

# Pass in Review

April 1991



## A HERO'S WELCOME

*The Triumphant Return of  
Company 'A' From the Gulf*



*COMPANY 'B'  
ENHANCES  
READINESS  
WITH LIVE-  
FIRE TRAINING  
AT MCCDC,  
QUANTICO*



## Pass in Review

Vol. 10

No. 4

**FRONT COVER:** Company 'A' Marines return to hugs, ceremonies and welcoming neighbors, and PFC Stephen M. Self moves through the snow during Company 'B' training at Quantico.

**Back Cover:** Two Company 'B' Marines plot their route through the snow during training.



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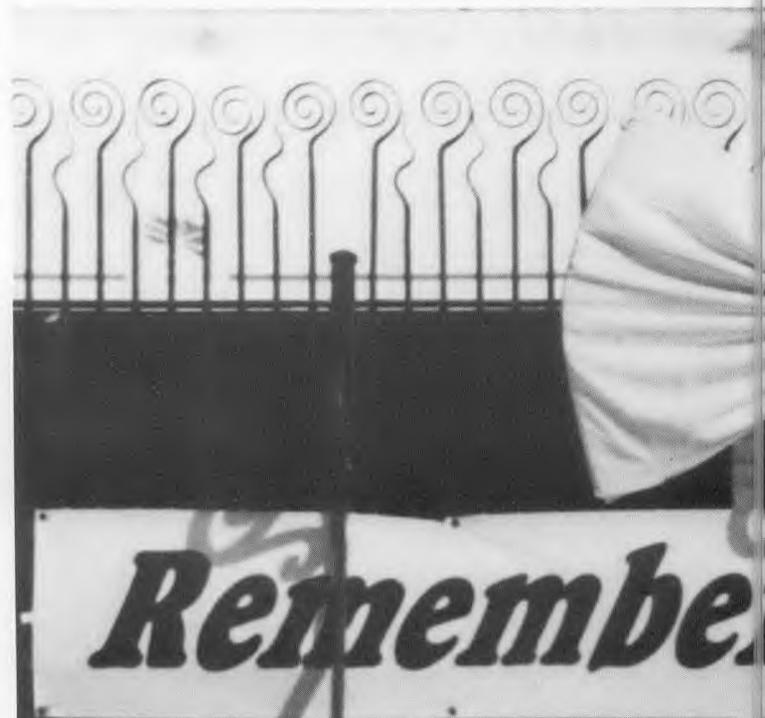
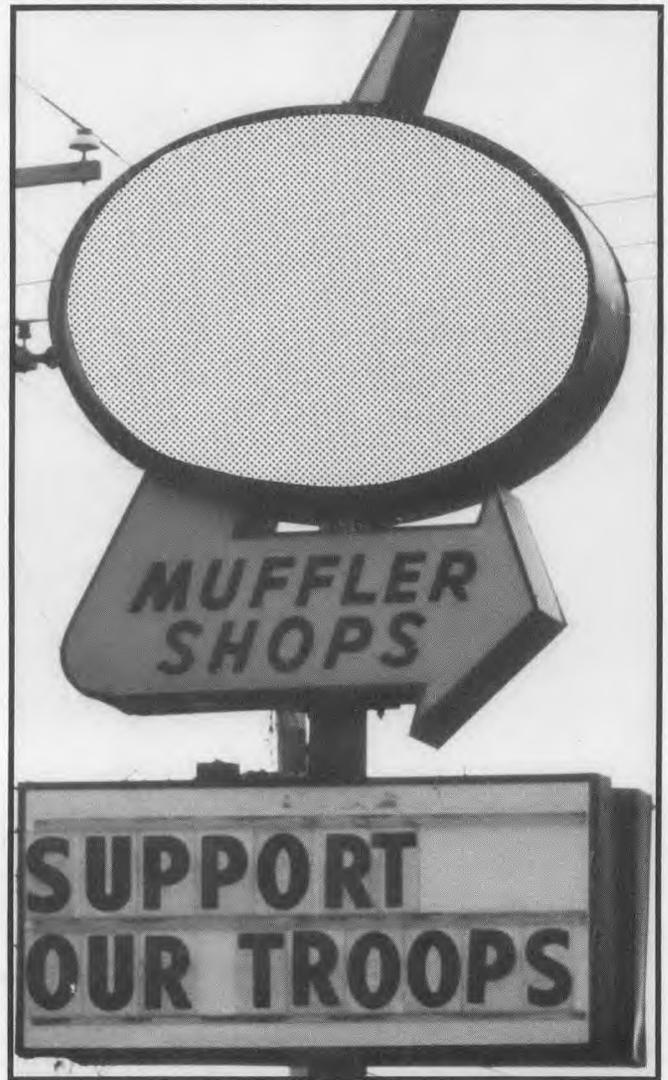
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Commanding Officer	Col. Peter Pace
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## *From the Secretary of the Navy*

To all the men and women of the Navy and Marine Corps, well done. With skill, with courage, and an awe-inspiring degree of dedication, you have helped crush a maniacal aggressor and helped to make a safer, more peaceful world. You have earned many times over the utmost respect and gratitude of free peoples everywhere. Your performance has been simply superb.

Our hearts go out to those who made the supreme sacrifice on behalf of freedom and justice. They gave their lives so that others may live a more hopeful future: they will not be forgotten.

For those who remain on duty far from home, rest assured that you have the continued and unstinting support of your government and your Navy/Marine Corps leadership.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I congratulate you and thank you all. May God bless each of you and your families.

*- H. Lawrence Garrett III*



*During and since Operation Desert Shield Storm, the Washington D.C. area has shown its support for American forces. (USMC Photos by Cpl. Robert L. Suter)*

## Quantico Commissary Pads Hours for Impaired

MCCDC, Quantico Commissary opens one-half hour prior to normal operating hours to allow physically handicapped patrons easier access.

The early opening will provide unobstructed shopping prior to the actual opening of the Commissary store. However, the cash registers will remain closed until

the Commissary actually opens for business.

For more information, see the store manager or call (703) 640-2476

## Navy/Marine Relief Drive Coming Soon

The Navy/ Marine Corps Relief Society has scheduled its 1991 fund drive May 4 through June 6. This year's theme is "Caring, Commitment, Compassion." The society helps Marines, sailors and their families worldwide.

## Beware of Hoax Calls for Funds

Headquarters, Marine Corps has received queries concerning solicitations by people claiming to represent the Marine Corps League. These callers ask for cash donations to support Marines in Operation Desert Storm.

The Marine Corps League is NOT conducting a Desert Storm fund-raising drive. Local chapters may be conducting drives for other specific programs, but not Desert Storm.

## IRS Outlines Tax Breaks for Desert Storm Forces

*Last month, "Pass in Review" published tax information for servicemembers in the Persian Gulf and their families. The following, compiled from Naval messages and AFIS releases, is the latest filing information available at press time.*

Personnel in the combat zone who expect a 1990 tax refund and do not want to take advantage of the 180-day automatic filing extension are requested by the Internal Revenue Service to write the words "Desert Storm" atop their filing forms and envelope. This will expedite processing of the refund. Anyone preparing a return on behalf of someone in the zone should write the words as well.

Those who are expecting a refund and choose to use the extension are entitled to 10 percent interest per annum on their refund. Interest will begin accrual April 15.

Combat zone servicemembers who receive, or who have received, notices from the IRS regarding tax collection or examination matters are

advised by the IRS to return the form marked "Desert Storm." No further action will be needed until notification by the IRS at a later date.

It isn't necessary for zone servicemembers to get a special power of attorney specifically authorizing someone to file a tax return on their behalf. The IRS has simplified the requirements, and will now accept a general power of attorney or a statement signed by the combat zone servicemember authorizing someone to file the return.

IRS officials recommend IRS Publication 3, "Tax Information for Military Personnel," to help Desert Storm servicemembers better understand both single and joint filing procedures. To receive the brochure, call (800) 829-3676, or write:

**Internal Revenue Service  
Forms Distribution Center  
PO Box 25866  
Richmond, VA 23289**

For assistance, contact the Barracks Adjutant Office or call the IRS at (800) 829-1040.

# Congressional Bill to Help Marines, Sailors Financially

## Changes mean hundreds of dollars for combat and non-combat servicemembers

**NNS --** There's good news for sea servicemembers and families in the Desert Storm Supplemental Authorization Bill approved by Congress and awaiting signature by the President. It will mean hundreds of dollars in retroactive payments for those who served in Southwest Asia, Increased GI bill benefits for all eligible servicemembers and veterans, and special aid for reserves recalled to active duty for Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

"This legislation has something for lots of people," Vice Admiral Mike Boorda, Chief of Naval Personnel said. "It's a tangible expression of thanks from the administration, Congress and the American public."

Included in the package is a \$40 a month increase in imminent danger pay (IDP) from \$110 to \$150. This is retroactive to Aug. 1, 1990, and effective until 180 days after hostilities in Southwest Asia end. A \$15 per month increase in family separation allowance (FSA) is retroactive to Jan. 15, 1991. These temporary increases apply to all service members eligible for these payments, including those who are entitled to IDP and FSA for operations not directly related to desert shield or desert storm.

For all eligible servicemembers and veterans, Montgomery G.I. bill education benefits will increase from \$300 to \$350 monthly for those who serve three years or longer on active duty; from \$250 to \$275 a month for those serving two years on active duty; and from \$140 to \$170 a month for reservists who qualify for the benefits.

Also for reservists, there are bonuses for health care professionals, federal student loan payment and BAQ and VHA authorization for single reservists who maintain a private residence away from their permanent duty station. The legislation also gives reserve members serving on active duty for Desert Shield and Desert Storm 45 days of post-demobilization medical benefits.

Other benefits include a permanent increase in servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) coverage from the old \$50,000 limit to a new \$100,000 maximum. In addition, the \$3,000 death gratuity payment to survivors of service members who die while on active duty will be doubled to \$6,000. Like SGLI, the increase will apply retroactive to deaths since August, if the deaths occurred in Southwest Asian operations or Hostilities elsewhere.

The package also delays from April 1 to October 1, the increase in deductible under CHAMPUS for families of members deployed during the crisis. Their deductible will remain at the current \$50 per person, or \$150 per family. Families of servicemembers not deployed during the Persian Gulf Crisis will see their CHAMPUS deductibles increase after April 1 to \$150 per person and \$300 per family.

Some earlier proposals were not included in this package of benefits approved by Congress, including an increase in the amount of officer pay exempted of federal income tax for those in Desert Storm.

## **NAS Patuxent River to Host Blue Angels Flight Team**

The 22nd Annual Naval Air Station Patuxent River Air Show and Open House is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., May 25. Called "Air Expo '91," the show will feature the Blue Angels Navy Flight Demonstration Team, as well as several civilian performances.

NAS Patuxent River is located approximately 60 miles south of Washington D.C. Bicycles, skateboards, glass containers and pets are prohibited from the exhibit and show areas, and alcoholic beverages are not to be brought aboard the air station.

The public is invited to a Meet the Performers Party in the Cedar Point Officers' Club at 6 p.m., May 24. For Air Expo '91 updates, call (301) 862-7517. For Meet the Performers Party information, call (301) 863-3510.

## *Barracks Passes 190 Years Since Selection of Site Without Fanfare*

It was March 31, 1801, when newly inaugurated President Thomas Jefferson rode out with Lieutenant Colonel William Burrows, the second Commandant, to locate a site for the Marine Barracks "within easy marching distance of the Capitol Building."

When completed, the early 19th century barracks was arranged in a quadrangle located at square 927 in Southeast Washington D.C. Today it is bound by "G" and "I" streets and 8th and 9th streets. The buildings serve a similar purpose today as they did almost two centuries ago. The areas on the south and east sides were used for offices, maintenance facilities and living quarters for the troops, and the officers lived in a building on the west side.

The Home of the Commandants is the only original building still standing as it was in the 19th century. It was one of the few buildings not burned by the British when they sacked the Capitol in 1814. The house now holds the title as the "oldest public building in continuous use in the nation's capital."



*The Silent Drill Team first performed in 1948 as a one-time event. Today the Silent Drill Team entertains thousands annually. (USMC Photo by Cpl. Brian T. Thompson)*

Both the barracks site and the Home of the Commandants were designated as "National Historic Places" by the U.S. Department of the Interior in March 1973. In 1976, the Home of the Commandants and the Barracks were redesignated as National Historic Landmarks by the Department of the Interior.

The Marine Barracks is the home of the U.S. Marine Band, the Silent Drill Team and the U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps.

Every President except George Washington has heard the music of the Marine Band and all have expressed enthusiastic support for the Band's work. The band made it's White House debut on New Years Day, 1801, at a reception given by President John Adams. In March of 1801, it played for Thomas Jefferson's inauguration. Jefferson was a great admirer and supporter of the band. He has been called the "godfather" of the Marine Band, and it was he who gave the

# CELEBRATION



*The BEQ's (top) were constructed for Barracks Marines in 1973. A mound of dirt (at left) stands in stark contrast to the bell from the USS Samuel Nicholas and the Home of Commandants, in this 1984 photo taken during parade deck construction. (USMC Photo)*

Marine Band the title of "The President's Own." Since that time, the band has played for each Presidential inauguration.

The U.S. Drum and Bugle Corps was formed in 1934 to support various ceremonies at "The Oldest Post of the Corps." Since its inception, it has grown in size and popularity. Commonly referred to as the "Commandant's Own," the unit is comprised of performers recruited from various civilian drum corps and marching bands, as well as from other musical units within the Marine Corps.

The Barracks Silent Drill Team first performed in 1948 as a single performance, but received such a tremendous ovation that it soon became part of the Evening and Sunset parade performances. Today the Silent Drill team performs for

thousands of spectators annually, both in the United States and abroad.

Today, the primary mission of the Barracks is to provide a light infantry battalion and perform ceremonies as directed. The Barracks Evening Parade and Sunset Parade are undoubtedly the two best known ceremonies conducted by the Barracks. Of equal importance, however, are the numerous joint service ceremonies performed. These include Armed Forces Full Honors Arrivals, Departures and Wreath Ceremonies at the White House, Pentagon, and Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington National Cemetery. Currently, Barracks Marines participate in hundreds of ceremonies annually.

The Barracks has performed military reviews and ceremonies

dating back to its earliest beginnings. The present day Evening Parade was first conducted on July 5, 1957. Presidential inaugurations and specific occasions prompted the parades and ceremonies conducted at the Barracks during the early 1800s. The traditional reveille and morning muster parades were conducted with varying frequency at the post, and they eventually resulted in more formalized ceremonies.

On November 10, 1954, the 179th birthday of the United States Marine Corps, a bronze monument modeled after the famous photo of the flag raising on Mount Suribachi, was unveiled near the Arlington National Cemetery. President Dwight D. Eisenhower dedicated the Iwo Jima War Memorial to all Marines who had died to keep their country free. Since September 1956, the marching and musical units from Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C. have been paying homage to those whose "uncommon valor was a common virtue," by presenting Sunset Parades in the shadow of

the 32-foot-high figures of the Iwo Jima.

Throughout the year, a delicate balance between ceremonial and military skills training is maintained. Barracks Marines continue to train for ceremonial functions and develop combat and occupational skills which will serve them well in future assignments to Fleet Marine Force units.

For 190 years, the Barracks has been a symbol of professionalism, discipline, and esprit de corps of the United States Marines.

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**Story compiled by  
LCpl. Valerie Stroschein**

# TIPS FOR AVOIDING A BUMPY HOMECOMING

**"Pass in Review" welcomes back all Barracks Marines who recently returned from Southwest Asia. Here are some tips from the Henderson Hall Family Service Center for a smooth transition as you joyfully reunite with your loved ones.**

1. Expect your spouse to be different. If they change, you're prepared.
2. Expect him to find you've changed. He will find that you're more independent, and he may not like it.
3. Expect your spouse to be a little bit hurt that you've managed



so well without him. He will need reassurance.

4. Expect him to want to be babied by you. Your spouse has the crazy idea that he had the hardship and not you. Most people have to deal with the "spoiled husband." Be patient! Discuss behavior you don't ap-

preciate in a positive manner. Suggest change, but be willing to change yourself.

5. Expect him to want to celebrate his return with a spending spree. If you can't afford it, hold tight to the purse strings.

6. Expect that it'll take about six weeks to adjust to one another again. If you're not getting along well by the end of the sixth week, perhaps you should both get counseling help.

7. Expect your spouse to be a little messy. Pick up behind him and gently remind him that he is home and you have certain standards for neatness and cleanliness.

8. Expect him to be somewhat rough in their manners, courtesies, and speech. He has been with Marines for a long time. He has picked up some bad habits. Don't overreact! Simply point out

to him in a non-accusing manner that

you would prefer he improve his behavior around you and the children. It may take some time, so be considerate.

9. Expect him to be emotionally distant for a while. Remember your spouse has been with other Marines for several months and

little affection or emotion has been displayed. He is coming from a hard environment into a loving and warm environment.

10. Expect him to be different. Coping with separation changed him into a more independent, more self-reliant person. He will never be quite as depend-

ent upon you again. Some spouses interpret this competence to mean: "He/she doesn't need me anymore," but being able to do without someone is not the same as wanting to do without that person. Be proud that he has managed so well in your absence. Tell him how proud you are. He needs reassurance!

11. Expect him to find you've changed. he may find your single ways hard to take. He may find you messy and inattentive to family schedules.

12. Expect him to be apprehensive about his expenditures. He will want to know you approve of how he has handled financial affairs.

13. Expect him to get mad if you plunge right into your "parent role," changing rules and regulations with the kids. He feels that he has done a good job with the kids, and he will want you to work back into your role gradually.

14. Expect your spouse to want some romantic, pampered treatment. He will be hoping you've brought him a gift. Realistically speaking, he had the hardship tour, not you.

15. Expect to want to spend a lot of time just sitting and talking with you. You have missed intimate conversation more than anything else during the separation.

16. Expect that he may want to keep on managing the family money. Money is power, and he may not want to relinquish that power.

17. Expect her to vent some anger and resentment if she has lived in miserable conditions during the separation (for instance, if she has lived with relatives she doesn't like.)

18. Expect her to be a little bit envious of your travels. You need a vacation. Get someone to stay with the kids and take her on a second honeymoon. After all, you're starting marriage all over again!

# CMC: *'I have never felt more privileged to share the title MARINE...'*

Two years ago, in our report to the Congress and the nation, your Commandant stated that he had been entrusted with a corps built upon a strong foundation and that no Commandant had ever assumed stewardship of a Marine Corps comprised of better people or equipped with more modern arms and equipment. Today, as the entire world bears witness to the unequivocal validity of that assessment, my report to you -- our total force corps of Marines: I have never felt more privileged to share the title MARINE, and I have never been more proud to be your Commandant.

To our Marines and sailors in Southwest Asia: in an extraordinarily complex theater of operations, you have not only proven America's resolve to categorically reject unprovoked aggression, but have reaffirmed that our nation's investment in her Navy/Marine Corps team stands on unbeatable grounds. Congratulations on your flawless execution of Operation Desert Shield and on the superb results you achieved during Operation Desert Storm. Indeed, you have marched to the sound of thunder with the distinction, courage, dedication and willingness to sacrifice that America has come to expect from her premier force in readiness. History shall amply record your success; we salute you who made it happen!

The enormous success of our campaign in the Persian Gulf could not have been possible without all supporting structures and all who man them. To all those involved in supporting Desert Shield and Desert Storm, a special thank you and well done.

Since the beginning of the deployment of our forces to the Persian Gulf, Marines worldwide have been beckoning with unbridled enthusiasm to join the operation. We not only appreciated that enthusiasm, we shared it. However, we are by mandate, a corps with global responsibilities. As such, Marines, sailors and civilian employees continued to serve with exceptional dedication outside Southwest Asia, ensuring that we truly remain a flexible military force that possesses a wide range of capabilities and aggregate usefulness. To each of you, know that you have done what must be done; and done it well.



As we pause to take note of our historic success during Operation Desert Storm, let us not forget those who endured the hardships of separation, uncertainties of war and the emotional cruelties of a madman -- our families. We could not have done so well on the battlefield without their support at home. We thank them for their courage

and support.

Finally, let us never forget those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Persian Gulf. For with their untimely deaths, we lost a part of ourselves and our corps. Our special thoughts and prayers are with their families and loved ones. We take comfort in knowing that they have joined that long list of soldiers of the sea who have paid the ultimate sacrifice so that others could be free.

As always: take care of yourselves, take care of each other, God bless and Semper Fidelis.

- General A.M. Gray

# DESERT

## *Company 'A' Marines Reinforce 2d MarDiv in Persian Gulf*

**SAUDI ARABIA** -- Following its historic Dec. 27 departure from Marine Barracks, Washington D.C., Company "A" arrived here New Year's Day.

The commandant told us at our Marine Corps birthday (ceremony) that we might deploy to Saudi," said 1stLt. Daniel P. Monahan, a platoon commander with Company "A." "The Barracks hadn't deployed since 1906,



**Lance Cpl. Bershon Walker, of Company 'A' sits in his fighting hole with his M-16A2 propped in the Saudi sand.**

for action in Cuba, but we were psyched for it."

"I was surprised we were deploying," said LCpl. Bershon Walker, himself a veteran of two parade seasons at Washington. "But we were pretty motivated. After all, we are grunts."

The deployed company prepared for its duties here, which currently include providing security for the command element of 2d Marine Division, prior to its departure from the United States, according to Monahan.

"We have regularly conducted training at Quantico or nearby Army installations in Virginia," Monahan said. "It's not uncommon for our Marines to get back from a field exercise, change into their (dress) blues and put on a parade.

**LCpl. Bershon Walker and another Co. 'A' Marine prepare their fighting hole in Saudi Arabia.**

"(Barracks) Marines here are not all pomp and circumstance," continued the platoon commander, from his horseshoe-shaped pit in the Saudi Desert. "When I came here from 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, I was expecting a ceremonial unit first, and grunts second - but I found just the opposite."

The company, sans dress blues, finds life here different, Walker said. "This deployment puts new meaning into the phrase 'night and day.' Before, it was spit and polish, now it's sand and dust. But, in a way, it's a nice break from the Barracks routine."

Marines in the company, whose sunsets aren't spent on the parade deck, but in fighting holes on the perimeter, also conduct observation and listening post operations, security patrols and training during the day to help prepare them for future missions.

**Story and photos by  
Sgt. Earnie Grafton,  
I Marine Expeditionary Force**



# VICTORY!

## 2d Marine Division Storms Into Kuwait, Slams Iraqis

**KUWAIT CITY, Feb. 27** -- To some it may have been an ominous sign; a black cloud from burning oil fields drifted south over 2d Marine Division.

It was not a signal of impending doom, but the last dark days of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

Poised on the border, the division sat ready to unleash a violent assault that would end four days later with a sunrise over liberated Kuwait.

Under cover of darkness, tanks, AAVs, LAVs and artillery moved into position. Despite the flow of adrenaline, Marines huddled against the night wind to grab a few hours of sleep, not knowing what morning would bring.

Morning revealed a scene reminiscent of the Charge of the Light Brigade. Spearheaded by the heavily reinforced 6th Marine Regiment, the division braved enemy artillery fire and sliced through two minefields before engaging the first Iraqi positions.

As 1st Battalion, 6th Marines entered a breach in the Iraqi minefields, the U.S. Army Psychological Operations Team attached to the regiment provided unsolicited inspiration. Amidst sounds of tracked vehicles and artillery rounds exploding, the Marines' Hymn blared from loudspeakers mounted atop the team's vehicle.

Perhaps the most remarkable and welcome sight during the initial stages of the fight was the hoard of enemy prisoners of war surrendering to lead elements. The accuracy of fire and speed with which the attack was conducted

overwhelmed the enemy forces, and some surrendered en masse.

By the end of the first day, the entire division was consolidated in an area north of the Umm Gudiar Oil Fields in central Kuwait. The 6th Marines were joined by 8th Marines, as well as 1st Brigade, 2nd Armored Division (known as the Tiger Brigade), which provided 2d MarDiv with an added punch that included M1-A1 tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles and Multiple Rocket Launch Systems.

On day two, the division moved north on-line, continuing to engage the Iraqi defenders and taking prisoners, which by now were numbering in the thousands.

A final push on Feb. 26 took the division just south of the city of Al Jahra. Backed by artillery fire from

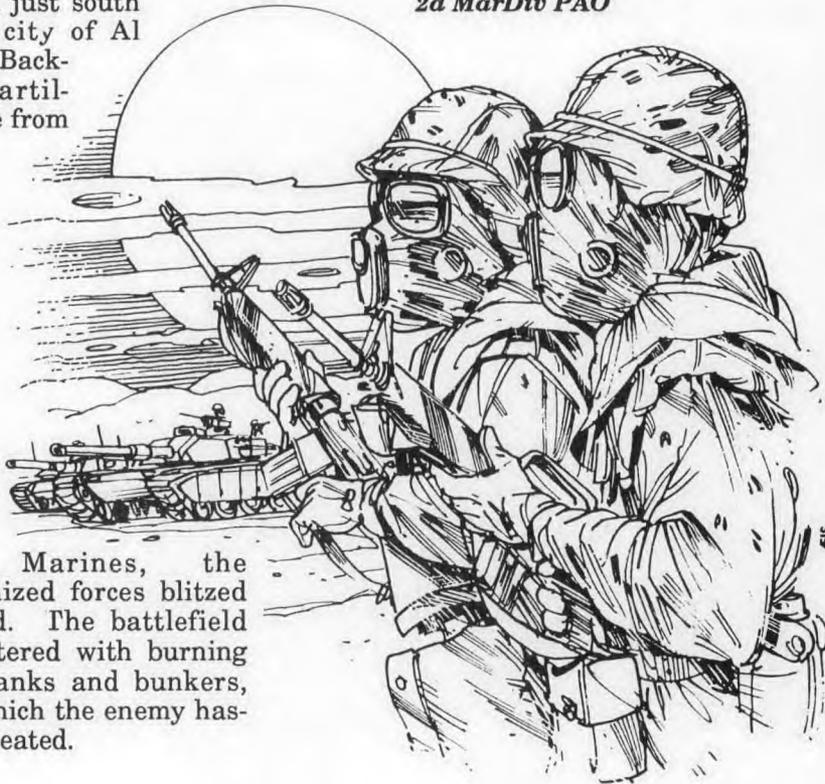
10th Marines, the mechanized forces blitzed forward. The battlefield was littered with burning Iraqi tanks and bunkers, from which the enemy hastily retreated.

On the morning of Feb. 27, Marines guarding the east-west road leading to Kuwait city observed Kuwaiti forces reentering the city. Throngs of people rushed to the roadside from the shanty towns in which they had been forced to hide for six months.

The long column of armored vehicles couldn't drown out the chants of freedom. Worn Kuwaiti flags began appearing, and Marines were offered anything from camels to hot tea by the appreciative crowd.

Off to the side, some distance from the commotion, a lone Marine sat atop his "Humvee," his MK-19 40mm grenade launcher at the ready. The image was compelling. The sun momentarily burst through the clouds, throwing light on a land that was once again free.

*Story by  
Capt. Scott Campbell  
2d MarDiv PAO*



# FEATURE



# Company 'A' Homecoming

Company "A" Marines were welcomed back from the Gulf by family and friends. One group arrived very early April 1, and the other arrived that evening. While deployed, they provided security for the 2d Marine Division, which was one of the units to plunge into Kuwait and secure Kuwait City.

*Pictured clockwise from right: A child awaits the company's return. Company 'A' Commander, Capt. Bryan P. McCoy, presents his command in formation. LCpl. Frederick C. Teckmyer IV enjoys a warm reception. LCpl. Gregory D. Hite shows off his personalized welcome home card. McCoy Leads his Marines back through the Barracks gates. (USMC Photos by Capt. Cathy Engels and Cpl. Brian Thompson)*





## Drill Team Makes TV Appearance on 'Major Dad'

*Rifle inspector doubles for star on the all Marine show*

This year's annual West Coast spring Battle Color Tour went on as scheduled, but with a little more excitement added to it.

A call came from Hollywood in early January asking the Silent Drill Team to perform on an episode of "Major Dad," and that one Marine on the team was needed to perform as a double for show star Gerald McRaney.

Corporal Lance W. Frederick was eventually selected for the part

on the April 8 episode of the weekly, all-Marine show.

"We submitted photographs of possible doubles on the drill team, and I was the one who looked most similar to the major," said Frederick, the number one rifle inspector on the team.

The 23-year-old Lubbock, Texas native was McRaney's double for some of the more advanced drill movements.

"I was also given a small speaking part on the show. I walked into the office with the general and was introduced to the major and gunny," said Frederick. "Not too many people get an opportunity like that."

Prior to any filming, McRaney traveled to

*Gerald McRaney catches a rifle during the filming of 'Major Dad.'*

MCAS Yuma, Ariz., to learn some basic drill movements from the drill team Marines. Then Frederick left for Hollywood March 5, and a small clip was filmed the next day. The scene was filmed in three takes.

McRaney, who portrays Maj. McGillis on the show, and his crew trekked to MCAS El Toro, Calif., on March 7, to film the remainder of the scenes.

"We spent eight-and-a-half hours filming that day in blue/whites. The Silent Drill Team performed their normal routine while Drum and Bugle Corps Marines acted as onlookers watching the performance," said Frederick. "It was an exciting experience, I don't think I'll ever forget it. I never thought that just doing my job would entail something like this."

*Story by  
LCpl. Valerie Stroschein and  
Cpl. Thomas J. LaPointe*



**ABOVE:** McRaney inspects the line during filming. **RIGHT:** Frederick shows McRaney some rifle movements prior to filming. (USMC Photo by Maj. Jerry Broekert)



# Battle Color Det. Makes Annual West Coast Tour

Members of the Battle Color Detachment toured the West Coast from February 28 through March 11, as part of their annual tour schedule.

The detachment, which includes the Silent Drill Team, Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and Marine Corps Color Guard, put on a total of 16 shows. The



tour followed three weeks of practice at MCAS Yuma, Ariz., for their tour shows and the upcoming parade season.

While on tour, the detachment performed for audiences at installations in California, Arizona and Texas. Performances in Arizona included one at the Phoenix Grand Prix.

Operation Desert Storm seemed to bring out the patriotism of the spectators, according to Marines on the tour.

"While performing our second show in Yuma, 'America the Beautiful' played and the crowd stood, waved American flags and sang. It was an exhilarating experience," said LCpl. Michael Rossi, a member of the Drum and Bugle Corps. "I felt really proud to be an American."

"At Camp Pendleton, the stands were filled with Marines in cammies, and everywhere we went, the children treated us like stars," said LCpl. Diamond Farrar, a member of the Silent Drill Team, and a Washington, D.C. native.

The detachment's last performance was at Marine Military Academy, Harlingen, Texas.

"It's amazing how much patriotism can be found in the younger generation of people. They were already applauding before we played our first note," said LCpl. Peter D'Hondt, a native of Port Richey, Florida who plays soprano bugle in the Drum and Bugle Corps.

The tour helped prepare the Marines for this year's parade season, which begins in May.

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**Story by**  
**LCpl. Valerie Stroschein**

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**SSgt. Robert S. Garcas Jr., of the Drum and Bugle Corps, performs a solo during the closing number at MCAS Yuma, Ariz. (USMC Photo by LCpl. Derek Phillips)**

# Marines of Co. 'B' Brave Cold During Live-fire Training Op.



MCCDC, QUANTICO, Va. -- Football season is still months away, but the run-and-shoot offense is alive and well in Company "B" - literally. Seventy-five of these leather-necks battled snow and bone-chilling temperatures as they honed fire team tactics during recent live-fire training here.

The two-day training afforded each Marine an opportunity to assault objectives using live ammunition. Though the evolution was closely supervised for safety reasons, fire team leaders were afforded an opportunity to call the shots during each of two assaults. The Marines gained experience in both a frontal and flanking attack.

"This kind of training is a great opportunity for (the Marines)," said Capt. Patrick G. Looney, Company "B" commanding officer. He explained that the training objective was to practice the "nuts and bolts mechanics of fire team offensive combat, and practice live-fire attacks."

Every team made a dry run on the positions before going through live. They practiced cover and concealment, safe handling of weapons and individual rushes. After a thorough critique from their platoon commanders, the teams "locked and loaded" with live ammo and headed out from the line of departure for the real thing.

"I didn't expect the training to be this good," said LCpl. Erasno Valadez, a team leader from San Antonio, Texas. "Even though we complained about the cold, we forgot about the weather and got into the training when it was our turn to attack."

***LCpl. Michael D. Cavenah rushes a position during a practice run for live fire and maneuver.***

The cold Valadez was talking about intensified the second day, when three inches of snow fell in less than four hours. It turned what was a desert-like setting into a winter wonderland which froze toes and drenched those Marines not in wet weather attire.

Teamwork became more and more noticeable as teams completed the course and honed timing and communication. While other teams were conducting their attacks, teams waiting their turn observed their peers' errors and discussed ways of avoiding them. What began as a smattering of gunfire at times in the early going, evolved into steady, coordinated cover-fire, with rushes called and carried out with the timing and precision of a high-performance engine.



**LEFT:** PFC Maurice D. Haughton takes aim with a SAW while making a practice assault with his fire team.

**BELOW:** Fire team leader LCpl. Marvin C. Moses (on right) gets an ammo report from LCpl. Lee T. Comtois during the consolidation portion of an assault rehearsal.





"It was my first time (live) firing with the newer Marines," said LCpl. Marvin C. Moses, a Youngstown, Ohio, native who leads a squad in the body bearer section. "As we got more comfortable working together, we became comfortable with our individual mission."

Looney explained to one group of Marines that communication is vital between Marines and it is up to them as individuals to adjust when they are rushing to maintain a coordinated attack. After the cold experience was over, he said he was pleased with the performance of his Marines.

Looney said he'd be happy when his Marines can train with live rounds at the squad level. "One of our goals is to train Marines for the Fleet, Marine Force, and we'll spend whatever time it takes to accomplish this."

Spring training is yet to begin for pro football players, but with Company "B's" commitment to combat readiness, the run-and-shoot offense remains a viable and deadly threat to any potential battlefield adversary.



**TOP:** PFC William J. Blackwell III charges a position with his SAW during training at Quantico.

**CENTER:** Team leader LCpl. David L. Mayes (left) shouts commands to PFC Robert A. Alanis as another of his Marines makes a rush.

**BOTTOM:** LCpl. Marvin C. Moses (left) and LCpl. Michael D. Cavenah warm up with a hot cup of coffee during a break from live fire training in the cold.



**Story and photos by**  
Cpl. Thomas J. LaPointe

## PADDLE POWER

Company "B" Marines paddle their Zodiac boats through waters of the Chesapeake Bay during recent training at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Va. Their two-and-a-half day training package included classes on raid skills, history and organization. While participating, the Marines practiced ship-to-shore movement, obstacle breaching, squad assaults on a fortified position and a night raid. (Photos courtesy of Company "B")



## Marching Company

During the deployment of Company "A," Company "B" filled the gaps, carrying out all ceremonial and marching commitments. Here, Capt. Steven B. Weinberg, 3d platoon commander, leads his Marines in a recent parade. (USMC Photo by Cpl. Robert L. Suter)





*Barracks personnel train with Marines from other commands to meet S-3 qualification requirements. Here they jump from a 15-foot tower.*

## *Barracks Marines Prepare for Amphibious Role With Swim Requalifications*

While crossing terrain on a patrol in full field gear, it is very possible to approach a water obstacle too deep to wade across. Without a raft or trees to lay across the obstacle, the Marine is at a loss, or is he? Complete with a pack, rifle, flak jacket and 782 gear, even the weaker swimmers can cross deep water obstacles.

The Marine Corps is an amphibious organization. In this aspect, just as every Marine is a basic rifleman, each Marine should be a basic swimmer.

"The question now is not 'can you swim', but 'can you survive?'" said Sgt. Robert Cornelius, Marine Combat Instructor of Water Survival in Quantico.

According to Cornelius, most personal field equipment used by Marines floats and can be used as a life preserver. This enables weaker swimmers to overcome water obstacles with less struggle.

On Friday, February 22, Marines from H&S and MCI companies enhanced their swimming skills with this new program in Quantico.

Before this program started two years ago, to qualify S3 (Swimmer Third-Class), a Marine would enter the water from a height of five feet, tread water for a minimum of five minutes and swim a distance of 50 yards.

There are five levels of swim qualification, including Marine Combat Instructor of Water Survival (MCIWS).

To qualify as an S3, Marines must lower themselves into the shallow end of the pool, complete with full field gear, and walk across the width of the pool and back to get used to the buoyancy of the equipment. Next, he rests back on his pack and bicycles the width of the pool. A breast stroke and side stroke conclude the first part of S3.

In the second half, Marines learn how to exit the pool at the deep end with full field gear. The Marines then jump from a platform three feet above the surface garbed in flak jackets, full packs, rifles and utilities. Once in the water, they remove their packs, place their rifles on top and swim the length of the pool.

Field gear is then removed and the Marines approach a 15-foot high platform, jump and swim the length of the pool.

This is just the beginning challenge for Marines to qualify. From there, much more difficult obstacles have to be met for the more experienced swimmers.

To qualify S2, a Marine simulates getting his or her wounded buddy across a water obstacle. The swim begins with a 25 meter tow, with some assistance from the

wounded victim. After the injured Marine is safely across, the swimmer crosses the water and retrieves both packs and rifles. Then he completes a 50 meter swim with a flak jacket, helmet, 782 gear and a rifle.

The next step is qualifying Combat Water Survival 1 (CWS1). To be qualified at this level, the Marine first treads water for five minutes, kicks off his boots and treads water for another 55 minutes. Next, he or she swims a 25 meter side stroke, back stroke and elementary stroke. Then the Marine is challenged with a 25

meter under water swim, simulating oil on the surface. A minimum of two breath exchanges and a maximum of four must be completed using the proper splash technique.

The final steps in CWS1 is an inflated utility blouse and trouser float without boots. The Marine must then tow a victim unassisted for 25 meters. To conclude this qualification level, a 30 minute float and 250 meter swim must be performed.

The next qualification level is Water Survival Qualification (WSQ). This qualification begins

with a 15 foot power drop with full gear and a 25 meter swim. In utilities, the Marine then completes a five minute tread, kicks boots off and treads water for another 55 minutes. A 500 meter swim of any stroke to complete WSQ.

The highest level of swim qualification is Marine Combat Instructor of Water Survival (MCIWS). To meet all the requirements for this level, Marines must complete a three-week school. Just as drill instructors and recruiters, MCIWS is a B billet under MOS 8563. Marines who complete MCIWS training are taken out of their MOS for 18 months to teach water survival to other Marines.

"This program was put together very carefully. A member of the American Red Cross showed the instructors proper stroke techniques as well as cardiopulmonary resuscitation," said Cornelius. "We've been able to qualify even Marines who never swam in their lives. Here, we train lieutenants going through OCS. Each lieutenant has to qualify at least S2. Since I've been an instructor here, there have been approximately 22,000 lieutenants qualify. There have only been two that I've seen not qualify CWS1," he continued.

"A Marine will be required to qualify at different levels, depending on his MOS. MOS will also determine how often he will be required to qualify," said Cornelius.

This program is currently being implemented at recruit training commands, Officer Candidate School (OCS) and other bases across the country.

The Marine Corps is ultimately a force in readiness. As an amphibious unit, the more we become familiar with water obstacles and how to overcome them, the more efficiently we will be able to complete the missions we are tasked with.



*Top photo: Sgt. Louis C. Curry (left) and LCpl. Timothy Diamond, both of H&S Co., enter the water clad in buoyant field equipment during swim re-qualifications.*



*At left: LCpl. Timothy Diamond uses the flotation capability of field gear to help keep him afloat.*

**Story and photos by  
LCpl. Valerie A. Stroschein**

# The Healing of a Nation

**I**n the last number of months our minds have been flooded with the images from television and newsprint of burning oil wells, destroyed buildings, broken-down tanks and artillery pieces, oil-polluted waters and scores of reports of looted and damaged homes and businesses. Regardless of who wins in any conflict, both sides must launch a great rebuilding effort in their own country to restore the physical, economic and ecological health of the nation, or else become vulnerable to unwanted outside interference or internal unrest.



Likewise, there may be casualties of war the public may never hear of. These casualties take the form of damage or injury to the family/marriage due to periods of separation, stress and uncertainty, or fear. Birthdays of children, wedding anniversaries and holiday events are only a few of life's celebrations our people have sacrificed for duty.

Let us launch a strong effort to help rebuild the wounds of war unseen by the eye. I admit these are harder to measure or quantify, but (rebuilding them) is just as necessary in order to restore our people to wholeness.

Along with this challenge to work, let me share a promise of the prophet Ezekiel:

***"The waste places shall be builded, and the land that was desolate is become like the Garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are fortified and inhabited. Then the nations that are left round about you shall know that I, Jehova, have builded the ruined places."***

*-- Ezekiel 36: 33-36*

Now is the time for rebuilding. And in this rebuilding we will have stronger families and marriages because we have endured this crisis together. We have received our loved ones with pride and joy. So, "let us run with the patience the course that is set before us," in the healing of our nation and our loved ones.

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***Lt. Paul R. Deaton CHC, USN***

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"No. 'Two feet deep' is not the same as 'two meters deep.'"

# CAREER PLANNING CORNER

*The Future is in Your Hands*

## FROM THE CAREER PLANNER'S OFFICE

*Corporals are now eligible for recruiting and drill instructor duty.*

**Requisites for drill instructor duty:**

- A. Be recommended
- B. Two years time-in-grade
- C. Four years time-in-service
- D. 4.6 Pro/Con average
- E. Completed NCO School
- F. No more than two dependents
- G. Pass screening

**Requisites for recruiting duty:**

- A. Be recommended
- B. Have fleet time
- C. Pass screening

*Marine Security Guard volunteers needed for class 4-91. Lance corporals through master gunnery sergeants may apply.*

*See the career planner for a performance evaluation folders (fitreps).*

**REMEMBER - fitness reports are your responsibility!**

