



PASS IN REVIEW

Serving "The Oldest Post of the Corps"

September 1997



BCD carries on tradition in Canada

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month - Staff NCOs take charge

Bravo Zulu for great parade season



Barracks Marines participate in a Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. (USMC photo)

*by Col. Dennis J. Hejlik,
Commanding Officer*

“The Oldest Post of the Corps” successfully completed the 1997 season with a “grand slam” parade for the secretary of the Navy Aug. 29. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Marines and Sailors involved in making the Evening and Sunset parades the most inspiring military events in the greater Washington area.

From the Silent Drill Platoon, “The President’s Own” and “The Commandant’s Own,” to the marching companies, crowd warmers, bus greeters, escorts and “tower Marines,” a “BZ” for a job well done. I would like each and every Marine of the barracks to convey a special thanks to the Marines of the Grounds Platoon. They are the behind-the-scenes Marines who start at dawn on Friday and are here well after we have secured for the evening. My personal thanks for all you do throughout the entire year.

October and November will be extremely busy beginning with our field exercise at Fort A.P. Hill, the Battle Color Detachment’s trip to Texas, the band’s tour from early October through late

November, and the Marine Corps Institute’s West Pacific tour. From there we jump right into our commitments for the 222nd birthday of our Corps and Veteran’s Day Nov. 11.

During the month of October, we will conduct a Commandant’s Planning Guidance (CPG) stand-down. The CPG is designed to share with all Marines a vector for the future — a strategic direction to guide us in building the Corps our nation will need into the 21st Century. All Barracks Marines will focus on the five traditional pillars of strength: warfighting, people, core values, education and

training, and our Naval character. The commandant, upon completion of the stand-down, has authorized a “72” for all hands.

Lastly, we will continue our barracks PT sessions, and plans are under way for a barracks forced march. My intent is to build unit cohesion at “The Oldest Post of the Corps.”

Stay fit and stay safe.



The United States Marine Band performs at the barracks during a Friday Evening Parade. (USMC photo)

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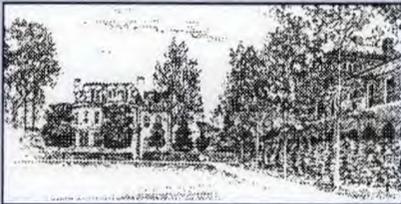
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Members of the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps turn their gun about during the Gunner's Gun Competition at Fort Henry, Canada. (photo by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin)

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Corps, nation celebrate Hispanic Heritage

by *Cpl. Matt S. Schafer*
Staff Writer

Marines at 8th & I will be celebrating the unique Hispanic culture during National Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 15 through Oct. 15.

According to 1st Sgt. Felix Robles Jr., Headquarters and Service Company first sergeant, the Marines in the dining facility and Morale, Welfare and Recreation are planning a celebration scheduled for October.

"At my last duty station we had a Hispanic dinner and a few Marines did a skit on a Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient," Robles said.

In 1968 the United States set aside one week to honor Hispanic-Americans and their contributions to society. Congress extended National Hispanic Heritage Week to a month-long celebration in 1989, to fully recognize the Hispanic-American culture.

The 1997 theme for National Hispanic Heritage Month is "Educational Excellence: Building Opportunities for our Youth." The theme recognizes problems such as language barriers, which can complicate learning for Hispanic students, and commemorates the progress in education over the last 50 years.

According to Robles, National Hispanic Heritage Month gives Marines a chance to review contributions Hispanics in the military have made, which date back as far as the Revolutionary War.

In 1781 the descendants of Hispanic settlers in Florida and Georgia neutralized British soldiers who would have joined Lord Cornwallis in the Battle of Yorktown, a battle many historians believe was the turning point of the war.

"We also had many Hispanics in World War I," Robles said. "In those days, Hispanics were not allowed to join the military, so they came in using European last names."

There has been much progress made, however, since the days of prohibition and segregation. According to Robles, many Hispanics fought in the Korean war, and by the time the Vietnam War occurred, there was a steady flow of Hispanic-Americans joining the Military.

By the Fiscal Year 1996, there were 18,133 Hispanic Marines, composing more than 10 percent of total manpower in the Marine Corps, according to the 1996 Marine Almanac.

In addition, 38 Hispanics have received the Medal of Honor, the highest number per capita of any ethnic group in the United States, and this fiscal year the Marine Corps promoted two Hispanic officers to brigadier general.

Throughout history, the United States has steadily improved in adjusting to its ever-changing, diverse culture, according to the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute. Hispanic Heritage Month gives the United States and the Marine Corps a chance to reflect upon the Hispanic culture, which in essence represents an aspect of its own roots.

In the 1997 State of the Union Address, President William J. Clinton said:

"We have always been a nation of immigrants. From the start, a steady stream of people, in search of freedom and opportunity, have left their own lands to make this land their home. We started as an experiment in democracy fueled by Europeans. We have grown into an experiment of democratic diversity, fueled by openness and promise. We must never think that our diversity is our weakness — it is our greatest strength. Americans speak every language, know every country. People on every continent can look to us and see the greatness of their own potential — and they always will, as long as we strive to give all of our citizens, whatever their background, an opportunity to achieve their own greatness."

Barracks celebrates end of parade season with picnic

by *Cpl. Nelson O. Akeredolu*
Staff Writer

The battalion Post-Parade Season Family Picnic was held at Ft. Hunt Park in Alexandria, Va., Aug. 27.

More than 500 Marines, sailors, family members and friends attended

the picnic. Throughout the afternoon they enjoyed an array of food, games, music by the Marine Country Ensemble of the U.S. Marine Band, and a special performance by the United States Marine Silent Drill Platoon.

The post-parade season picnic is new to 8th & I. The barracks con-

ducts a battalion picnic annually, but this year, Col. Hejlik authorized a post-parade picnic to thank the Marines and Sailors for their hard work and the families for their support during the 1997 parade season.

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation office planned the picnic with



Lance Cpl. John D. Barto IV, Motor Transport driver, pushes a child on a swing during the battalion Post-Parade Season Family Picnic. (photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)



Staff Sgt. Daniel J. Haslam (right), D&B Co., entertains barracks Commanding Officer Col. Dennis J. Hejlik and a group of children with magic tricks during the post-parade picnic. (photo by Cpl. Nelson O. Akeredolu)



Mess hall's Staff Sgt. Scott B. Wilde (left) battles an opponent during sumo wrestling at the picnic. Contestants donned padded costumes to add to the fun for players and spectators. (photo by Cpl. Nelson O. Akeredolu)

help from sections such as the mess hall and the training and operations section.

"We had to plan the picnic at a time when we could have the most attendance," said Master Sgt. Sheryl A. Hodges, assistant MWR director. "We had to aim for just after parade season, but before the children went back to school."

"It was a great time. We couldn't keep the burgers coming fast enough for the people there," added Staff Sgt. Scott B. Wilde of the mess hall. "Something like this is really good for the morale. It shows the troops we care."

Many of the people who attended the picnic expressed their pleasure at the event.

"This is an absolute blast," said Lance Cpl. Kristopher S. Taff of Marine Corps Institute Company, "This is a nice way to end parade season."



Retired Sgt. Maj. Russell Rockwell (left), a guest, takes his turn to cook on the grill at the barracks picnic Aug. 27. (photo by Cpl. Nelson O. Akeredolu)

MCI hosts distance-education conference

by Cpl. Chance D. Puma
Community Relations

The Marine Corps Institute hosted the 21st Annual Interservice Correspondence Exchange Conference Aug. 17 to 20 in Washington, D.C., for distance instructors in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard.

The Marines and Civilians of MCI handled all aspects of the interservice exchange, intended to better military readiness through distance learning — a long-standing MCI mission. MCI organized the ICE conference to include a wide variety of presentations for its counterparts in other military services, as well as open opportunities to exchange new plans and techniques in the distance-education field. MCI dubbed its efforts, "The Collective Challenge: Optimizing Performance Improvement."

As visitors to the conference faced the challenge, it was apparent throughout the workshops and demonstrations that distance educators were focused on one area: optimizing their performance. "There is a lot of emphasis on emergent technologies," said MCI Executive Director Terry M. Franus.

According to Franus, the conference opened a lot of talks about innovations and technology — more than simple plans to incorporate electronic media into the education system. The conference gave MCI a chance to get feedback from other services on new technology and the best way to integrate it, as well as the direction of distance education.

Most Marines have read or heard about the interactive courseware MCI plans to release in Fiscal Year '98, but the institute is taking a good look before it leaps into the world of high-tech.

While interactive MCI's are planned with all the latest "bells and whistles to enhance learning" and make lessons more interesting for Marines, "not everyone's going to have the hardware for CD-ROMs and courses over the internet," according to Franus.

Which is why "paper isn't going away," according to Lt. Col. Glen White, Deputy Director of MCI, who says the institute is not about to abandon the proven system of mailing printed courses to Marines stationed across the globe.

MCI's future concerns will be more complex than just incorporating technology. It faces the problem of incorporating technology into a system that still badly needs paper-generated MCI courses for Marines who can not get to a keyboard.

"Our biggest challenge will be balancing the two — paper-based courses and technology-based courses — and meeting the resource constraints, the decreasing budget and manpower," said White. "One thing this conference allows is ... a good look at how the other services are handling distance education."

Feedback from other services is especially important as the Marine Corps Institute goes through internal changes, transitioning into the distance learning center of the Corps' future.

"MCI was established in 1920 and is becoming more and more relevant to the future," said White. "Military schools are getting smaller, the amount of information Marines need is increasing and distance education is cutting costs when compared to sending Marines to longer schools."

Barracks celebrates Staff NCOs in Evening Parade

Staff noncommissioned officers here took charge of the Evening Parade Aug. 22 to strut their stuff in parade staff positions.

The Staff NCO Parade, hosted by Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Lewis G. Lee, is an annual event featuring staff NCOs and NCOs in all the parade staff positions.

This parade began as a way to recognize the efforts and abilities of the staff NCO's and NCO's assigned to Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

According to 1st Sgt. David C. Phillips, first sergeant of Co. "A" and second-year parade commander of the SNCO parade, the event gives SNCOs and NCOs the

opportunity to show their professionalism and esprit de corps.

The selections for the parade staff billets are made during tryouts held earlier in the summer. Once the selections are made, practices are held regularly to prepare the Marines for the event.

Though the parade is a mentally and physically exhausting event, according to Phillips, and a great deal of practice goes into it, the parade is well worth the effort.

"It's the opportunity of a lifetime," said Phillips. "It's a one-time-per-year opportunity that everyone should seek to be a part of, and I would encourage any Marines who have the opportunity to try out."



The SNCO Parade Staff practice on 9th street prior to the parade. The members of the staff were (from left to right): Gunnery Sgt. J. L. Teachey, Gunnery Sgt. M.E. Janiszewski, First Sgt. D. C. Phillips, Gunnery Sgt. R.W. Matthews and Staff Sgt. G. Aragon. (photo by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin)



(left) Headquarters and Service Company's 1st Sgt. Felix Robles Jr. escorts Lesa Moore, Master Sgt. Joe A. Moore Jr.'s wife, to her seat before the Staff NCO parade. (photo by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin)



(above) Sgt. B. C. Duprey puts Co. "A" through its paces during "warm-ups" on 9th Street. Duprey was the acting first sergeant for the company during the Staff NCO parade. (photo by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin)



(right) Master Sgt. Joe A. Moore Jr. leads the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps during the Staff NCO parade. The Evening Parade was Moore's last show, prior to his retirement ceremony held Aug. 29. (photo by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin)

BCD continues tradition with Canadian counterparts

by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin
Press Chief

The Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment continued a 43-year-old tradition when they visited Kingston, Ontario, Canada, Aug. 16-18 for their annual joint parade with the Fort Henry Guard.

The tradition began in 1954 when a detachment of Marines visited Fort Henry; since then the two units have been visiting each other regularly. Until 1994, the joint parades alternated between Fort Henry and Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C., but due to budget cutbacks in Canada, the last three parades have been in Ontario.

Even budget cutbacks, however, cannot change the fact members of the Battle Color Detachment and the Fort Henry Guard look forward to the trips, no matter who hosts them.

According to Cpl. Matthew W. Jackson, soprano bugler for "The Commandant's Own" United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the trip is one of the highlights of a busy year.

"Everyone looks forward to this



The Fort Henry Guard Fife and Drum Corps salutes the reviewing official during the joint parade with the BCD. (photo by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin)

job. The people up in Kingston are super nice. They treat us great, they want to make sure everything is taken care of," said Jackson. "The competitions we have, as well as the friendships we have made through the years, make this trip special. It is a lot more personal."

The competitions Jackson speaks of are the annual softball and soccer games the units play, as well as a competition referred to as the "Gunner's Gun." This year the Battle Color Detachment swept the three events, which is no small feat, considering the gunner's competition is a drill on a gun the members of the Fort Henry Guard use daily.

The "Gunner's Gun" is a mid-1800s, breach-loading, Anderson cannon. The Guard uses the gun as

part of its evening tattoo performance. Each year a group of Marines gets a quick lesson in the proper drill movements used to emplace and employ the gun. When they are familiar with the drill, a competition is held with the fastest gun crew from Fort Henry. Then the two gun crews do a series of three heats and are graded on time and proper drill sequence.

The BCD also blasted the Guard in the annual softball game and won a squeaker in the soccer game, which concluded in a shoot-out after being tied 1-1 at the end of regulation time.

Although the competitions are looked forward to, Sgt. Adam L. Zeiler, a baritone bugler for "The Commandant's Own," said it is the chance to renew old friendships that many of the Marines look forward to the most.

"When you first get there the people come up and greet you, and immediately you'll see familiar faces. It is great to see old friends and make new ones at the fort," said Zeiler. "They go out of their way to make us feel welcome."



Col. Truman W. Crawford talks about the next selection "The Commandant's Own," United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps will play during a concert in downtown Kingston, Ontario, Canada (photo by Sgt. Patrick E. Franklin)

Corps honored for support on Iwo Jima

by Cpl. Chance D. Puma
Community Relations

The Marine Corps often presents awards to servicemembers for outstanding performance, but recently a group of veterans graciously reversed this tradition to honor the Corps for its support in seizing the island of Iwo Jima.

Veterans of the 9th Bombardment Group, 20th Air Force presented the Marine Corps with a plaque during an Aug. 28 ceremony at the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial.

The 9th Bombardment Group, one of the Air Force units responsible for the initial landing of American aircraft on Iwo Jima March 4, 1945, honored the Corps and recalled the sacrifices Marines made during the historic battle to secure the invaluable landing sites.

Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Henry C. Huglin, commanding officer for the 9th Bombardment Group at the time of the landing represented the 2,800 men who served in the group from 1944 to 1945. Huglin expressed a deep gratitude to the Marines, "whose dedication, combat skills, and heroism in those years made possible the B-29 strategic air offensive against the homeland of Japan," he said.

The 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions fought in the battle to secure Iwo Jima at an overall cost of 5,931 Marine lives, including 17,372 wounded. Their actions allowed more than 2,251 heavy bombers to make air



Brig. Gen. Henry C. Huglin shakes hands with Col. Dennis J. Hejlik during a ceremony in which the 9th Bomber Group honored the sacrifices of the Marines during the Battle of Iwo Jima. (photo by Cpl. Chance D. Puma)

assaults against Japan from Iwo Jima. Several former Marines of these divisions spoke at the ceremony in remembrance of the costly strife and in honor of their fellow warriors. Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., Commanding Officer Col. Dennis J. Hejlik accepted the tribute, he said, for Marines everywhere, past and present.

"Iwo was vital to our operations. The victory over Japan was achieved by the combined efforts of all of the services and our allies," said Huglin. But the surrender of August 15, 1945, without a horrendously costly land invasion was, in large part, the result of the B-29 strategic air campaign ... and wouldn't have been nearly so effective, as it proved to be, without the base on Iwo Jima, which the Marines secured for us at such great cost, for which we then were and forever more will be deeply grateful."

CRIME AND PUNNISHMENT

A Marine was found guilty of Article 128, Domestic Assault. He received reduction to lance corporal, 20 days restriction and forfeited \$598 per month for two months.

A Marine was found guilty of Article 92, Unauthorized Use of Government Credit Card. She received 30 days restriction and 14 days extra police duties (EPD).

A Marine was found guilty of Article 134, Unlawful Entry. He forfeited \$245 for one month, with one month suspended, 14 days restric-

tion and 14 days EPD.

A Marine was found guilty of Article 134, Unlawful Entry. He forfeited \$245 for one month, 14 days restriction and 14 days EPD suspended.

A Marine was found guilty of Article 92, Underage Drinking, Article 108, Destruction of Military Property and Article 134, Unlawful Entry. He forfeited \$245 for one month, with one month suspended, 14 days restriction and 14 days EPD.

A Marine was found guilty of Ar-



icle 92, Underage Drinking and Article 134, Unlawful Entry.

He forfeited \$245 for one month, with one month suspended, 14 days restriction and 14 days EPD.

A Marine was found guilty of numerous specifications of Article 86, Absent From Appointed Place of Duty. The Marine forfeited \$515 for one month, with one month suspended, 30 days restriction and 30 days EPD.



Marines participate in the Warfighting experiment at M C A G C C Twentynine Palms, Calif. (Official Marine Corps photo.)

Hunter Warrior Advanced Warfighting experiment findings released

by Sgt. Chris W. Cox

Quantico Sentry (Compiled from the executive brief provided by the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory Analysis Division)

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. -- In the largest Experiment to date, the newly-renamed Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory here explored alternatives that would increase Marine units area of influence and combat effectiveness.

The Hunter Warrior Advanced Warfighting Experiment, conducted in March at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., took a look at enhancing Marine units' effectiveness by utilizing a combination of experimental equipment and new warfighting tactics and techniques.

After months of analysis, the Marine Corps Combat Development Command and the Center for Naval Analysis, released a summary of findings Aug. 1 during a brief to Maj. Gen. John E. Rhodes, deputy commanding general of MCCDC.

Hunter Warrior included three phases and two fo-

cused experiments, and concentrated on several different areas over 12 days.

In the first phase the focus was on reconnaissance, surveillance, shaping, and deception operations by the Experimental Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force and the operating aggressor force (reinforced elements of the 7th Marine Regiment, a mechanized regiment based at Twentynine Palms.)

Phase II studied targeting for initial engagements by air, and long-range indirect fire missions.

The operating force performed a major night movement while the SPMAGTF(X) got additional targeting during Phase III, which culminated with a mobile raid on the opposing force.

The two focused experiments included in Hunter Warrior concentrated on the abilities of small teams to discriminate between military and non-combatant targets, their ability to survive against dismounted infantry, and examined what occurs during an operational maneuver element attack.

In order to make the experiment more like a real "over-the-horizon" operation, the bulk of the

SPMAGTF(X) was based at MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., nearly 150 miles away.

Analyses of Hunter Warrior found that the Marine Corps can “significantly extend the area of influence of a modest, forward afloat expeditionary force and significantly increase its effectiveness within that area of influence,”

The MCWL set out to test a concept — whether the Marine Corps could provide a forward afloat force with the capability to have an operational effect on a larger, capable foe. Hunter Warrior proved that it can be done, but not by using new technology alone.

By combining new concepts and technologies with tactics, techniques, and procedures, the results showed “a forward afloat expeditionary force and a Naval expeditionary task force could attack and significantly reduce the combat power of a capable, reinforced, regiment-sized mechanized opposing force.” This differs from Operations Desert Shield/Storm where amphibious forces harassed and kept Iraqi divisions occupied, but did not attack them.

During Phase I of Hunter Warrior, the emphasis was on detecting targets. The operating force tried to make this difficult by breaking into small platoons or lesser-sized units and creating an “anthill” effect on the battlefield, rather than a few, huge mechanized formations.

In spite of this, SPMAGTF(X) successfully employed multiple long-range contact patrols and unmanned aerial vehicles, in addition to other means of detection, and was always between 36 and 74 percent accurate during the general engagement phases (Phases II and III), when compared to the actual “ground truth” after the fact.

One unexpected result that came from this portion was the “harassing” effect that the multiple-sensing capabilities had on the operating force. After-action reports stated that there was a “fish-bowl” effect — a feeling of always being watched — in addition to having Unmanned Aerial Vehicle fly-overs disrupt planning sessions. The opposing forces learned early on that it would be hit within two hours after a fly-over and started moving to avoid them.

Forward afloat forces do not have the assets to shoot everything; fire management is important in shaping the battlefield.

Most of the targets that were tracked and fired upon by the SPMAGTF(X) were hit 92 percent of the time, although not always on the first shot. Some of the lessons learned included:

- Precise target locations needs to be matched with

precision weapons.

- Hitting long-range moving targets is not easy.

- Aiming in after the first “ballpark” shot is the most accurate way; however, the first shot costs money, too. Initial precision is important.

One of the greatest detection devices SPMAGTF(X) had was the Long Range Combat Patrol — basically Marine reconnaissance and targeting teams made up of basic Marine rifle squads. The biggest concern, however, was that they would have a low survivability rate if they were detected by the OpFor. Despite these fears, only one of 28 was discovered and attacked. During a focused experiment, the aggressor force was told the location of the LRCPs and still found none.

The patrols were formed from a regular battalion, not one that was hand-picked or otherwise “gold-plated.” This reinforces the theory that infantry units, enabled by technologies and training, can successfully perform the LRCP mission.

One drawback for the LRCPs, however, was their performance at night. Most of their sightings occurred during daylight hours. The only night detection capability they had beyond roughly 1,000 meters was sound, and their targeting capability was essentially gone after sunset.

The lab plans to pursue and improve on the LRCP concept.

During Hunter Warrior, digital data transmission in the form of cargo pocket-sized mini-computers was introduced to units that were accustomed to operating almost exclusively by voice.

The Newton-Ericsson/ Leatherneck System allowed Marines to call for naval gunfire, mortars, artillery, and close air-support. The device was tapped into the Global Positioning System for navigation and provided alert status, reports, and free-text messages. Additionally, it was not limited to a 12-mile limit like other equipment currently in use.

In after-the-fact comparisons between data and voice, data was found most useful for disseminating:

- Pre-defined information (position reports)
- Routine information (status reports)
- Numerical data (target coordinates)
- Rapid (burst) transmission of high-volume information

Voice, on the other hand, was found most useful for:

- Communicating on the move (it is hard to type on

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An S-3 Viking (left), from the USS Constellation aircraft carrier, refuels an AV-8B Harrier during Operation Southern Watch. (Photo by Maj. Rudi Broshears)

Armed Harriers patrol southern Iraq "no-fly" zone

by Capt. Douglas Powell,
15th MEU(SOC)

15TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT (Deployed) — Many pilots dream of flying a real-world combat mission, and the Harrier pilots of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161 (Reinforced) got their chance when they flew over southern Iraq as part of Operation Southern Watch.

Operation Southern Watch, which began in 1992, involves patrolling the "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq in order to maintain continuous surveillance of the Kuwait-Iraq border, and to ensure the Iraqi military doesn't violate any United Nations resolutions passed since the Gulf War.

Maj. Rudi Broshears, Harrier det. commander, said his participation in Southern Watch brought with it an excitement of "finally getting close to what we're really trained to do."

"It included all the different training I've gone through. I've never experienced anything as all-encompassing as Southern Watch," said Capt. Marcus B. Annibale, a 29-year-old Harrier pilot from Fairfax, Va. "It's the best training I've had so far. We put so much effort into planning it that I felt really safe doing it."

While deployed to the Arabian Gulf with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) aboard the USS Boxer, the Harriers flew air interdiction and armed reconnaissance missions.

"In order to fly these missions, aircraft are required to carry live ordnance," said Maj. Gregory J. Bonam, an F/

A-18 pilot with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron-323, aboard the USS Constellation. During the Harrier-supported missions of Southern Watch, Bonam was aboard the Boxer to help integrate the Harriers into larger strike packages off the USS Constellation (CV-64).

"This is the most real-world training I can get for my pilots," Broshears, who has flown AV-8Bs for nearly 10 years, said. "It's like sending all my pilots to Weapons Tactics Instructor's School. Southern Watch includes a lot of what WTI teaches, plus a whole lot more.

"This operation puts it all together — from a pilots perspective, to a Harrier perspective, to a strike element perspective. We had everything in place, to include command and control, suppression of enemy air defense, fighter coverage, tankers and strikers," said Broshears.

Before the pilots ever climbed into the cockpit, extensive and thorough preparations took place to ensure the safest and most productive flight possible. Each of the Harrier pilots was assigned a specific area to focus on for planning, such as weaponeering, navigation, communication, combat search and rescue plans, and fuel requirements.

"For the junior pilots, this is a great learning experience because, for the first time, they really see the entire planning process," Broshears said.

Since Operation Southern Watch began in August 1992, more than 131,000 accident-free sorties have been flown, with more than 86,000 of them over southern Iraq. The operation was initiated in the wake of Iraq's repression of the Kurds in the north and Shiites in the south.

Congress looks at changes to BAQ/ VHA

by Lance Cpl. Amos Kelso,
MCRD Parris Island

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT PARRIS ISLAND, S.C. — Congress is currently debating two proposals submitted by the Office of the Secretary of Defense's compensation department that would change the pay service members receive for off-base housing and entitle all members to Basic Allowance for Subsistence.

The first proposal would combine the Basic Allowance for Quarters and the Variable Housing Allowance into one allowance known as Basic Allowance for Housing. The new allowance would even out the out-of-pocket expenses of service members of the same rank, regardless of where they are stationed.

Whereas the current system for determining VHA relies on questionnaires filled out by its recipients, BAH will be determined by an annual survey of local housing costs through an

outside party.

"Your BAH would be based on this new rate," explained Maj. Joseph Terry, manpower compensation officer for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Headquarters, Marine Corps. "You would get one allowance for a particular area, no matter where you live or what type of house you live in, or how much you're paying for rent."

According to Terry, the new compensation program will be good news to many junior enlisted Marines. Research shows that many of them would get a raise in housing under the new BAH system since their current housing costs less than what would be afforded them under the plan.

If BAH is passed, Marines who currently receive VHA and BAQ will still receive their current allowance, while those who join the Marine Corps or move off base after the implementation begins will receive BAH.

The second proposal currently under debate by Congress is a plan to

give partial BAS to all servicemembers, including those who live in the barracks.

Under this proposal, Marines living in the barracks would continue to be issued a meal card, but would also receive a monthly food allowance. The daily cost of meals eaten at base mess halls would be deducted from this allowance each month and Marines would keep any remaining difference.

"Under this plan, they'll see BAH payments on their Leave and Earnings Statements and the amount deducted from their pay for food," said Terry. "Let's say your food cost is \$50. You'll get the \$50 remainder."

Once the plan is fully in place, DoD expects to submit a proposal to members with BAS while on deployment.

If approved by Congress, both plans would take effect Jan. 1, 1998, and each would require a five to six year implementation period.

Vacationing Marine uncovers marijuana operation

by Sgt. Lisa D. Tidwell,
MCAS Yuma

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. — When Provost Marshal criminal investigator Tate Begley begins telling his fish stories, people listen. His latest catch is sitting in jail awaiting a \$50,000 bond.

While on a fishing trip with a friend, Begley uncovered a marijuana farm and stopped its operators in their tracks with good initiative, surveillance skills, and just plain luck.

Begley said he was not planning to use his investigation skills July 11 when he went to Lake Mittry to go fishing with his retired Air Force friend, John Nicewander. But shortly after hitting the fishing bank, Begley was surprised to hear his friend say he'd heard gun shots, someone pounding stakes in the ground, and low voices in the brush. However, with the catfish eagerly waiting,

Begley did little but store this information in his "brain housing group."

Two days later was another story. Both men were floating downstream in fishing tubes without a care in the world. Their only mission — to catch as many fish as possible and relax in the afternoon sun. That is until they drifted past a portion of the bank that was cut out and noticed the booby trap that awaited any unsuspecting fishermen.

According to Begley, there was a maze of cable strung under the water. If a boat went through with the motor running, it would be disabled immediately. The two men's examination was cut short when they heard a motor approach.

"We heard the boat approach, its engine turn off, and

continued on pg. 15

Enlisted commissioning program guidelines set

Enlisted Marines interested in commissioning programs should immediately consult ALMARs 217/97, 218/97, 219/97, and 220/97. The messages contain information on commissioning programs available to Marines, application instructions, and deadlines.

ALMAR 217/97: FY98 Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) program.

BOOST provides Marines from educationally deprived or culturally diverse backgrounds an opportunity to improve their chances for qualifying for a commissioning program. The 10-month course at the Naval Education and Training Center, Newport, R.I., includes remedial high school and college preparatory level instruction. The selection board will convene in December. Applications must reach the commanding general, Marine Corps Recruiting Command no later than Oct. 31. Marine Corps Order 1560.24D applies.

ALMAR 218/97: FY98 Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP).

MECEP allows outstanding Marines on active duty to attend college

full-time to earn their baccalaureate degree and a commission as a second lieutenant. MECEP selectees receive full pay and allowances, promotion opportunities, and annual leave. Tuition, books, and academic fees are the individual's responsibility and can be paid through a variety of means, including G.I. Bill benefits, Veterans Educational Assistance Program, the Colonel Short Loan Program, or student loans. The selection board will convene in December. Applications must reach the commanding general, Marine Corps Recruiting Command no later than Oct. 31. Marine Corps Order 1560.15L applies.

ALMAR 219/97: FY98 Naval Academy/Naval Academy Preparatory School.

This program is open to active duty and reserve Marines. All applicants must request and complete the required application forms for admission to the Naval Academy before they will be considered for the Naval Academy Preparatory School. The application deadline is Jan. 31, 1998, but early submission will provide the opportunity for early offers of appointment to the Naval Academy or

early selection to the Naval Academy Preparatory School. Marine Corps Orders 1530.11G and 1306.17F apply.

ALMAR 220/97: FY98 Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Scholarship Program.

The NROTC program provides scholarship recipients with tuition, books, instructional fees, uniforms, and a subsistence allowance of \$150 per month while attending a university full-time. It will be necessary for those selected for the scholarship to defray costs of room, board, and supplemental costs while enrolled in the program. Marines may use their GI Bill or VEAP to supplement their scholarship. The Marine Corps will conduct two selection boards this year — an early board in November, and a national board in February. Applications for the early selection board must be received by the commanding general, Marine Corps Recruiting Command no later than October. Applications for the national board must be received no later than Jan. 31, 1998. Marine Corps Orders 1100.73B, 1306.17F, 1560.28B, and 1560.30B apply.

Recruiting Command receives Meritorious Unit Commendation

The Marine Corps Recruiting Command, Headquarters, United States Marine Corps received a Meritorious Unit Commendation during a ceremony Aug. 7.

The award was issued for "meritorious service in the field of total force recruiting and officer procurement" from July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1997. During this period, the command met or exceeded all Department of Defense recruiting goals and increased the size and quality of the Delayed Entry Program Pool, according to the citation.

In addition, the recruiting command implemented a new pool program to enhance the programs quality and decrease attrition "during a period of changing and challenging market conditions," according to the citation.

In addition to members of the recruiting command,

Marines who helped their recruiters may also be eligible for the award.

Marines or Marine reservists who performed Temporary Additional Duty with the recruiting command from July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1997 will be eligible to wear the award, according to an internal message sent throughout the Marine Corps Recruiting Command.

Although the commandant has "signed-off" on this information, Capt. Devin C. Young, Marine Corps Recruiting Command adjutant at Headquarters Marine Corps, said the almar regarding the award should be released soon and will provide further guidance on eligibility requirements.

Marijuana continued

re-started after it passed over the cables," said Begley. "Whoever it was, he knew the cable was there. Shortly afterward, we heard a small generator start up.

"Within 15 minutes, they had left," continued Begley. "This really had us thinking. That night we called the Fish and Game Department and asked them to check it out."

The operation continued July 16. The curious fishermen were nearing the booby trap when they again heard an approaching motor. Begley made a mental note of the description of the two men and scratched the boat's registration numbers into his tackle box. It was clear the Fish and Game Department had not found the location or the suspects.

When the men noticed their audience, Begley quickly played dumb and asked if they had weeds caught in their motor, since they had turned off the engine and skimmed past the trap.

The suspects quickly warned them not to go further up river because there were bees and they should turn back. Begley thanked them and backed off.

Later that afternoon, Begley scouted the area while Nicewander stood guard. After a long cautious approach

searching for booby traps along the way, Begley stumbled upon several marijuana plants wrapped in chicken wire.

Realizing the seriousness of his find, Begley quickly left the area and called the Sheriff's Department.

"The Sheriff's Department put me in contact with the Southwest Border Alliance, the narcotics task force for the desert southwest," said Begley. "From there, we gave our statements."

Unfortunately the area was so remote that Begley couldn't explain it well, so he was asked to join them on their surveillance. The authorities contacted Begley's command, and he was quickly given clearance to participate in the operation.

Shortly after hitting the water July 22 disguised as fishermen, the group of officers approached the site. Their original intent was only to observe the surroundings. However, when the two suspects approached the area, the bust went down.

According to Begley it all happened quickly. One minute they were hiding, and the next, they heard a shotgun shell chambered and the first suspect was in custody.

"Once the suspects were in custody, we began to pull out the evidence," said Begley. "We pulled out 152 marijuana plants."

Warfighting continued

the move)

— High-tempo operations (it takes longer to compose data messages than speak)

— Personal communications (e.g., hearing the stress in a subordinate's voice)

In war, attempts are made to present a dilemma to the enemy, forcing him to disperse and become vulnerable to direct action by maneuvering forces, or to mass and become vulnerable to indirect fire.

The SPMAGTF(X) was built from assets normally available to Marine expeditionary units with the addition of mobile infantry platoons. The aggressors knew that and were correct in believing that such a light force would not be effective against evenly dispersed mechanized units.

The two lessons learned from this were:

— In order to present the combat dilemma to the enemy, the maneuvering force must pose a credible threat (OpFor forces never felt compelled to mass, even when the Operational Maneuver Element came ashore).

— The OME must be effective and able to survive in a direct fire battle until additional fires can be brought to bear.

The Combat Operation Center is the nerve center of the battlefield where all friendly and enemy information is sent to be compared, contrasted, and disseminated.

During Hunter Warrior, the Experimental Combat Operations Center was organized differently than traditional Combat Operations Centers in that it was organized around combat operations rather than being layered into "shops" (administration, intelligence, etc.) The ECOC also had the capacity to use national and joint intelligence gathering assets, such as satellites, to paint a more complete picture of the battlefield. This information, coupled with reports from other assets, substantially cut the time needed to verify, evaluate, and disseminate information.

The overall effect gained from Hunter Warrior was not achieved by simply adding technology enhancements to regular forces. The experiment's conclusions were reached through a combination of enhancements:

- Tactics, techniques and procedures
- Organizational changes
- Training
- Technologies

The results from Hunter Warrior will be incorporated into the next Marine Corps Warfighting Lab experiment — Urban Warrior — in January 1998.

Lat moves:

Changing MOSs may be only way for some

by *Cpl. Matt S. Schafer*
Staff Writer

In the 19th Century, there probably was not an official term to describe the transition when Marines put down their rifles and cooked something for the platoon.

Every Marine is a rifleman first, but the Corps also assigns each leatherneck a Military Occupational Specialty.

Each MOS requires a certain number of Marines to operate effectively, and officials at Headquarters Marine Corps, Arlington, Va., ensure each career field meets its quota. Of the thousands of Marines who satisfy these yearly requirements, occasionally Marines who are qualified and want to re-enlist are unable to remain in their field because of MOS overages.

This is just one of the reasons why the Marine Corps established the Enlisted Lateral Movement Program.

What is a lateral movement?

According to Gunnery Sgt. Dwayne R. Lucas, barracks career planner, a "lat move" is a movement from one career field to another.

"Sometimes you get a Marine who came in determined to be an '03' and after four years, he wants to move into something more technical," Lucas said. "There are also Marines who are directed by the commandant of the Marine Corps to make a lat move, as well as the Marines whose primary MOS is restricted or closed."

Lucas said if a proficient Marine wants to re-enlist, but if insufficient seats exist in his or her MOS, the Marine Corps will do everything it

can to retain that Marine. The Marine Corps, however, cannot make the lat move for the Marine. According to Sgt. Troy M. McNeal, a lat move applicant, making a lat move requires much patience and paperwork.

"I began seeing the career planner in June, and I've been fighting with the paperwork ever since to get things lined up for my re-enlistment date, November 1," McNeal said.

Who can make a lat move?

A Marine needs to be in good standing with the Marine Corps before he or she is even considered for a lateral move. Factors such as a high Physical Fitness Test score, high proficiency and conduct marks and a high marksmanship score are a necessity. In addition, a General Technical Examination score of at least 110, and an Electronic Aptitude Exam score of at least 115 opens many doors for Marines.

"Most military occupational specialties require a high GT and EL score," said Lucas. "And that's why I think it's important for Marines to take the military placement test at their two-year mark, especially if their scores are low."

Where to begin

Interested Marines must begin their lat move process by visiting Lucas' office on the second floor of the headquarters building. The career planner reviews the individual Marines' file and presents that Marine with available options.

The Marine is then required to select at least three career fields for his or her primary and prospective MOS monitors to review, and submit those selections to Headquarters, Ma-

rine Corps for evaluation. If the Marine gets the MOS, he or she can arrange to go to the MOS school or receive on-the-job training.

"Making a lateral move is a long process," McNeal said. "But if you're really serious about staying in the Marine Corps for a while, you have to play the waiting game just like everybody else."

How do monitors determine if a Marine can change MOSs?

"Promotion is everything! High pros and cons, high test scores — all aspects of being a highly qualified Marine," Lucas emphasized. "We try to meet the needs of the Marine Corps and the needs of the Marine."

Lucas said the Marine Corps looks at how a lat move will affect the Marine's career. For instance, a Marine who has two years experience in one MOS may have a better chance than a Marine who has eight years. The Marine Corps keeps this in mind because a senior noncommissioned officer may have trouble getting promoted without adequate experience in his or her new MOS.

In addition to making sure the Marine can make a lat move, there must also be a spot in the new MOS for the Marine to fill. If there is a vacant seat, the Marine making the lat move might get it.

"Basically, (the monitors) are going to take the cream of the crop, so to speak," said Lucas. "It's first come, first serve to an extent, but it's also 'who are the most qualified as Marines?'"

With an 18-wheeler full of equipment and hundreds of commitments each year, moving the United States Marine Band would be a logistics nightmare without the ...

Marine Band stage crew

by *Cpl. Matt S. Schafer*
Staff Writer

The Marine Band performed 931 commitments in 1996, making its stage crew one of the busiest units at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

The seven Marines on "The President's Own" Stage Crew sets up the instruments for the Marine Band to perform, but this is just one of the numerous duties they perform for the band.

According to Cpl. Darelle M. Joiner, the assistant stage manager of the crew, the stage crew helps the band in a variety of areas.

"Our mission is to set up and break down concerts for the band," Joiner said. "We make sure everything is ready on time, we keep the band hall clean, and we provide service to the band."

In addition, the crew provides security during the performances and maintains stage props, such as speakers and spotlights.

The stage crew usually arrives at the concert site two hours prior to the performance. In that time, they position the instruments, music stands, lighting — if needed — and anything else necessary for the concert.

During the summer, the crew supports three regular shows each week, in addition to other unscheduled performances. The band's regular commitments include the Friday Evening Parades, the Capitol Steps Concerts



Lance Cpl. Robert A. Mozeleski, former Band crew stage hand, adjusts the aim of a loose spotlight to prepare for a concert on the steps of the Capitol. (photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

on Wednesday evenings, and the Sylvan Theater Concerts at the Sylvan Theater in Washington, D.C., every Sunday evening.

"We usually work about six days a week between our regular shows and other commitments," Cpl. Philip T. Samuels, crew chief for the stage crew, said. "We get compensation

time, but when it comes to a work day, we may work from 9 in the morning to 11 p.m."

Once the summer schedule ends, the touring season begins. Joiner said tours are usually 60 days long, with a different show every day. That, as a rule, leaves the stage crew loading and unloading instruments and equipment each day for two months, with a half-day off every two weeks.

"When you're on tour, it takes longer to set up the stage because it's a different set up," Joiner said. "You have this big 18-wheeler with all of the equipment on it, and it's like a big puzzle you have to put together every day."

After the first couple of weeks on tour, Joiner said the Marines are able to layout the stage in less time, a recurring goal for the unit.

"We always try to set things up as fast as we can," Joiner said. "It

continued on pg. 20

Hispanic Marines share culture, experiences

by *Cpl. Matt S. Schafer*
Staff Writer

The Marine Corps draws young men and women from all over the country to join the ranks of the few and the proud. From Alaska to Puerto Rico, different groups of people unite, setting all differences aside to accomplish the mission, whatever it may be.

While the Marine Corps environment may require adopting new cultural awareness, there are various observances the Armed Forces and United States reserve for Marines to recall their roots.

From Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, Marines of Hispanic descent celebrate their culture and allow Marines from different backgrounds to learn where their comrades came from before the days of boot polish and heavy starch.

For example, before 1st Sgt. Felix Robles Jr., Headquarters and Service Company first sergeant, ever stepped on the yellow footprints at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., in 1976, he lived in a Puerto Rican neighborhood in New York.

"I was living in the south Bronx when this recruiter from Pennsylvania came by my school and told me about the Vietnam G.I. Bill," Robles said. "He said, 'If you want to further your education, you should join the Marine Corps,' so I signed up."

Reporting for training at Parris Island, Robles said he found himself in a platoon where he was the only recruit who was not from Arkansas.

"I grew up on rice and beans, and speaking Spanish every day," Robles said. "It was rough because everybody was from Arkansas and nobody was Puerto Rican. But once I became an '03,' I was successful."

In 1988 Robles returned to Parris Island as a drill instructor, where being bilingual was an asset to his entire battalion. Drill instructors from other platoons, and sometimes other companies, would bring Hispanic recruits to Robles for problems varying from trouble speaking English, to trouble adapting to the boot camp environment.

"One time, a friend of mine was having problems with one of his recruits, so he brought the recruit to me and I chewed him out in Spanish," Robles said. "He was surprised that I was Hispanic because he thought the Ma-

rine Corps was extremely racist. He thought he was getting picked on because he was Hispanic, but that was not so. He was getting picked on because he was a recruit."

Much like Robles' experiences on the drill field, Cpl. Javier Torres, who gives tours at the Pentagon, translates Spanish to English on a regular basis as well. Whenever a group of Hispanic dignitaries or Hispanic tourists visit the Pentagon, Torres gives the tour.

While Robles and Torres have found ways to incorporate their ethnic origin into their duties, Robles said he does not let it affect his personal judgment as a Marine.

"I treat everybody equal across the board, because to me, when a Marine walks into my office, it doesn't matter whether he is black, Hispanic, Irish or Italian. He is just another Marine," Robles said.

On the other hand, Robles will not hesitate to talk with other Hispanic Marines about their culture.

"Sometimes, Marines ask me if I'm going to New York for the Puerto Rican Parade, and I know they feel some pride in knowing that I am a first sergeant and I'm Hispanic, just like them," Robles said.

For Cpl. Angel A. Ortiz, mess hall cook, being a Hispanic Marine gives him two things to take pride in being part of.

"I feel great about being Hispanic, and I feel great about being in the Marine Corps," Ortiz said. "Hispanic heritage month is about your diversity

— you as an individual. I'm proud of who I am, and I think everybody should be proud of their background."

Ortiz is currently putting together a Hispanic Marine group, which is open to Marines of all backgrounds.

"This group is a chance for Marines to learn more about the Hispanic culture and make some friends in the process," Ortiz said.

For Pfc. Juan Martinez, H&S Co. guard detachment, meeting Marines from different backgrounds has been a learning experience.

"There really aren't as many Mexicans here as there are in Texas and California, but it doesn't bother me," Martinez said. "We may have different ethnic backgrounds, but we are all still Marines, and I'm proud to be part of that."

"We may have different ethnic backgrounds, but we are all still Marines, and I'm proud to be part of that."

Pfc. Juan Martinez

Grounds gets down 'n dirty to keep post clean

by *Cpl. Nelson O. Akeredolu*
Staff Writer

On any given day at the barracks, a group of determined-looking Marines attends to various tasks such as mowing grass, blowing leaves, shoveling snow or simply watering flowers. On the faces of these Marines, you see a look of pride. These are the Marines who make up the Grounds Platoon and are entrusted to keep Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., clean and manicured.

The platoon is about 47 years old, according to Sgt. Troy M. McNeal, platoon sergeant of grounds and acting barracks horticulturist. The platoon consists of Marines who are temporarily assigned Military Occupational Specialty 8911 (Barracks and Grounds Marine).

Originally, Marines were brought to 8th & I to fill these positions. Over the years, however, the practice changed to using Marines reassigned from over-staffed sections. The size of the platoon ranges from eight Marines during the winter to 25 in the summer, according to Maj. Matthew P. Crotty, barracks logistics officer.

The platoon does the bulk of its work during the summer months. They keep the grounds in parade condition and set up and tear down equipment, such as mats and boards, for the parades each Tuesday and Friday through parade season.

A typical Evening Parade day for grounds begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 11:30 p.m. The platoon arrives just after dawn to set up. They pull weeds, trim hedges, mow grass, sweep and wash the walkways and parade deck, set up mats and boards and much more. At the end of each parade, the platoon remains behind, after guests and other Marines leave, to remove everything they set up that morning.

"I keep a log book of the hours we work during parade season," said McNeal. "This year our lightest work-week was 92 hours."

In addition, the unit also cares for the commandant of the Marine Corps' residence, the general officer's quarters, and the barracks commanding officer's residence.

During the winter, the platoon prepares for the next spring and parade season. They order new flowers and plant winter crops such as kale and cabbage as ornamental plants. They also conduct maintenance on chairs, hat racks, coat racks and poles and put in work requests to the Maintenance Shop for damaged walkways. They also take care of snow removal and other miscellaneous jobs.

Grounds is an important part of the barracks, according to Crotty.

"This is the showplace of the Marine Corps. Someone has got to keep it in that status. That is part of what grounds does," said Crotty. Gen. Charles C. Krulak, commandant of the Marine Corps, mentioned the good job grounds does in a recent letter, according to Crotty.

The platoon also realizes the importance of their mission.

"If you didn't have Grounds, you wouldn't have boards, mats and ropes put out on parade nights. You would not have 'Two' set up the way it's supposed to be. You would have to hire someone to do all the work we do," said McNeal. "Planting flowers, removing flowers, putting in new sprinkler heads — if you subcontracted all that work out, you would be looking at [thousands] of dollars."

The work that grounds does gives visitors a picture-perfect image of the barracks, according to McNeal.

In addition to keeping the barracks clean, grounds also works at keeping its image clean. Unfortunately,

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Cpl. Charles L. Murray, Grounds Platoon, sprays down the post deck to help prepare the barracks for an Evening Parade. (photo by Cpl. Nelson O. Akeredolu)

Grounds continued

some view grounds as a platoon for problem Marines because some Marines are reassigned there after Non Judicial Punishment. This belief creates a misconception of the platoon.

"I came to this platoon a lance corporal, and I am now a sergeant," said McNeal. "We sometimes get Marines that have had some trouble, but this is a good platoon. You can pick yourself up after NJP — you can bounce back. There are some people who look down on us, but we get the job done, and that's what matters. We put a good, honest days work in for the Marine Corps."

Despite the misconception, Marines in grounds are a

tight-knit group who say they love what they do.

"We have a bunch of hard workers this year. They are a really good crew," said Lance Cpl. James S. Dulap, a member of grounds. "I love what I do — I get to work outside all day and work with my hands. I love it."

Marines who understand the job grounds does express appreciation and respect for the unit.

"They are some hard-working guys," said Sgt. Christopher G. Paul, a cook in Headquarters and Service Company. "People come here on Friday nights and see that this place looks great, but they don't realize all the work that goes into it. I'm glad they are here."

Stage crew continued



Master Gunnery Sgt. Earl T. Hurrey, former stage manager, tightens the bolts on a loose spotlight before a concert.
(photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

gets to be fun because we set record times and try to break them. We see if we can get done faster than we did the night before. We're always challenging each other, seeing who can carry the most chairs, but we're being careful at the same time."

The stage crew slows things down occasionally to train new Marines, but their bustling schedule usually limits instruction to on-the-job training. In addition, they hold classes on how to

carry certain instruments, and they lift weights to increase their strength.

"We always stress strength and technique because you need some sort of strength when you're doing this," Joiner said. "And if you don't have the technique you need, it doesn't matter if you have the strength,"

While working on the stage crew, Marines learn how to work with lighting and musical equipment. According to Joiner, this job also familiarizes Marines with stage management and working on different job sites. They even get a chance to test their own musical ability.

"I learned how to play some piano, and lately I've been practicing the guitar," said Joiner.

In exchange, the stage crew delivers dedication and productivity, which Gunnery Sgt. John R. Barclay from Marine Band operations said is a necessity for them. He said the Marines on the stage crew allow the musicians to successfully carry out their mission.

The Marines from the stage crew gain valuable experience from their job, and they also manage to accomplish their mission behind the scenes so the Marine Band can perform. In the process, they make their own con-

tribution to entertaining spectators nationwide.

"When you are at the Capitol after everything is ready and the band starts playing, you see the people really enjoy it, and you know you helped set that up. That's where I get my job satisfaction," said Lance Cpl. Robert A. Mozeleski, stage hand.



Lance Cpl. Robert A. Mozeleski, former stage crew hand, operates the control panel of a platform to raise another Marine for a final check on spotlights before a concert.
(photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

Sir,

I recently had the pleasure of attending "The Evening Parade" at Marine Barracks. It was an experience that I as an ex-Marine will always remember. The performance of the Silent Drill Team was awe-inspiring, to say the least. The performances of the Marine Band and the Drum and Bugle Corps were also very enjoyable. It certainly made me proud to be an American and an ex-Marine.

You are to be congratulated for having such a curious and efficient staff. First of all it was Corporal Clark who answered my letter with a phone call and gave me all the information about the parade. Later on in the month I called him again expressing my concern because I had not received any tickets in the mail, he assured me that everything was in order and I only had to appear at a certain gate to be admitted.

On Friday, May 30, I had an unfortunate accident and was unable to walk unless I was aided by a cane. I again called Marine Barracks to explain my problem and was told if I needed help it would be provided. My friend was allowed to drop his wife, my wife and I at the gate where we were greeted by a polite gunnery sergeant who escorted us into the area. At the stands we were met by another gunnery sergeant who let us sit in the front row and I was not made to walk any stairs. Upon leaving, my friend was allowed to pick us up at the gate.

My friends were very impressed with the whole evening, making me feel full of pride for the Corps. If more people were to see and experience the evening like we did it would make them all proud of the Corps. Once again, you and your staff are to be congratulated for a job well done. Thank you again for making me Proud To Be A Marine.

Semper Fi!

Ernest A. Meyer Jr.

7 August, 1997

Dear Chuck:

I would like to extend my personal thanks for the wonderful evening at Marine Barracks, 8th and Eye, on the Fourth of July. I have spent the last month sharing my impressions of your magnificent Marines.

I could not have spent the birthday of this great Nation in a more memorable or patriotic setting. Janet and I were thoroughly impressed. From the close order drill, to the Silent Drill Team, to the spectacular music, to the spectacular trumpeters on the ramparts; it was truly unforgettable. Please pass to Col. Hejlik and the rest of his Marines my personal regards and "bravo zulu" for their superb performance.

The evening was a true testimony to "the few, the proud, the Marines"

Sincerely,

Bill

(William S. Cohen
Secretary of Defense)

2 September, 1997

Dear Col. Hejlik,

Thank you for your welcoming invitation to your Sunset Parade. Our group of seniors from Thomas House have attended three times and it has been the highlight of our summer outings. The parade was thrilling and the drill performances incredible. Thanks for giving us such warm and courteous attention and such happy memories, and being escorted on the arm of a handsome Marine was the crowning touch!

Helen P. Page

When you see these Marines, congratulate them on their recent promotion.

H&S Company

Sgt. O.C. Diaz
Sgt. D.J. Parker
Cpl. R.W. Steenland
Lance Cpl. J.D. Burge Jr.

Security Company

Cpl. J.R. McGill
Lance Cpl. J.A. Costa
Lance Cpl. S.A. Flanary
Lance Cpl. J.A. Tryon

WHCA

Lance Cpl. J.D. Main
Cpl. V.L. Washington

MCI Company

Maj. K. E. Mayo
Sgt. T.N. Taber
Cpl. M.D. Burningham

USNA Company

Lance Cpl. J.H. Bowers

Drum & Bugle Company

Staff Sgt. K.D. Buckles
Staff Sgt. B.J. Dix
Staff Sgt. M.D. Jones
Staff Sgt. M.E. Meier
Staff Sgt. S.H. Moriarty
Staff Sgt. C.R. Young
Sgt. J.G. Brown
Sgt. C.E. Hall
Sgt. D.C. Springs
Cpl. P.B. Howard
Cpl. J.D. McCaughey Jr.
Lance Cpl. B.A. Seals

Company "A"

Capt. G. S. Benson

Company "B"

Capt. K. C. Rohr
Sgt. S.J. Powers
Cpl. W.L. Smith
Lance Cpl. J.W. Andrea

Lance Cpl. D.L. Clay
Lance Cpl. H.B. Cuadros
Lance Cpl. T.N. Dawson III
Lance Cpl. S.M. Falsey
Lance Cpl. R.J. Harmon
Lance Cpl. L.J. Maple
Lance Cpl. W.B. Tillotson
Lance Cpl. L.D. Zook

Congratulations to the following Marines for the awards they received in August.

Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Gunnery Sgt. M. Duke
Capt. C. E. Ellis
Capt. J.D. Martin
Gunnery Sgt. V.M. Reyes

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Sgt. S.D. Powers

Merit Service Medal

Chief Warrant Officer Gary
N. Downey

Good Conduct Medal

Staff Sgt. C.R. Young, 3rd
award
Sgt. A.L. Zieler, 2nd award
Cpl. R.V. Espino, 1st award

The following career Marines re-enlisted in July.

Gunnery Sgt. J.C. Alexander
Gunnery Sgt. T.L. Hoffman
Gunnery Sgt. H. Odrick

Congratulations to the following Marines and their families.

Lance Cpl. Jennifer L. Ganaden and her husband had a 7-pound, 12-ounce baby girl, Taylor Marie, Aug. 7.

Lance Cpl. and Mrs. Ian W. Miller had a 9-pound baby girl Mackenna B., Aug. 19.

Sgt. and Mrs. Thomas J. Lyle had a 7-pound, 3.5-ounce baby girl, Annsly Allyn, Aug. 29.



OUTSTANDING!

Capt. Jon S. Hetland, commander of the staff help desk, stands at attention as Lt. Colleen Salonga, USN, friend, and Lt. Col. Glen White, MCI Company Commander, pin on Hetland's captain bars during a ceremony here Sept. 3. (photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

Preparing for a marriage that lasts

by Lt. Kenneth D. Counts
Barracks Chaplain

If you want a driver's license you must attend driver education classes for a month, drive with a learner's permit for six months, and pass written and driving tests. If you want to be a Marine, you must complete five to seven months of basic instruction, after successfully completing all the entrance and recruiting requirements.

Our society has requirements and controls on everything from buying a gun to obtaining permission to enter a park. It has become difficult to ever feel truly free.

But deciding to get married is not the best way to prove you are free to make your own decisions. If the above examples are legitimate cases for setting standards, I think marriage is far more important.

When you marry, you take responsibility for the welfare of another human being, as you sacrifice your own selfishness to support them. Whoever thinks he or she is ready for such responsibility, ought to openly prove and give explanation why they consider themselves ready.

Let me offer a list of prerequisites for appropriate preparation before getting married.

First, as soon as you decide to marry, inform your chain of command. No person in your chain of command can force you to delay or refrain from marriage. But you should not distrust or feel threatened by anyone who asks you why or how you have come to this decision. Is it cruel and unfair to ask you to explain your plans and reasons for entering into marriage at this time? No, it is unfair to expect your leaders to be silent and express no cautions or questions.

Second, meet with Mrs. Pat McCormick at the Navy Relief Society at the Washington Navy Yard to develop a budget. A budget proves you have solid knowledge of your specific income, and it will prove you have enough money to stay out of debt and are prepared for unplanned emergencies. No one is ready to marry who has not written a budget. (When I refer to a budget, I assume the budget will be respected to control irresponsibility.)

Third, you must meet with the Housing Office to discuss the availability of government quarters. If you plan to live off base, your living expenses will be far greater. Your budget should defend your choice of where you will live. And you must have a real address to be ready to marry.

Fourth, complete some course of pre-marriage coun-

sel and instruction. The Family Service Center, the barracks chaplain, or local churches will provide these. Many couples marry on the basis of shared experiences largely limited to recreation or entertainment.

Marriage is a partnership. In marriage you share wonderful love and companionship, along with aggravating work and stress. Marriage classes reveal how well you know each other and whether you can solve the normal problems of everyday living.

Are you committed to hang tough, or will you abort your spouse if they do not deliver all you dreamed? You are ready to marry when you can solve problems and make compromises to stay faithful to your imperfect spouse. You are ready to marry, if you have confidence the other person can handle the disappointments of knowing what you are really like, without fearing they will desert you.

Fifth, attend the barracks Pre-Marriage Seminar. In this seven hour presentation, 10 speakers discuss numerous aspects of their experiences and provide practical resources for the tangible needs of setting up a home in the nation's capital. (This does not satisfy the counseling requirement listed as the fourth point.)

You and your future spouse should attend this together. But you can also attend with your new spouse, and will still find the presentation helpful if you must wait to attend until after you have married.

This Seminar is a program of the barracks commanding officer and you are free to attend once you inform your duty section.

Sixth, you should never marry a person who has physically struck you. Nor should you wed any person who speaks to you negative, discouraging, or demotivating thoughts. If your "loved one" hurts or humiliates you in dating, when you try to create a good impression, he or she will certainly hurt you after marriage.

Finally, ask for the opinion of other persons you trust. Do your parents approve and support your choice of potential spouse? Have you asked fellow Marines what they think? Have you met the family who will be your in-laws? The way you treat your parents, is the way you will treat your spouse in 15 years.

All I want is your lasting happiness. If you work with wisdom at the beginning of your dating and engagement, you can have a marriage that lasts a lifetime. Don't settle for anything less.

God Bless

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