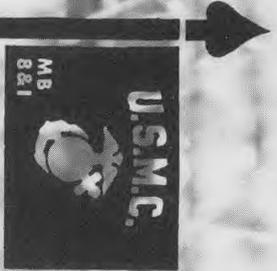


Pass in Review

May/June 1990



Pass in Review

M A G A Z I N E

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photo by Cpl. J.D. Moore

On the cover...

LCpl. Joel Berning, "A" Co. cautiously patrols through Ft. A.P. Hill, Virginia's woods on his way to the live fire and maneuver course.

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photo by Cpl. J.D. Moore

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An H&S Co. Marine rappels down through the "Hell Hole" during Warrior training conducted at MCCDC Quantico, Va.

More Dynamic Counternarcotics Role Recommended for the Marine Corps

MCCDC QUANTICO, Va. -- The Marine Corps may soon take a more dynamic role in counter-narcotics efforts if recommendations made by attendees of the recent Russell Leadership Conference on the Marine Corps Leadership Role in Society -- The Counternarcotics Challenge -- are instituted.

The conference was held here April 23-27 and was attended by approximately 100 representatives from throughout the Marine Corps, government, law enforcement, and academe. The conference was sponsored by the Command and Staff College Foundation.

Conference attendees were broken up into five seminar groups to discuss and make suggestions on issues pertaining to an expanded Marine Corps role in counternarcotics efforts. These recommendations were presented to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. A.M. Gray, for his further consideration and approval.

Recommendations made by the groups included forming community action programs, expanding current support of the Border Patrol, expanding Junior Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps programs, and involvement of reserve units in community relations activities and with the Border Patrol.

Further recommendations included continuing the Marine Corps internal drug testing programs, encouraging Marines throughout the Corps to take an active role in their own communities and expanding drug abuse resistance education classes to school-age children.

Several years back we said that we were going to take a look at what the Corps can do in the war against drugs, said Gen. Gray. These recommendations are a spin-off from that first initiative.

For some time now the Marine Corps has been at the forefront of Department of Defense counternarcotics efforts, said Lt.Col. Jim Benson, Head, Counternarcotics Section, Special Operations Low Intensity Conflict Branch, HQMC.

The Marine Corps has been involved in community drug prevention programs which have served approximately 600,000 civilians.

The Marine Corps has been continually expanding its role in counternarcotics in support of the President's National Drug Control Strategy, said Benson.

Concerning supply interdiction, the Marine Corps currently provides pre-deployment training for Drug Enforcement Administration agents which prepares them for work in drug

lab eradication efforts in South America.

Benson said Marines have also occupied observation posts in several sectors along the Mexican-American border near Tucson, Ariz., and El Paso, Texas. Even though these efforts by Marines did not include search, seizure, apprehension or pursuit of drug smugglers, information provided to Border Patrol agents resulted in the seizure of significant amounts of cocaine and marijuana, and some arrests.

The Marine Corps has also loaned equipment to a number of law enforcement agencies and provided advice on the gathering of drug related intelligence.

On the demand side in the last year, the Marine Corps has been involved in community drug prevention programs which served approximately 600,000 civilians. The Marine Corps also assisted the state of Maryland by training correctional officers to run their rehabilitation-oriented training camps for first-time offenders.

by Cpl. Dino Vervilos

NJP Equals No Good Conduct Medal

HQMC, WASHINGTON, D.C. -- If a Marine receives Non-Judicial Punishment (NJP) he or she will not be eligible to receive a Good Conduct Medal, and the new Good Conduct Medal period will begin the date of the NJP.

Previously a Marine could receive a Good Conduct Medal if he or she had no convictions by court-martial, not more than one NJP, and no lost time by reason of sickness-misconduct or injury-misconduct. The change was effective April 27.

If a Good Conduct Medal period ends on June 1, 1990, and the Marine

has one NJP prior to April 27, 1990, and is otherwise qualified, they would be eligible for the good conduct medal. If the NJP occurred on or after April 27, the Marine would not be eligible and a new commencement date would begin. According to SECNAVINST 1650.1E the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal was established by the secretary of the Navy by Special Order No. 49 of July 20, 1896, to recognize good behavior and faithful service in the Marine Corps.

by Cpl. Shannon Arledge

American Military Tightens Security at Philippine Bases

MANILA, Philippines -- The Department of Defense is tightening security at all U.S. military installations in the Philippines following the May 13 killing of two U.S. Air Force airmen by terrorists protesting U.S. military presence in that country.

Because of the current unstable conditions, DoD designated the Philippines as an area of imminent danger for special pay purposes May 15. Imminent Danger Pay means an extra \$110 per month for the 14,745 U.S. military personnel in the Philippines and an additional 15 percent of basic salary for the 1,355 U.S. citizen civilian employees stationed here.

In a Pentagon news briefing May 17, DoD spokesman Pete Williams said additional security measures have been instituted since the murders, and plans are underway to reduce the vulnerability of the more than 32,000 American servicemembers and dependents attached to the six U.S. facilities. The slayings brought the

number of Americans killed to eight in the past 13 months.

"We recognize that the threat will continue," Williams said, "But the safety of our personnel is the highest priority." About 55 percent of the military dependents live on base, and the rest are being advised to restrict travel outside military facilities. Military travel to the Philippines is also being limited. Off base rest and relaxation is also restricted throughout the islands until personnel movement limitations are lifted. Navy and Marine Corps personnel are still allowed to take R-and-R on base.

The restrictions come during negotiations to determine the future of U.S. presence in the Philippines. Williams noted that DoD would prefer to negotiate a settlement for renewal. "It's impossible to duplicate the facilities of Clark and Subic anywhere else in Pacific," he said. "They are very good facilities for us. However, we'll have to make other arrangements."

Navy News Service

Wanted: Recruiter Assistants

Marines are needed for the Marine Corps' Recruiter Assistant and Permissive TAD (PTAD) programs in the midwestern United States and Recruiting Station Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Recruiter Assistant Program is designed specifically for recent graduates of recruit training, Marine Combat Training or an initial formal school. The PTAD program is designed for all Marines on active duty, preferably private -- sergeant. In both programs the Marine is assigned up to 30 days to assist the recruiting command in his or her home town.

Marines desiring to be assigned to either program could earn incentives

U.S. MARINES



WANT YOU

such as meritorious promotion, bonus points for composite scores, special fitness reports, and various other awards. While Marines selected for the PTAD program are assigned at no expense to the government, recruiter assistants rate per diem. Annual leave in conjunction with these programs is authorized. For more information contact your recruiter, career planner,

Crack-down on Clothing Regs

Guards posted at the entrances of the Barracks have resumed enforcing the Barracks civilian clothing regulations. Marines not dressed in compliance with the regulations will not be allowed to leave the Barracks.

According to Barracks Order 1020.5 Marines are prohibited from wearing T-shirts and frayed jeans and must wear socks with footwear. The order specifically states, "Marine Barracks personnel will ensure that their dress and personal appearance are conservative and meet the same high standards traditionally associated with Marine Corps personnel.

"Wearing of civilian clothes at the Barracks is a privilege authorized by the Commanding Officer."

Appropriate Civilian Attire is described by the order as:

1. Clothing which is neat, clean, and in good taste.
2. Shirts must have collars and shirt tails must be tucked in. Sweaters are authorized.
3. Trousers that are neat in appearance, including jeans and corduroys are acceptable. Trousers with belt loops will be worn with belts.
4. Shoes will be worn with socks.
5. PT gear will be worn only when exercising or when authorized for field days.

by Cpl. J.D. Moore

or call the recruiting stations listed below.

For information on serving as a recruiter assistant in the 9th Marine Corps District (Midwest) call (708) 803-6430. For information on serving in New Mexico, call (505) 766-2479.

Compiled from RS Albuquerque, N.M. and 9th MCD News Releases

Marine Education Programs

Changing the face of the Corps

In the past, the image of the average Marine was more brawn than brains. But thanks in part to Marine Corps education programs, that image has been disproved.

The Marine Corps offers a myriad of education programs through which a Marine can earn anything from a high school equivalency certificate (GED) to an advanced college degree.



For several Marines in this command who do not have a high school diploma or (GED), the Marine Corps Basic Skills Education Program is the answer. The fully funded program is designed to help those Marines whose basic skills are below a 10th grade level, as well as, improve their competence and promotion potential. Conducted during normal working hours, it provides remedial education directly related to military requirements and is designed to improve deficiencies in reading, mathematics, English, and English as a second language.

Another education program available to Marines is the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). This off-duty program pays 75 percent of

the Marine's tuition for college level courses.

Cpl. Jiki M. Dean is an example of a Marine who participated in off-duty education while still performing effectively at work. An administrative clerk in the S-1 office, Dean has accumulated over 32 semester hours in the TAP. When Dean enlisted in the Marine Corps, she was a senior at the New York Institute of Technology. Dean was forced to discontinue her college education because she ran out of money and the amount of her loans had exceeded \$6,000.

"I decided to try something different, so I joined the military," said Dean. "I figured that I could continue my education at the same time, and having 75 percent of the tuition paid for makes it a lot easier," said Dean. Dean has just nine academic hours to complete her degree in advertising; after which, she plans to submit a package to the Enlisted Commissioning Program.



Other programs, such as the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) and the Naval Academy Program provide opportunities for Marines to earn a degree and then to serve as a



commissioned officer in the Marine Corps. MECEP is a four year degree which provides the Marine Corps with quality commissioned officers.

MECEP allows a Marine to select a college or university from which he will receive a technical or nontechnical degree.

The Naval Academy Program leads to a commission through the U. S. Naval Academy. Eighty-five appointments are available to active duty Navy and Marine enlisted personnel. However, all of those appointments are seldom used. According to the Naval Academy's Public Affairs Office, the class of 1993 used only 80 of the 85 available appointments for regular Navy and Marines and the class of 1992 used only 65 of 85 possible appointments.



Capt. Allan J. Stuart, the Barracks education officer, said applying for any of the programs is relatively simple, and Marines who need this or any other programs should apply through the operations office. "Marines should keep in mind the guidance of their commanding officers and staff NCOICs," said Stuart. But even though education is important, it should not conflict with the primary duty at the Barracks, and

a Marine should have permission from their section before applying for an education program.



For more information on educational opportunities in the Marine Corps contact the Barracks education officer at 433-4492.

story by
Sgt. Wanda D. Chandler

Infantryman 2000:

*Looks like an alien,
eats like a king*

Marines and soldiers of the future may fire infrared-guided weapons, wear special ballistic armor and eat pizza MREs according to a report in the May issue of "Armed Forces Journal International" (AFJI).

The Soldier Integrated Protective Ensemble (SIPE) -- a modular, head-to-toe, individual fighting system for infantrymen -- is being developed at the U.S. Army Research, Development, and Engineering Center in Natick, Mass. Expected to be fielded by the year 2000, SIPE will include the following items:

- ▲ a helmet containing an individual communication system,
- ▲ integrated weapon and headgear, laser protection eye gear, and
- ▲ a microclimate conditioning power unit.

In practical terms, SIPE will enable an infantryman to communicate when out of earshot, to aim his weapon with an infrared sight that projects a beam of light on a target (allowing him to literally shoot from the hip), and to encapsulate himself in an "air breathing" suit that would filter chemically contaminated air for breathing and for cooling his body. (M-1A1 tankers currently use a microclimate cooling system that pulls air from the tanks' turbine engines,



through hoses, to vests worn by crewmen.)

Today it costs about \$1,050 to field an infantry soldier's battle equipment (i.e., M-16A2, 180 rounds of ammunition, two grenades, clothing, rucksack, entrenching tool, two canteens, armor vest, and two field rations), according to the Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Ga. The equipment weighs approximately 64 lbs.

SIPE, which does not include soldiers individual field items, will weigh approximately 25 lbs. without the microclimate conditioning power unit (which is necessary only in nuclear/biological/chemical environments). The cost of SIPE "is something I can't put my finger on. It's too early. The proposed system could undergo a lot of change. You'd be surprised how long people remember numbers," Carol

Fitzgerald, Project Leader for SIPE Advanced Technology Transition Demonstration. According to Fitzgerald, SIPE could begin full-scale development in FY93.

The latest development for today's soldier is the Integrated Infantry Fighting System (IIFS), a new field pack that combines a tactical load-bearing vest (for carrying ammunition, grenades, canteen, entrenching tools, and sidearm) with a large internal-frame rucksack. The IIFS distributes weight to a soldier's upper torso instead of the waist and lower back. The rucksack includes a smaller patrol pack that can be detached and snapped to the load-bearing vest. According to Harvey Keane, Natick spokesman, "The IIFS was accepted by the Army in 1988 and is presently going through the initial stages of procurement."

Fitzgerald told AFJI that there are likely to be many product improvements integrated into the soldier's combat gear between now and whenever SIPE is fielded, specifically, "multiple threat body armor, lightweight ballistic protection, and individual communication systems."

Technological breakthroughs in food preparation at Natick have made it possible to keep bread fresh in MREs (meals-ready-to-eat) for up to three years. "Troops in the field could have pizza, burritos, hamburgers, and pancakes in their MREs by as early as 1996," Jerry Darsch, Chief of Natick's Food Technology Division, told AFJI. He added, "That doesn't mean that the services should start placing orders today. It seems that once we say that we can do it [improve the MRE], everyone wants it by the weekend." Other food-related developments the troops can look forward to are:

- ▲ flameless ration heaters, small magnesium alloy pads that, when moistened with two teaspoons of water, will be able to heat an MRE to 100 degrees Fahrenheit. One million units will soon be purchased at an approximate cost of \$500,000;
- ▲ milkshakes (vanilla, chocolate, strawberry) made by just adding water; and
- ▲ "smokey frankfurters" that "you'd be happy to spend two dollars for at the ballpark," according to Darsch.

Developed in 1981, the MRE is a field ration that includes one of 12 different entrees, a powdered beverage, snack (dehydrated fruit, cheese and crackers, cookies, etc.), spoon, and an accessory package (coffee, sugar, creamer, salt, gum, tissue, and matches).

The MRE has undergone numerous changes since its inception. A 34-day Natick study, conducted in 1983 with the Army's 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, produced a number of suggestions to enhance the MRE, including different entrees, larger portions, hot sauce, candies, more

"Troops in the field could have pizza, burritos, hamburgers, and pancakes in their MREs by as early as 1996."

dehydrated fruit, and moist towelettes.

The meals weren't loved by all. Some personnel who didn't want to have the C-ration, or MCI (Meal, Combat, Individual), phased out tagged the MRE "meals-rejected-by-everyone." Darsch told AFJI, "By 1984, most of the troops' suggestions were being put in the works. The soldier is our customer. If he or she doesn't eat it, it's no good."

Improved cold weather packaging, longer spoons, and wet packed fruit are a few of the short-term MRE developments currently under way at Natick. According to Darsch, "Over the years, the cost of the MRE has remained

fairly constant at about \$3.55 a meal."

The Army's Advanced Combat Rifle (ACR) program aims to field a rifle that is 100 percent more effective than the M-16A2. That rifle could be in the field by 1995, depending on the outcome of tests at the Infantry School. Another goal is to utilize lightweight, low-cost ammunition. Of the four weapons being tested, two companies' candidate rifles, the Heckler & Koch G-11 and Steyr-Mannlicher ACR, offer the lightest ammunition. The G-11 offers a "caseless" round, a bullet embedded in propellant

without brass cover. Steyr-Mannlicher's weapon fires a sabot flechette in a telescopic synthetic case. Both rounds are approximately one-half the weight of the M-16A2's NATO standard 5.56 mm round.

Although it will be years before most of the systems mentioned above are fielded, the Army is showing that it does care about its number-one priority, the soldier. As Carol Fitzgerald summed it up, "Today, the soldier is getting paid more attention than he or she has gotten in the seven years I've been at Natick."

**story by
James C. Hyde
AFJI**

LIVE FIRE!

In combat, "fire without maneuver is wasteful, and maneuver without fire is suicidal," said GySgt. Daniel Hall, A Company's First Sergeant. And that was the lesson learned by his Marines as they assaulted the live fire and maneuver courses at Ft. A.P. Hill, Va. April 18-19.

According to Capt. Bryan Patrick McCoy, A Co. Commanding Officer, the purpose of the exercise was to build the Marines' skills and confidence.

"Our goal is to tighten up our squads' tactics," said McCoy, sitting in the shadow of the range control tower. "We want to reinforce their individual fire and maneuver skills and build on them so they fight as a team."

To accomplish that goal the Marines conducted squad-sized assaults on "enemy" positions defended by man-sized, pop-up targets. The importance of teamwork became paramount as the Marines' maneuvering and firing was synchronized to maximize the effectiveness of both their movement, and their weapons.

As one group of Devil Dogs rushed forward up the grassy hill, their comrades would cover them with a base of fire. Seconds later the forward Marines were down, roles were reversed, and the Marines to the rear rushed forward



as they were covered by the fire of the Marines in front of them.

"The advantage of these 'buddy rushes' is that you always have a volume of fire going at the enemy, and you always have Marines advancing on the enemy's position," said SSgt. Timothy Aronhault, Platoon Sergeant of 1st Plt.

In combat,
"fire without
maneuver is
wasteful, and
maneuver
without fire is
suicidal."

--GySgt. Daniel Hall,
A Co. First Sergeant



While a fellow Marine provides covering fire, an A Co. Devil Dog scrambles forward.

Throughout the exercise the way the Marines trained was equally as important as the type of training they received.

"We're trying to train just as we would fight," said McCoy. "If you take shortcuts in practice, you'll do the same thing on game day. We're teaching these Marines that saying, 'But I would do it a different way in combat,' isn't an acceptable

answer. We want them to train like they will have to fight."

One particular element added significantly to the realism of the training for the 8th & I Leathernecks -- live ammunition.

"Some of our Marines were timid about firing live rounds on the course," said McCoy. "But we've had two previous exercises where we used blanks, so the live



LCpl. Ricardo Rodriguez, A Co., 1st Plt. prepares to rush.

rounds were meant to be confidence-builders."

Like popcorn in a popper, small arms fire erupted, then steadily increased to a crackling crescendo of NATO ball cartridges

as another squad attacked pop-up "Panamanian Defense Forces soldiers" in a draw several hundred meters forward. The sounds of the one-sided firefight were carried to the assembly area by a soft, summer-like breeze as the captain explained the benefits of live fire in training.

"With live rounds and the pop-up targets the individual Marine gets immediate feedback," he said. "Everytime he hits the target it goes down. If the target stays up he knows he's not suppressing the target."

And if a Marine isn't suppressing the enemy, then the enemy is getting off rounds at another Marine who is up in the open rushing forward.

In fire and maneuver, such teamwork is paramount.

"The course taught me to have more fire discipline, to pace your fire and keep their heads down with well-aimed rounds," said LCpl. Joel Berning after running through the courses. "The course also taught me to be more aggressive while attacking," added the member of 1st Plt., 2nd Squad.

McCoy added, the pop-ups and live fire also build the individual Marines' confidence in his weapon, and his ability to wield it in a combat-like environment.

It also builds their confidence in their fellow Marines because the potential for

"With live rounds and the pop-up targets the individual Marine gets immediate feedback,"

--Capt. Bryan
Patrick McCoy,
A Co. Commanding
Officer



Cpl. Christopher Flaherty, 2nd Squad Leader, 1st Plt., issues his five-paragraph order using a terrain model.

injury, or even death is there if people don't do what they're told, acknowledged Aronhault.

As a small unit leader, Cpl. Christopher Flaherty appreciated the way the training improved the integrity of his squad.

"The live fire exercises increased my confidence in my men, and in my own ability to control their movement during an assault," said Flaherty, 2nd Squad Leader in 1st Plt. "It was a lot more realistic with live rounds," he added. "That made our Marines more enthusiastic than when they train with blanks."

In addition to improving the tactical skills of the company, the exercise also aided in the professional development of the company's squad leaders by placing more of the burdens of leadership on them.

"We're forcing the squad leaders to think for themselves," explained McCoy.

Tasks that are normally handled by platoon commanders were handed over to the squad leaders.

"We gave them an assembly area and an objective and left it up to them to develop

a plan to accomplish the mission," said McCoy. Then after each assault a debrief and critiquing session was held with the entire squad, evaluating the strong and weak points of the plan and the squad's execution of it.

According to Aronhault, an the underlying goal of all of the company's field training is to prepare 8th & I Marines for their eventual career in the Fleet Marine Force (FMF).

"This is exactly the kind of training they do in the FMF," he said. "As much emphasis in training as we have on drill, they have on this stuff in the FMF. We want to prepare them for the Fleet Marine Force so when they get there some sergeant won't have to hold their hand."

**story and photos by
Cpl. J.D. Moore**

"The live fire exercise increased my confidence in my men, and in my own ability to control their movement during an assault."

**--Cpl. Christopher Flaherty,
2nd Squad Leader,**

D & B

fam-fires

weapons



Cpl. Terrance McCrea fires the 9 mm pistol.

The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps is known for many things – the Sunset and Evening Parades, their national tours in the spring and fall and their immaculate scarlet and white uniforms. But many Marines here are starting to realize they are more than that.

The "Commandant's Own" recently went to the range at MCCDC Quantico, Va. for a familiarization fire of the Beretta 9mm pistol and the Mossberg 590 12-gauge shotgun. According to Cpl. Jorge Lopez, a soprano bugler, this is the second time recently that the unit has "fam-fired" these weapons. "The first time we fired I was unsure of the recoil of the shotgun and pistol. By firing them again, I was able to practice speed and accuracy."

In addition to the unit's many ceremonial commitments, the unit takes the time at least once a month for some kind of field training exercise.

"We try to do things that will help us complete our Battle Skills Training requirements, as well as training that concentrates on the additional duties of the unit, such as riot control," said Chief Warrant Officer David C. Wolfe, Executive Officer of the company. According to D&B Drum Major, GySgt. Michael H. Gardner, under the current riot control plan D&B Marines would guard the perimeter of the Barracks during a riot.

Capt. Dennis Carroll, Executive Officer of the Marine Band remembers when such

training proved useful in an actual situation. Carroll was a corporal with the Drum and Bugle Corps during rioting in Washington, D.C. in 1968. According to Carroll, who was posted as a sharpshooter on the ramparts during the riot, the unit "provided perimeter security for the Barracks," and was part of the riot control platoon. "We augmented Marines from our unit to Headquarters and Service Company to provide security at the Capitol, and the PEPCO (Potomac Electric and Power Company) power plant."

In addition to the monthly field training, the unit also conducts bi-monthly classroom training.

"We try to have classes twice a month, but it depends on the time we have allotted for the many ceremonial commitments," added Cpl. William A. Rasgorshek, a percussionist.

Since Drum and Bugle Corps Marines are exempt from annual rifle and pistol re-qualification, it is important that they keep their Essential Subjects and Battle Skills knowledge up to date. These bi-monthly classes and field exercises help them do this.

Some of the various training in the past has included battalion field marches, grenade throwing, land navigation, weapons familiarization firing, and leadership reaction courses.

According to Wolfe, the reason Drum and Bugle Corps Marines aren't required to re-qualify with the M-16A2 service rifle and 9 mm service pistol is because they don't have time to due to all of their other commitments. However, to keep in practice, they do fam-fire all of the weapons that other Marines at the Barracks fire: M-16, 9 mm, M-60, and the Squad Automatic Weapon.

According to Lopez, D&B Marines enjoy and appreciate the times they do go to the field. "Usually we have a great time in the field. It gives us a chance to put on some cammies and do some serious Marine Corps, infantry-related training, as opposed to practicing and being in the office all day."

**story and photos by
Cpl. M.J. Mullins**



Cpl. Melissa Drass fires the Mossberg 590 12-gauge shotgun as GySgt. Richard A. Taylor looks on.

Barracks shooters gain experience at Eastern Division Matches



CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.-- Despite firing some of their best scores ever, the Marines of the Barracks Rifle and Pistol Team were no strangers to defeat during the Eastern Division Rifle and Pistol Matches held March 26-April 6.

The three stages of fire in the M-16A2 rifle match course for the individual and team competition included 20 rounds standing slow fire and 10 rounds standing to sitting rapid fire at the 200 yard line, 10 rounds standing to prone rapid fire at the 300 yard line, and 20 rounds prone slow fire at the 500 yard line.

Representing the Barracks in the competition were 1st Lt. Cathy Engels and Sgt. Debbie Quidera, both from H&S Co., and SSgt. Harry Baumann, Sgt. Charles Burton, Sgt. Cynthia Smigiel and Cpl. John Hosch, all from MCI Co.

Smigiel, a four-year veteran of the matches, led the team in the individual and team competitions. Her individual two-day



Sgt. Cynthia Smigiel, MCI Co., aims down range during the 9mm slow fire course.

average score of 285 out of a possible 300 was only one point short of a bronze medal. Hosch, a first-year shooter, also performed impressively, averaging an individual score of 282.

"Every year I've come to this competition, the scores have been higher and higher," said Smigiel. "Four years ago, scores like these were fired by the best shooters. These were what you strived for."

Smigiel added a 290 to the scores fired by Engels, Hosch and Baumann in the small team competition. With the help of careful coaching by Burton, the team posted a



Sgt. Charles Burton, MCI Co., spots rounds for the Barracks' shooting team.

combined score of 1120, with 73 rounds finding their way into the center "V". But even those 73 rounds could not shelter the team from having to accept further disappointment as their score fell, again, one point short of the second place score fired by the team from 2nd Medical Bn., 2nd FSSG, Camp Lejeune.

The individual and team Beretta 9mm pistol competitions proved even more frustrating for the Barracks shooters. The course of fire consisted of ten rounds slow fire, two strings of five rounds fired in 20 seconds each and two strings of five rounds fired in 10 seconds each, all from the 25 yard line.

For most of the team members, it was the first time they had been given the chance to extensively test and hone their skills with the 9mm. None of the individual shooters from the Barracks was able to place in the fast-moving course. Despite its best efforts, the team was humbled by the competitors from the larger commands in both the individual and team competitions.

But even with the defeats, the losses weren't total.

Classes taught during the first week, as well as hours of snap-in time with the rifle and pistol, allowed the team to return to the

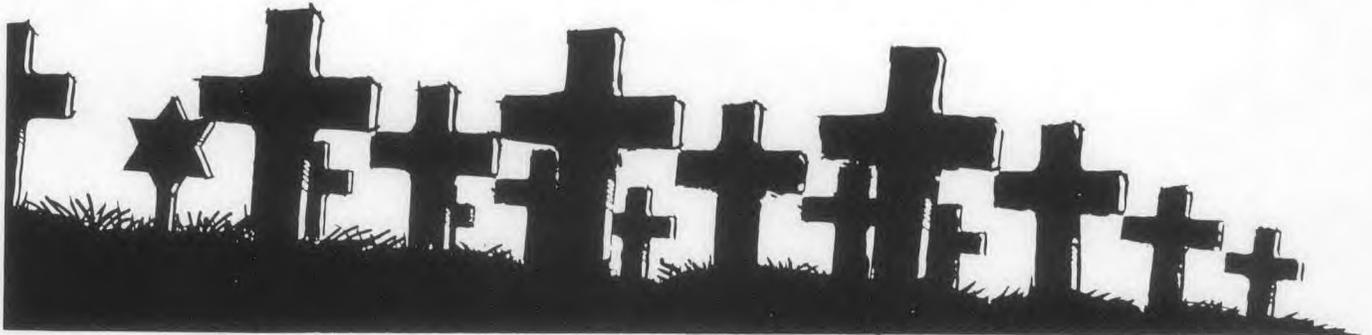
Barracks knowing what it takes to be better marksmen.

"These matches are held to do more than find the best shooters on the East Coast," said Capt. Wayne Harkey, Range Operations Officer and Match Executive Officer. "What we really want is for the shooters to take what they've learned here back to their commands and teach the Marines out there how to be better shooters."

"Just watching the really good shooters here taught me a lot," said Hosch of the teams from bases such as Quantico, Va. and Parris Island, S.C. "I think I'm leaving these matches knowing more about shooting than I did before. With what I've learned, the KD (known distance) course will be a lot easier next time."

**story and photos by
1stLt. Cathy Engels**

‘... the crosses, row on row ...’



John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends."

Memorial Day is a legal holiday, the last Monday of May, that we remember those who have given their lives in service to this great country that we call the United States of America. May we never forget our comrades-in-arms who have died so that we might live in freedom.

On this day, we also call to remembrance those who served in far-off places and have laid down their arms to march into that land of Eternal Peace. We want to remember that their lives were given so that we might live unchained.

Memorial Day is a time for us to remember the sufferings of those

friends and loved ones who struggle valiantly and sometimes silently because of the loss of someone so dear to them. May we always keep their sacrifice sacred in our hearts.

As we look to the future we must not forget the great task that lies ahead; the task of continuing to preserve earth and home, the peace of this great nation, and the tranquility of the world. As we try to accomplish this great task we will keep alive the memory of those who gave the sacrifice of their very lives for our freedom.

The Gospel writer said it best, "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." These are the heroes that we remember on Memorial Day.

Lt. Cmdr. James Griffith
Chaplain

Worth Repeating...

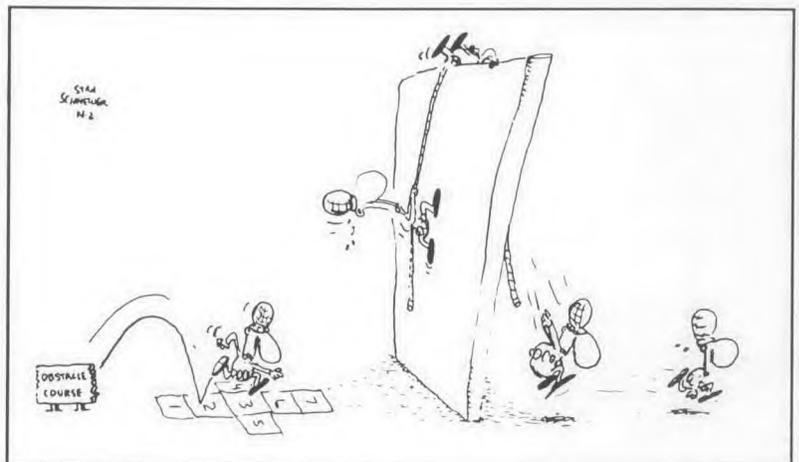
"There are no manifestos like cannon and musketry."

--Duke of Wellington



"An order that can be misunderstood will be misunderstood."

--Helmuth Von Moltke



CHAMPUS reform initiative may expand

The CHAMPUS Reform Initiative, the Department of Defense's pre-paid health care project in California and Hawaii, may expand to three more Western states this summer, a DoD health affairs official speculated.

Good reviews in a recent Rand Corp. study may mean the project's spread to Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico, although probably not before August, the official noted.

The demonstration project offers less expensive health care to patients who go to "preferred providers"--doctors and hospitals selected by a contractor. DoD pays the contractor, Foundation Health Corp., a fixed fee for providing the care. The project has two plans, one requiring enrollment called CHAMPUS Prime and a supplemental plan called CHAMPUS Extra.

California and Hawaii have some 865,000 beneficiaries, a number equal to 17 percent of the CHAMPUS population in the continental United States. Adding the 213,000 beneficiaries in three new states would bring the demonstration project population up to 20 percent of beneficiaries in the nation.

According to the Rand report, 97 percent of the beneficiaries in the demonstration projects were satisfied with the care they received. Results indicate the project saves money: CHAMPUS costs in California and Hawaii grew only 4.5 percent during the test period; costs in regular CHAMPUS-covered areas grew 17 percent. Claims costs in the demonstration areas actually declined 10 percent, but were offset by higher administrative costs that accompany managed care efforts.

The contractor solved an initial problem with timeliness of claims payments and during the study period had processed 97 percent of the 2.6 million claims filed. From April through June 1989, the claims inventory was less than three weeks' work, which is considered good by industry standards, the official said.

Health care providers complained early in the program, and the contractor paid more attention to their concerns. By the review period, complaints were resolved to the extent that most providers called the project a sound approach with advantages for beneficiaries. The report noted complaints from providers who are "philosophically opposed to such (managed care) plans," but called them evidence the program is working.

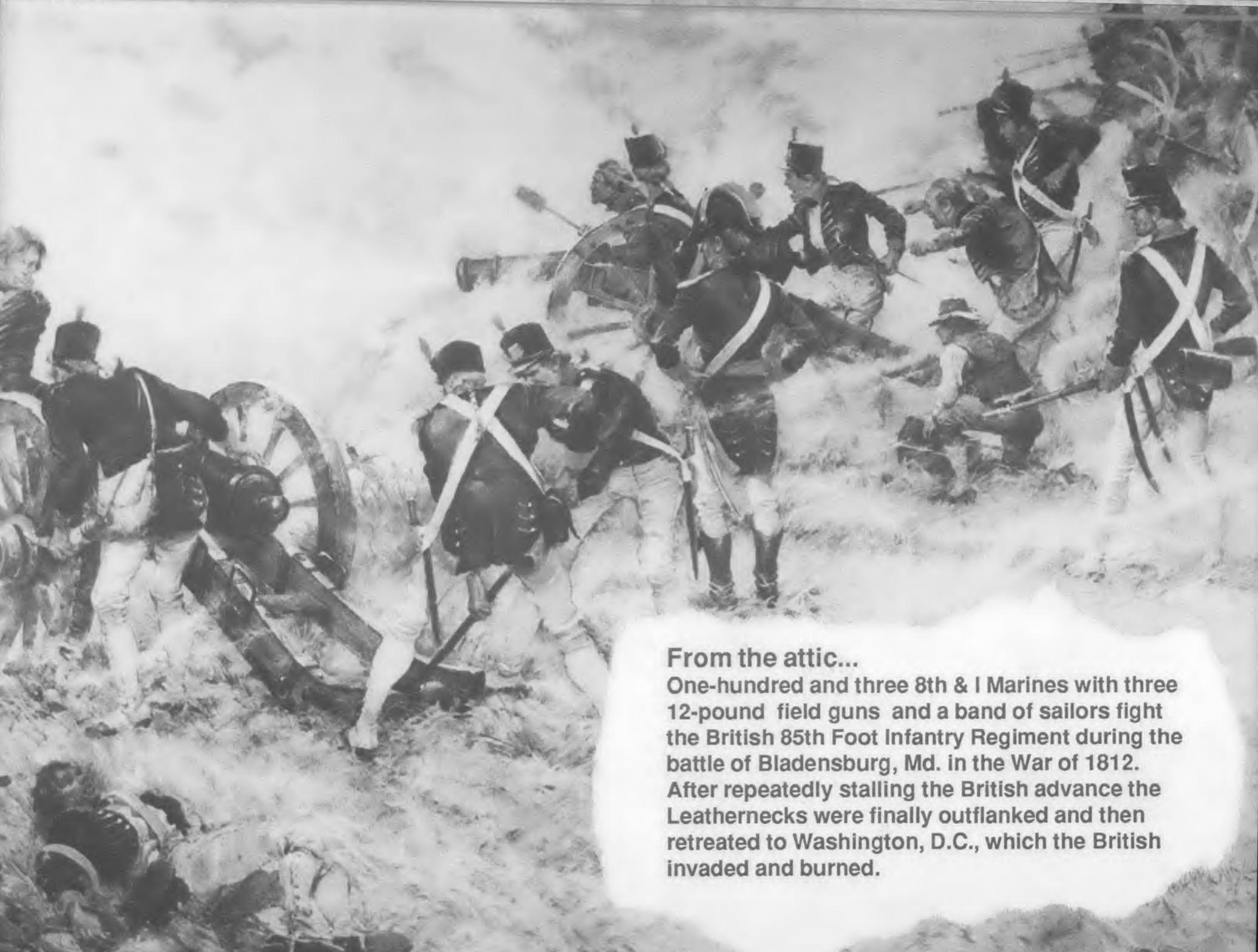
The biggest savings came in mental health services, the cost of which declined by what Rand termed "an astounding 34 percent." Mental health accounts for some 25 percent of CHAMPUS costs, so the finding is particularly good news, the DoD health official said.

Much of the mental health savings could have resulted from the reform initiative's policies requiring prior authorization for mental health admissions and more careful reviews of mental health claims, the Rand report noted. The DoD official said the initiative's review rates of mental health claims were closer to industry practice than standard CHAMPUS.

Services under the demonstration project began Aug. 1, 1988; the Rand study covered the period from April 1 through June 30, 1989. Researchers hedged their conclusions, saying the cost estimates for those three months may or may not reflect longer term costs under CHAMPUS reform.

"With more data and the opportunity to conduct more extensive analysis of the changes that underlie the cost trends," the reporter said, "we will be able to draw firmer conclusions about (the reform initiative's) effectiveness in containing costs without adversely affecting beneficiaries."

story by
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American Forces Information Service



From the attic...

One-hundred and three 8th & I Marines with three 12-pound field guns and a band of sailors fight the British 85th Foot Infantry Regiment during the battle of Bladensburg, Md. in the War of 1812. After repeatedly stalling the British advance the Leathernecks were finally outflanked and then retreated to Washington, D.C., which the British invaded and burned.