

Pass in Review

Serving "The Oldest Post of the Corps"

April 1996



**Col. Truman W.
Crawford
receives Legion
of Merit**

Concepts and Issues: Where do we stand? •USO: Family and Friends



March 15, 1996

Dear Colonel Dotterer,

Thanks once again for your support of the Semper Fidelis Dinner. We were honored by the presence of the Color Guard. It's amazing how their first step brings silence to the room. The Color Guard of Corporal A. Grayson, Lance Corporals, J. Osborne and K. Momon, and Private First Class C. Kroome, was superb!

This year you went the "extra mile" for us by providing transportation for our fellow Marines from Albany. The Albany band members were very impressed with the consideration they received and very grateful for the opportunity to visit the Marines of your command and the Barracks. Please extend our gratitude to Gunnery Sergeant Clark for arranging lunch for the band during their visit. Also convey to Master Sergeant Hickmott our appreciation for coordinating all of the services you so willingly provided.

With best wishes for your continued success and good health, I am

**Sincerely,
Carl E. Mundy, Jr.
Chairman**

Public Affairs Office
Marine Barracks
8th & I Sts, S.E.
Washington, D.C.
20390-5000
(202) 433-4173

Commanding Officer
Col. David G. Dotterrer

Public Affairs Officer
CWO-2 Joseph C. Boyer

Editors
LCpl. Jerry D. Pierce Jr.
LCpl. Chance D. Puma

Press Chief
Cpl. Patrick E. Franklin



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On the Cover

Col. Truman W. Crawford, Commanding Officer and Director, United States Marine Drum and Bugle was awarded a Legion of Merit for outstanding service from Feb. 1984 to Oct. 1995. The award was presented by LtGen. George R. Christmas during the 195th Birthday Ceremony for Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

Pass in Review

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April 1996

Number 4

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Setting the

by Col. David

Now that the parade season is about to begin I thought it would be appropriate to provide a few thoughts on excellence and perfection and what they should mean to 8th & I Marines. Stay with me on this as I first need to give you some background thoughts before I provide my main point.

First, as I was sitting down to write this, the Commandant published one of his periodic ALMARs on leadership. Coincidentally, the subject was excellence. Let me begin then by quoting from him:

"Excellence doesn't just appear in our lives; it must be learned and practiced. Marines must demand excellence in themselves and require excellence from one another. Aristotle said, 'We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.' Our quest therefore, must be constant—seeking it in our personal relationships, our leadership, and our personal activities."

Second, as I am sure most of you have

figured out by now, I practice a leadership style which gives subordinates maximum authority to do their jobs and that they should be allowed to make mistakes (as long as they learn from their mistakes, nobody gets hurt, and nothing gets broken). I have never believed in the zero-defects mentality which often pervades organizations I have served in. I often use the analogy of the squad leader on patrol during a training exercise. As long as the squad leader does not endanger his Marines, he should

be allowed to make mistakes. We usually learn the most when we are given the freedom to stretch the limits of our performance and then learn from the mistakes which inevitably we will make. A quest to stretch one's limits of ability, critique what has happened, and then learn from the experience is a sign of maturity and excellence in its own right.

Third, I have often believed that one of the dumber statements I have ever heard was,



Standard

G. Dotterer

“Look after the details and the big things will take care of themselves.” We first need to look after the big ticket items because looking at only details leads to doing only the little things right and not recognizing that our organization is not going the right direction. Thus, when the smoke has cleared and we have time to critique our attack, we don’t want to have to say, “A brilliantly executed attack which seized the wrong hill.” This is really the zero-defects mentality applied to a specific situation. In other words, we consider ourselves a failure if we make any mistakes in execution, even if we properly carry out our basic mission.

Finally, to some, we seem to have a commitment to perfection at 8th & I which could be thought of by some as restrictive and bordering on the absurd. Actually, this is merely excellence for a specific organization with a special mission. We all need to recognize that when the public sees its Marines on parade, they expect perfection. We have advertised this notion and the public has come to see this as our, and their, definition of excellence. No where is this more evident than here.

What this means is, that while all leaders at the Barracks need to give their

subordinates maximum flexibility to do their job, we need to understand there are details at the Barracks which will often seem to have moved into the realm of over-supervision. If the public has come to define excellence at the Barracks as perfection, then we have indeed set a high standard for ourselves. To achieve that standard will require extraordinary efforts on our part which will often seem to clash with the idea that the zero-defects mentality should be banished from the Marine Corps.

We need to understand there are times when zero-defects is our goal, such as during a Friday Evening Parade. That is why the dress and alignment must be perfect, the musical units cannot miss notes, and the hosting detail must be unfailingly courteous and squared away. There are other times, however, such as the previously discussed patrol for example, when a different standard of excellence can apply. We all have to be smart enough to recognize the differences and when the different concepts of excellence are applicable.



Tell It To A Marine...



“There are two places that the I consider hollowed ground. The first is Mount Suribachi and the second is 8th and I. At one, Marines had to lose their lives to for it to be considered a place of honor, and at the other our honor is preserved.”

--LtGen. George R. Christmas, speaking at the 195th Birthday Ceremony for Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

President nominates three general officers for promotion

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 27) — President Clinton has nominated three Marine general officers for promotion and new assignments at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

Lieutenant General Richard I. Neal has been nominated for appointment to the grade of general and assignment as Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. He currently serves as the Deputy Commander-in-Chief/Chief of Staff, U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. A native of Hull, Mass., Neal was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1965. His most recent assignments have included: Commanding General, 2d Marine Division and Deputy Commanding General, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

Major General Carol A. Mutter has been nominated for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general and assignment as Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. She is currently the only female general officer in the Marine Corps and is the highest ranking female officer in the Department of Defense. Currently serving as the Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command, Quantico, Va., MajGen. Mutter previously commanded the 3d Force Service Support Group and served as the Comptroller for both the III Marine Expeditionary Force and 3d Marine Division. A native of Greeley, Colo., she was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1967.

Major General Terrence R. Dake

has been nominated for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general and assignment as Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation. A native of Omaha, Neb., MajGen. Dake is currently the Commanding General, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, Calif. Commissioned a second lieutenant in 1966, he was designated a Naval Aviator on Jan. 25, 1968. MajGen. Dake's previous assignments have included Deputy Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command; Inspector General for the Marine Corps; and Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation.

President Clinton's nominations will be forwarded to the Senate for approval.

Military voter registration set for August

WASHINGTON (NNS)—Installation commanders worldwide are targeting military and civilian voters during a week-long voter registration campaign Aug. 25-31.

Armed Forces Voters Week, sponsored by the Federal Voting Assistance Program, encourages voters to request registration and absentee ballots for the 1996 general elections. These voters include military personnel, their eligible family members and DoD civilians working overseas.

Although election laws differ from state to state, most state election boards require absentee ballot requests at least 30 days before the general election. With election day on Nov. 5, Armed Forces Voters Week may be the last opportunity many have to register for federal, state and local elections.

"It is critical that unregistered citizens submit the FPCA (Federal Post Card Application) as soon as possible, particularly those who reside overseas," said Phyllis Taylor, Federal Voting Assistance Program Director. "Some states require ballot receipt before the day of the election, which cuts further into the time the voter has to return his or her voter ballot."

To help voters meet state deadlines, Taylor recommended community involvement during Armed Forces Voters Week. "Wives clubs, family services and veterans organizations

are excellent sources of help for registration drives, distribution on registration forms and general assistance during the week," she said.

Installation and unit voting assistance officers play key roles during Armed Forces Voters Week. They may advise voters on special state registration requirements and assist voters with special administrative details required by some states.

Although they cannot advise on specific candidates or issues, voting assistance officers can refer voters to other information sources. These sources include local, regional and national newspapers, information pamphlets from political parties and the DoD voting information center at

DSN 223-6500 or (703) 693-6500.

Armed Forces Voters Week is the first of two registration campaigns sponsored by the federal voting assistance program. The other is Overseas Citizens Voters Week, June 30, through July 6. This campaign targets personnel assigned to U.S. embassies and consulates, as well as Americans working with U.S. commercial firms overseas.

At stake this year is the presidency and vice presidency, all 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, 33 seats in the U.S. Senate and 11 state Governorships. In addition, voters will elect state, county, city and village officials and decide local issue that affect their hometowns.

8th and 1 voter assistance personnel

H&S Company:

CWO Ladd

Cpl. Grote

Security Company:

Capt. Hughes

Company A:

Cpl. Pirotta

Company B:

Capt. Flynn

Cpl. Smith

MCI:

Sgt. Coxen

D&B:

MSgt. Moore

SSgt. Drass

Naval Academy

Company:

Capt. Mancini

Look for the Key

Many of you have already heard of the Key Volunteer Network. It has been developing over the last six months at the barracks and the planning and organizing have paid off.

The Key Volunteer Network is comprised of spouses from throughout the Corps who volunteer to help family members. They provide information about local military and civilian resources for families, information about Marine Barracks activities, and help new families adjust to the greater D.C. area.

Each Company of Marine Barracks has its own Key Volunteers who help keep track of 8th & I family

information. The companies have assigned nearly ten families to each volunteer. The volunteers are responsible for contacting families verifying they have your correct address and phone number. They will explain how they can assist you, and pass along important information about Marine Barracks and local resources.

In March, the Key Volunteers attended two Saturday training classes. The training prepared them for a one-year appointment as your personal information and resource referral experts. The training consisted of giving the volunteers an understanding of the Marine Corps and the Key Volunteer Network organization. It provided the volunteers with information on confidentiality, ethical issues, and professionalism. It also gave them ideas on how to improve their listening skills.



LCDR Doyle W. Dunn, Barracks Chaplain, looks on as the newly selected Key Volunteers receive training on how to offer support while serving in their new capacity.



Mrs. Pat McCormack, a representative from the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society instructs Key Volunteers on the many facets of the organization.

They also received instruction on local resources available at Family Services Centers, Family Advocacy, New Parent Support Program, Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society, and CHAMPUS.

After the training, each Volunteer was given a letter of appointment signed by the Commanding Officer of Marine Barracks and a small gold "Key" lapel pin representing our mission to be "keys" of assistance for Barracks family members.

Hopefully by now, most of you have been contacted by your Key Volunteers. The hope is that each of you will use this Network as your primary information resource. The program is here to help you cut through the often confusing web of military and civilian resources in a timely manner.

Sports & News

8th and I basketball is in full swing, and the statistics say it all. Here are the standings as of April 1, 1996:

30 and Over	10-1	Guard	2-10
Company A	9-4	Band	3-10
Company B	7-6	S-1	8-5
MCI Sergeants	7-4	S-4	5-7
MCI Staff	2-9		

Who's your key volunteer?

If you are unsure who your Key Volunteer is, how your Key Volunteer can assist, or are interested in becoming a part of the Key Volunteer Network, contact the Primary Volunteer for the Company to which your spouse is assigned:

Company A	Mrs. Lynn Diponio	(301) 702-0507
Company B	Mrs. Mary Ripkoski	(703) 235-6660
Drum & Bugle Corps	Mrs. Teresa Harrison	(703) 590-8665
H & S Company	Mrs. Joan Sanson	(202) 563-1643
Marine Corps Institute	Mrs. Deanna Broome	(703) 781-8336
Naval Academy Company	Mrs. Anna Fisher	(410) 349-1613
Security Company (Thurmont, MD)	Mrs. Harriett Hughes	(301) 416-0624

You may also get information by calling the Marine Barracks Family Readiness Officer, Chaplain Doyle Dunn at (202) 433-6201.

Newsnotes...

Another month has come and gone, hopefully winter has finally left and spring has arrived. As always there are things which didn't make it into bigger stories but, are still important.

ALMAR 107/96 changes the policy on the wear of the utility uniform off-base. It is now authorized for wear during brief stops at financial institutions.

ALMAR 56/96 clarifies the process for submitting reenlistment requests for Marines who have fitness report gaps on their master brief sheets.

There has been a report of a pyramid scam in which Marines have been targeted. Be aware of this and if you receive mail requesting you to send money to someone, notify your chain of command immediately.

The USO of Metropolitan Washington, **Mother of the Year Essay Contest** is gearing up. Essays will be judged on originality, thoughtfulness and content. For more details, call (703) 696-3279.

Living in the District of Columbia can be a challenge. To help you make the adjustment to your surroundings, check out "The Local Laws: a Guide for Military Personnel Residing in the Greater Washington, D.C. Area." It's available at the Legal Assistance Office and the Family Service Center at Henderson Hall. Stop by to get your copy.

Young Marine families grow with the New Parent Support Program

Making the transition from being a young married couple to becoming a young family can leave the new parents reeling in disbelief at the challenges they now face. Add to that the additional stress placed on families of military members and you have the makings of what could be a less than peaceful situation.

It was for just that reason that the Marine Corps Family Advocacy Program, in cooperation with Children's Hospital, San Diego, Calif. developed the Marine New Parent Support Program. According to Maria Dolan-Janoschka, the program coordinator at Henderson Hall, the purpose of the program is to help families deal with all the stresses that come with parenthood.

"The program is designed for parents of children from birth to 6-years-old and its objective is to promote healthy Marine Corps families. Even though the name of the program is 'The New Parent Support Program,' we are here to help anyone with a child under six who has need of information or support. Our purpose is to assist parents in coping with stress, isolation, pregnancy, childbirth and parenting issues unique to military families," said Dolan-Janoschka.

To help the Marines through the difficulties of parenting, Dolan-Janoschka, who has worked with the program for three years at both Quantico and Henderson Hall, says the program offers a variety of classes and groups to educate and support.

"We offer several classes here at Henderson Hall, such as a parenting class, a pre-natal care and infant care class and couples communication. Most of the classes have certain areas which we cover, but we also structure the classes to cover topics which the parents involved feel are important to know as well. If a particular class has a group of parents with children who are all going through toilet training, we can arrange to cover that in the class. But, at the same time, if the class has need of ideas in how to deal with children who have

reached the 'terrible two's', we can add that in to the course, too," said Dolan-Janoschka.

Any Marine family is eligible to participate in the program if they have a child under the age of six, and this includes mothers-to-be. But according to Dolan-Janoschka, the program can also offer assistance to families with older children.

"You don't have to be a 'new' parent to enroll in the program, you just have to have one child with at least one child under the age of six. For example, let's say there is a family with a 5-year-old and a 10-year-old and the parents need help dealing with issues presented by the older child. Even though it is not our primary area of emphasis, we can offer assistance and referrals to the parents for the older child as well as the younger child," said Dolan-Janoschka.

The most popular service offered by MNPSP is the individualized support program. These sessions are designed to allow a family to design a program specifically suited to their needs said Dolan-Janoschka.

"Probably the most unique aspect of our program is that we offer an individualized support program, which we can do in the parents home. We realize that sometimes it is not always practical for the families to come to us. They may not have a schedule that doesn't allow them to come to us or they may

have a number of children and it just makes it easier on the family if they can do it in their own home.

"Once the family calls, I will have an initial meeting with the parents to determine their needs and then we will develop a program to help. Sometimes these home visits last just a few weeks, but I once worked with a family in their home for a year. It just depends on the needs of the family," Dolan-Janoschka said. "Working with this program is satisfying, because I enjoy working with families and helping them to excel at parenting. Our program is designed to provide parents with the tools promote a healthy family environment."



Bellevue housing prepares to come to life

by Cpl. Patrick E. Franklin

Bellevue military family housing area, once considered substandard, is about to begin a new chapter when 188 new townhouse units open later this year. That's good news for Marines assigned to Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

The housing area, originally built over 50 years ago, was finally demolished in 1994 to make way for the new units. The new homes, 70 two-bedroom and 118 three-bedroom, contain many modern features. The quality of life improvements over the previous homes are substantial, according to Mabel L. Tarlton, director of Family Housing at Anacostia Naval Station.

"The homes were built in 1940 and 41 to house contract personnel. The homes in Bellevue were originally intended to be used for five years. The original design left something to be desired, for example, if you had a washer and dryer in your kitchen, you did not have room for a table," Tarlton said.

The new floor plans are very open, with lots of windows and

strong visual connection between the kitchen and the family area, and the living and dining areas. The new homes will be nearly twice the size of those they replaced. The two-bedroom units will have 950 square feet and the three-bedroom homes will have 1,188 square feet. The kitchens are large enough to accommodate infant furniture, or a play area for a small child. The stairways are extra-wide for easier moving in and moving out and the laundry rooms are located near the bedrooms.

The housing area will also have units designed for people with handicaps. There will be seven tot lots, four half-court basketball courts, a softball, soccer and football field and a jogging trail. The

townhomes are all located in culdesacs. The traditional designs feature garages, enclosed patios with wooden fences between units and a front porch.

Marines interested in placing their name on the list for housing in Bellevue, should stop by the Family Housing Office at Anacostia Naval Station, or call (202) 433-2028.



The United Service Organization began 10 months before the U.S. was attacked at Pearl Harbor. The USO, like the rest of the country, had to make the transition from peacetime to wartime conditions.



Since those days of early 1941, the USO has continued to evolve. Their original charter gave them the mission of providing for the morale, recreation and religious needs of servicemembers. Over the years, that mission has grown to include military family members as well.

According to the President of the USO of Metropolitan Washington, Elaine B. Rogers, the USO looks forward to serving military members and their families for years to come, just as they have for the past five decades.

"The focus of the USO has changed a great deal during the last 55 years. Now we have become more of a social service agency to assist the young military family. Our mission still includes the single service member, but we spend a majority of our time assisting families in a co-operative effort with military agencies. Traditionally the military family has always been hardest hit during peace-time when resources have

been cut back in the military. I believe our mission is now more important than ever," Rogers stated.

The mission of the USO during World War II





was to provide a home away from home for the thousands of young men entering the military and leaving home for the first time. USO centers sprang up everywhere. In this country, dances, entertainment and other recreational activities were provided by local USO affiliates. During the periods of conflict in Korea and Vietnam, the USO opened centers in close proximity to combat areas and provided a place for off-duty recreation

or a chance to use a telephone to call home.

Following the Vietnam War, public support for the military and related organizations waned and the creation of the all-volunteer armed forces presented the USO with a new set of challenges. In contrast to the young, single servicemen of a bygone era, the profile of the average military member now included men and women who were more likely to be married and have children. A new charter, issued by President Jimmy Carter in 1980,

defined a new mission for the USO.

Today the USO provides a home away from home for the single military member, and now serves the military family as well.

The USO of Metropolitan Washington meets dozens of human service needs in the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan region. The Emergency Housing Program (EHP) provides housing for military families at no cost for up to 60 days and is entering its 10th year.

"We started this program in 1986 with just two units. Now, with the cooperation of area rental agencies and other businesses, we have grown to over 25 units," said Rogers.

USO-Metro co-hosts job fairs for spouses, separating servicemembers, retirees and their families. The 24-hour Ticketline supplies free or discounted seats to



Washington's top cultural, sports and recreational activities. USO-Metro also funds a yearly scholarship program for the children of active duty enlisted servicemembers based in the metropolitan area. Other services include family support centers, airport assistance centers, the distribution of safety infant and toddler car seats and a Volunteer Service to Education awards program which recognizes military members who do volunteer work in area schools.

Today the USO continues to serve servicemembers and their families in ways never thought of in the past according to Rogers.

"There are any number of programs currently underway which we were not involved with previously. For example, we are working in cooperation with the military Family Service Center at the Woodbridge and Summerfield Outreach Centers. We are heavily involved with the operation of these centers.

"We also run a food program called 'Share'. Through this program a military family can get \$35 worth of food for only \$13 and two hours



"The focus of the USO has changed a great deal during the last 55 years. Now we have become more of a social service agency to assist the young military family...I believe our mission is more important than ever."

*Elaine B. Rogers, President
USO of Metropolitan Washington*

worth of volunteer time. This is a tremendously successful program because of the savings the young families get from it," Rogers said.

The USO of Metropolitan Washington continues to change as the military changes. But, one thing that will not change, no matter what, is that the USO is the only congressionally chartered organization devoted solely to providing human services to our armed forces... and their families.

*by
Cpl. Patrick E. Franklin*

United States Marine Corps

Concepts and Issues

General Charles Krulak, Commandant of the Marine Corps, has published a definitive book outlining the Corps direction and policies for the future.

Concept and Issues '96 is a concise 138-page document which outlines the Corps' stance on important positions from the importance of sea power to the operations and maintenance budget. All Marines, Civilian Marines and family members should read the book for two reasons. First, Marines everywhere will gain important insights into why the Marine Corps operates as it does. Second, we need to be able to explain the Corps' position to the American public.

As we move into the 21st century, the strategic role of the Marine Corps remains constant: to provide a strong expeditionary force-in-readiness that is versatile, adaptable and powerful. To meet the projected security challenges facing the nation, the Marine Corps will leverage its recognized skills of innovation to vigorously seek out new opportunities to enhance its usefulness, flexibility and unparalleled expeditionary capability across the entire spectrum of contingencies.

Many would ask why the nation needs an expeditionary force in the first place. Concepts and Issues addresses the need for just such a force.

We are a maritime nation with global strategic linkages, so our national strategy is necessarily transoceanic. In essence, America's interests lie beyond the seas, so we must be able to project power there.

Most fundamentally, Navy and Marine forces are designed to fight and win wars. Hopefully, we can avoid wars by demonstrating to would-be aggressors that the Navy-Marine team can move to the crises area quickly, bringing tremendous force with us. Because we arrive via ships, we can remain in the area as long as necessary. Sea borne forces do not require airfields, ports or other facilities from which to operate. This means we can enter a trouble region from just about anywhere along its coast. Since 70 percent of the Earth's surface is covered by water and 80 percent of the world's population lives near the sea, the Navy-Marine team can reach nearly any trouble area.

As the landward extension of Naval expeditionary forces, Marines significantly magnify their power and influence and are central to the littoral strategy. In light of their readiness, flexibility and broad utility in times of crises, Marine forces provide globally responsive assets for contingency missions in support of the National Command Authority's taskings.

With the Marine Air/Ground Task Force mixture of ground combat, air combat and combat service support elements, lead by a command element, Marines provide key elements of Naval Expeditionary capabilities.

The Marine Corps is important to the national defense because we can go just about anywhere. We can stay as long as we need to and project whatever force is required to get the job done.

Next month, the Marine Corps of the 21st Century.

Most Marines have wished they had a few minutes to spend with the Commandant, to let him know some of the things that were on the minds of Marines and their families. Since May of 1995, the Community Liaison Office at Headquarters Marine Corps, has been the voice of the Marine families.

A Family Partnership

According to Marine Corps Order 1754.1, "Marine Corps personnel and their families (are to) be provided a quality of life at least equal to that of the nation which they defend and which reflects the high standards and pride of the United States Marine Corps. This can best be achieved by a working partnership with service members and their families." To support this plan, the Community Liaison Office was established.

Priscilla H. Mills, the manager of the Community Liaison Office program, works for the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

Her mission is to be the voice of the Marine family on issues concerning quality of life.

"The CLO deals with a broad spectrum of issues that affect the quality of life of our total Marine Corps family. Health care issues, education issues, housing, spouse employment, child care, family service centers and Moral, Welfare and Recreation. It's difficult to narrow this down, but issues should be addressed and resolved at the lowest level possible before calling the CLO," said Mills.

The key to the success of the CLO is maintaining an open flow of communication with Marine families stationed

around the world Mills stated.

"We act as the messenger for the collective voice of the Marine Corps family. Without input from family leaders, the CLO has no message to pass to Marine Corps leaders. The leadership of the Corps wants real-time, unfiltered information based on the perception of Marine families. This information assists them in developing policy and affecting changes in current policy and family programs," Mills said. "Speaking of family programs, another function of the Community Liaison Office is to act as a permanent member of the Key Volunteer Advisory Council, and acts as an additional

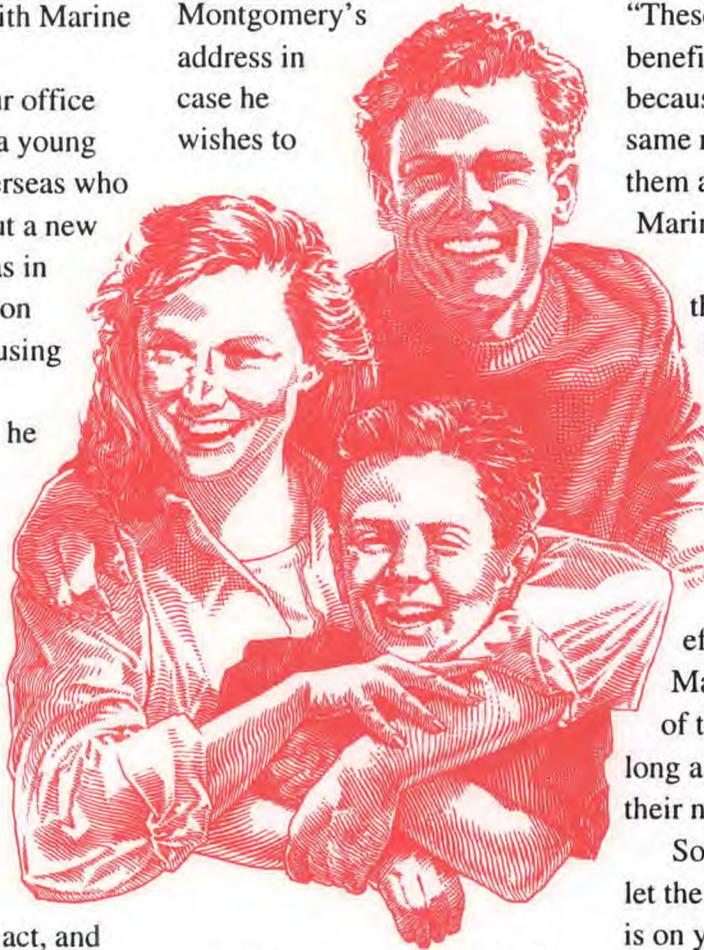
resource for key volunteers to refer their family members to if their question or issue cannot be addressed at the unit or base level," she added.

One of the most gratifying aspects of the mission of the CLO is to help Marines, especially those Marines stationed on bases run by other services who otherwise have little or no contact with Marine support elements.

"For example, our office received a call from a young Marine stationed overseas who wanted to know about a new program he heard was in the 1996 Appropriation Act, the Military Housing Assistance Act. He wanted to know how he signs up for it so he can buy his first home when he returns to CONUS in October. Being overseas he was out of touch and needed to be connected to the right resource for information," said Mills.

"I researched the act, and reported back to him that the pilot program to help more O-3 and below service-members buy homes by subsidizing their mortgages is on hold. Pentagon officials say the money isn't available. No money was

earmarked for the program in the 1996 Defense Appropriations Act. It also has lukewarm support at the Pentagon, because most of the services are not enthused about young servicemembers buying houses, because they move so much. Representative G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery sponsored the legislation, so I gave him Rep. Montgomery's address in case he wishes to



write him about the act," Mills continued.

"I informed him about houses the VA has foreclosed on, which are available through most real estate offices and I'm trying to connect him with the

appropriate sources in the Pensacola, Fla. area, so he can get a listing of these homes.

"Being able to reach out and help people connect with the appropriate resource is the most enjoyable part of our job. Especially helping those Marines who are not assigned to a Marine Corps Base or in remote areas," stated Mills. "These are the families that benefit most from our office because they don't have the same resources available to them as those families living on Marine Corps bases."

To address an issue with the CLO, call (800) USMC-CLO. They can also be reached via E-mail on Banyan Vines at **Mrs. Priscilla Mills@MH@HQMC** and America On-Line at **PMills455**. The CLO is effective at informing Marine leaders of the needs of the Corps family only as long as Marines communicate their needs.

So, now when you want to let the Commandant know what is on your mind, all you have to do is call the CLO because they're there to speak for you.

by
Cpl. Patrick E. Franklin

Crawford awarded Legion of Merit

by Cpl. Patrick E. Franklin

MARINE BARRACKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. — Col. Truman W. Crawford, Commanding Officer/Director of “The Commandant’s Own,” The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, received the Legion of Merit here March 29.

Crawford was presented the award for meritorious service from February 1984 to October 1995.

He has directed the unit at over 100 commitments per year, including four Presidential Inaugurations, numerous visits by heads of state, and various ceremonies in the national capitol area.

In March 1967, Crawford was selected by the Commandant of the Marine Corps for special assignment as the arranger/instructor of “The Commandant’s Own”. Entering the Marine Corps as a staff sergeant, he quickly rose to the rank of master sergeant prior to commissioning as a warrant officer in December 1973.

In April 1977, Crawford was awarded a Presidential appointment to the rank of captain in a special ceremony by the 26th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Louis H. Wilson. In August 1982, he was awarded his second Presidential appointment, and was promoted to the rank of major by the 27th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Robert H. Barrow. In March 1989, he received his 3rd Presidential appointment and was promoted to lieutenant colonel by the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Alfred M. Gray. In September 1995 Colonel Crawford was awarded his fourth Presidential appointment, and was promoted to his present grade by the 30th Commandant

of the Marine Corps, General Carl E. Mundy, Jr.

During Crawford’s tour at “8th and I”, the Drum and Bugle Corps has been the recipient of a Navy Unit Citation and five Meritorious Unit Citations in recognition of their uncompromising dedication, loyalty and skill.

Crawford’s prominence in the music field is reflected in the countless requests by musical organizations, associations, as well as major colleges and universities, for his services as an instructor, arranger

and adjudicator. While his availability is limited due to his Marine Corps commitments, his accomplishments have resulted in his being awarded numerous honors, awards and accolades.

Crawford is the recipient of: the Meritorious Service Medal; the Navy Commendation Medal; and the Navy League of the United States Scroll of Honor.

Crawford’s versatility is reflected in his volunteer activities. He has worked with underprivileged children for several years, coaching basketball and youth hockey. He officiated with the American Amateur Hockey Association in games throughout the metropolitan Washington area.

Not to be outdone by others, he still plays hockey in a local senior league.

Colonel Crawford is married to the former Lucille E. Ellis of Johnson City, New York. They have four sons; Robert, David, Truman Jr. and Canaan, as well as two daughters; Cynthia and Lisa. The Crawfords presently reside in Stafford, Virginia.



LtGen. George R. Christmas, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, presents Col. Truman W. Crawford with a Legion of Merit. Col. David G. Dotterer looks on as SgtMaj. Larry J. Carson assists. (USMC Photo by LCpl. Jerry Pierce Jr.)

The Razor's Edge

Everybody needs a hobby. My hobby is woodworking. Making little projects with wood energizes me and gives me a result from my effort that I can actually see and touch. One of the first lessons I learned in woodworking is that tools must be sharp to do a good job. Chisels, knives, and saws don't produce quality work unless they are well honed. When they are sharp, the superior results are obvious.

The same is true for you. To give quality work as a Marine, you need to be as sharp as possible. You've been sharpening your skills for a long time now. Marchers have been drilling, musicians have been rehearsing, support personnel have been practicing and working non-stop toward parade season. When the sun sets, the floodlights dim and the spotlights hit the parade deck, the crowds will be thrilled by the precision of the entire event. You're sharp. Honed to steely perfection.

It's not just parades that require you to be sharp, though. Your skills are tested constantly. Every phone call you answer, every sentence you write, every meal you cook, every record you review, every box you move, every shrub you trim, and every gate you guard requires the excellence that comes only through careful sharpening of your skills and knowledge. If you lose the edge, dulled by repetition, the poorer quality of your work will be noticed. To keep the quality up, you must regularly take the time

to hone yourself to a fresh "edge."

Keeping your Marine skills sharp is a pretty obvious requirement. You generally know what is necessary for success at the Barracks. What many of us miss is "sharpening" our private affairs to the same clean edge. Scripture says, "For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and foolishness. All these evils come from inside . . ." If we sharpen the



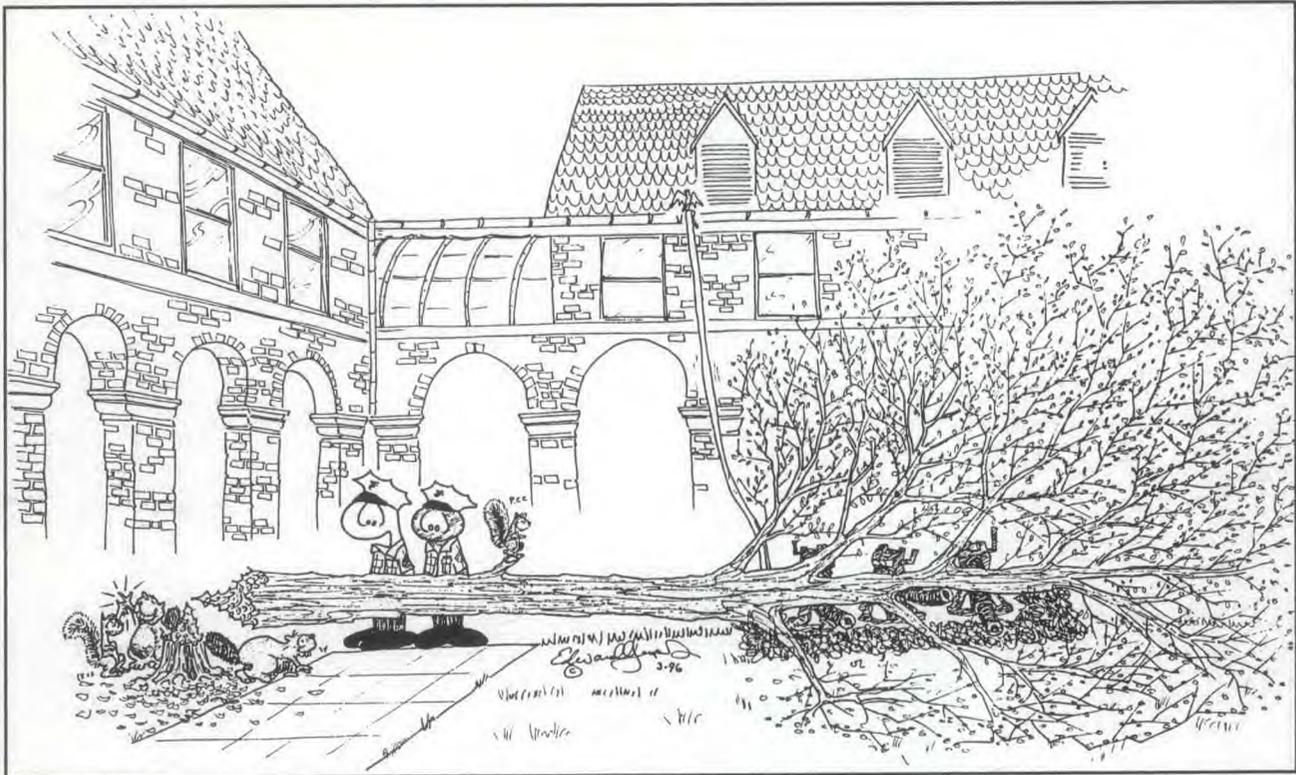
areas of our lives that nobody else sees, the outside quality of our lives will be noticeable. If we let our spiritual side get dull, it will show up sooner or later, and will also be obvious. You really can't hide what's in your heart.

So, while you're working so very hard and keeping such a razor-sharp edge on the outside, take the time to do the same *inside* yourself. Build your faith and your relationship with God. He knows you best. Trust him to hone you to the sharpest you can be. Time in prayer, reading scripture for yourself, and worship will move you in the right direction.

Semper Fidelis.

by
LCDR Doyle W. Dunn, USN

HARRY WHO by GySgt. E.A. Temple Jr.



We won't be terrorizing any members of the squirrel family for a while.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
MARINE BARRACKS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20390-5000