



PASS IN REVIEW

Serving "The Oldest Post of the Corps"

July 1998

BCD celebrates Battle of Belleau Wood in France

Career issue 782 gear on its way

-

Tricare basics

Reflections of the ol' XO

Never let 'em see you sweat!

by Lt. Col. Michael B. Kessler
Barracks Executive Officer

The time passed so quickly. It seems like only yesterday that I was given my first platoon in Company "K," 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines on Okinawa.

The year was 1974 and the tours were 13 Months. Racial tensions were high and the high school graduation percentage was well below 50 percent. How the times have changed.

As I look back over 25 years of service, I have been blessed with great assignments and superior support from those with whom I have served. The one thing I have discovered is that while some philosophies may change (swing with the social tide of the moment), virtually all of what we do and whom we represent remain unchanged.

Today we make up the same Corps of Marines that this nation has come to expect ... dedicated, hard working, and always eager to go the extra mile while expecting nothing in return. We make up a cross section of our society in terms of gender, race, religion, and wealth; and while we make up one of the smallest services, with a budget to match, we continue to do more with less ... and do it well.

Ours is an organization that has been honed to perfection over years and years of trial and error. Our reputation has been earned by the blood, sweat, and tears of those who have gone before. We are held together by a history of time-honored traditions and customs, and by that small emblem, recognized around the world, that takes on an aura all unto itself once it has been earned: the eagle, globe and anchor.

I am closing out a career that I had only dreamed of as a senior in high school. I have no regrets and given the opportunity to change anything, I wouldn't.

The people you meet, the places you go, and the things you will do over the course of a career, no matter how long or short that career may be, will pale in comparison to what everyone else does for a living.

Take advantage of every opportunity to learn and grow, as it can only help you in whatever you decide to do once it is time to take the uniform off for the last time.

My last tour here at the "oldest post" has been a pure joy.

To all of you, my sincerest thanks for your support. Every member of this command has stepped up to the plate and hit the big ball when it counted most.

To the professional musicians who entertain tens of thousands annually and represent the President and the Commandant in countless performances; the Marines at Naval Academy Company who have served that institution proudly since 1851; to the Marines at Camp David and the White House Communications Agency who serve the President and the first family and whose long periods of boredom are punctuated by periods of high energy whenever the President needs them; the Marines in the Silent Drill Platoon who work so hard to perfect what others can only dream of; the Marines and educators at Marine Corps Institute who lead the industry in distance education and provide invaluable Military Occupational Specialty-related education to Marines around the world; to the marchers who stand with me at Arlington Nation Cemetery during all kinds of weather to pay last respects to one of our own; to my beloved ground crew, the behind-the-scenes guys who work so damn hard to



Lt. Col. Michael B. Kessler

"Today we make up the same Corps of Marines that this nation has come to expect ... dedicated, hard working, and always eager to go the extra mile while expecting nothing in return."

make us look so good; and to Headquarters & Service Company, without whose support this command could not function.

My wife, Kim, and I wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors ... and thank you so very much for making our final tour such a rewarding and incredible experience.

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Pass in Review is an authorized publication for members of the Armed Forces. It is published monthly 11 times a year by the Marine Barracks Public Affairs Office, Washington, D.C. 20390, and contains information released by Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Armed Forces Information Service, Navy News Service and public affairs offices around the Marine Corps. Contents are not the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Navy, or the United States Marine Corps. All photos are official U.S. Marine Corps photos unless otherwise stated.

On the Cover

Staff Sgt. Christopher L. Arnold, "The Commandant's Own," dressed in a WWI Marine uniform, renders a special tribute to Belleau Wood's fallen. See story on page 6. (photo provided by Col. Truman W. Crawford)

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TRICARE basics answer questions

by *Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick*
Staff Writer

The Department of Defense replaced the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) with the new TRICARE health care system in the northeastern United States June 1.

The DOD developed the new system to stem problems brought on by military downsizing as well as to provide eligible members with higher quality, family oriented health care for active duty and retired personnel, as well as their families.

The DOD selected Sierra Military Health Services, Inc. and Military Treatment Facilities, or MTFs, to join together and administer TRICARE throughout the northeastern United States to create the optimum health care program, according to the "TRICARE Standard Handbook." Pharma Care joined the trio to help provide retail pharmacy services. Palmetto Government Benefits Administrators and FHC Options, Inc. fleshed out the program, providing administrative and mental health care. Optimum also came aboard to supply Nurse Advice Lines.

The new TRICARE team combined their considerable resources to develop a network of hospitals, physicians, pharmacies and other health care professionals within each community to augment care offered in military treatment facilities. The end result was a threefold health care program called TRICARE.

TRICARE offers three user-friendly health care options: TRICARE Prime; TRICARE Extra, and TRICARE Standard. Each option offers its members varying degrees of cost cuts, conveniences and health benefits.

TRICARE Prime

The DOD designed TRICARE Prime to provide low, out-of-pocket expenses with its predetermined copayments. It also offers the most comprehensive health care benefits at the lowest cost, according to the TRICARE Support Office in Aurora, Colo.

This program offers its members guaranteed access to care for nonemergencies within one week and within 24 hours for emergencies. Prime participants also receive treatment priority at military treatment facilities or civilian network providers.

The Prime option is a managed health care program and it provides each member with a Primary Care Manager, or PCM, of his or her choosing. Petty Officer 1st

Class Christopher F. Needham, Marine Barracks senior medical department representative, said this option closely resembles a family practice department or clinic, because patients see the PCM first for their health care needs.

"The TRICARE Prime patient sees only one doctor if he or she is using a Tricare-approved civilian medical facility," said Needham. "Health care providers at MTFs will try to keep patients with the same doctor or group of doctors. This helps the PCMs become familiar with the patient's medical history."

Should special circumstances arise calling for treatment outside of the PCM's medical field, the PCM has a network of military and civilian medical specialists for referral. A local Health Care Finder, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at the TRICARE Service Center makes the arrangements for the patient once he or she has the PCM's referral. Depending on his or her location, the PCM could be a group of providers in a Military Treatment Facility or a provider in the member's community.

Enrollment forms for the Prime option are available through a TRICARE Service Center. Upon receipt of an enrollment package, members receive a list, or directory, of physicians, clinics and military medical facilities which are part of the eligible Prime network.

Enrolling in TRICARE Prime requires signing a one year contract stating members will not be able to switch to another option. Retirees and their families will also pay a yearly fee for the Prime option, however, no fee applies to active duty service members and their families.

Members submitting their enrollment packages for TRICARE Prime must have their packets postmarked by the 20th of the month to be enrolled by the first of the following month.

Because of the current demand on military health facilities and local PCMs, TRICARE is encouraging those interested in TRICARE Prime to enroll quickly. Otherwise their local PCM may become unavailable, requiring members to commute.

TRICARE Health Services considers the Prime option to be the best option for families and retirees who want guaranteed access to the most benefits and who live near a military hospital or civilian TRICARE Prime Network.



Prime is not recommended for those people who travel frequently out of their Prime service area, as TRICARE will only pay for emergency care services received outside of the network if there is prior authorization.

TRICARE Extra

TRICARE Extra is an improvement on the old CHAMPUS program, but it is not a managed program, meaning members do not receive a PCM.

There are no annual fees and no enrollment process like there is in the TRICARE Prime option. However, members pay an annual deductible for outpatient care as they did with CHAMPUS. The copayment process for health care is the same as CHAMPUS, except there is a five percent decrease. So instead of paying 20 percent, TRICARE Extra members pay 15 percent.

The Extra option works well for people who are currently using a civilian health care provider inside the TRICARE Extra network who agrees to treat for less. It is also convenient to those people who do not live near a Prime network or military medical facility.

It is also convenient to those people who do not live near a Prime network or military medical facility.

TRICARE Standard

Those persons satisfied with the benefits offered under CHAMPUS can remain in TRICARE Standard.

According to the "TRICARE Standard Handbook," the Standard option is CHAMPUS with a different name.

In comparison to TRICARE Prime, the Standard option does not have fixed rates, there is no Primary Care Manager, no treatment priority, it is more expensive to the user and it offers fewer preventative services such as immunizations and medical education.

In addition, an annual billing cap limits the amount members pay if they are using civilian medical facilities.

Active duty members' families seeing civilian physicians will pay a portion of their medical bills up to \$1,000 collectively each year for health care under any TRICARE option. The cap for retirees and their families seeing civilian physicians is \$3,000 collectively for Prime and \$7,500 collectively for Extra and Standard. TRICARE covers all health care expenses once members reach their billing cap.

In addition, base commands will pay for all their service members' fees from civilian medical facilities if the members are directed to the facilities by their military physicians.

TRICARE has also reduced the paperwork for those filing claims, according to Needham. Health care providers will file claims automatically for TRICARE members using the Extra or Prime options, while TRICARE members using the Standard option will file their own claims.

Although TRICARE went into effect June 1, eligible members other than active duty service members who do not choose a TRICARE option have been automatically transferred to TRICARE Standard, and are, therefore, covered by TRICARE if they need medical attention before they choose an option.

Active duty service members will not be affected by the change to TRICARE, according to Needham, because they are automatically enrolled in TRICARE Prime.

One of the most immediate reasons for developing and implementing TRICARE is to supplement care available from military treatment facilities, according to the TRICARE Support Office in Colorado.

Currently, the DOD provides health care to 8.3 million people through less than half the military hospitals operating ten years ago. However, the number of people seeking health care through the Military Health Services System has dropped only nine percent in that time. Military retirees, who comprise more than 50 percent of all health care recipients, rely heavily on these military medical facilities to provide their care, according to Needham, and created a virtual log jam with the medical administration.

Needham said the long wait for medical treatment slows everyone down.

"Say, for example, a Marine hurts his knee," said Needham. "He spends all day at sick call. Then he gets put on light duty and the doctor recommends orthopedics, only there is a standard six-week to two-month waiting period for an appointment. However, regulations say a Marine can only be on light duty for 29 days or the Marine goes on limited duty and could face a medical discharge. But how can I recommend limited duty when he has not been seen and evaluated by the orthopedic department? The answer to the problem, and this is the hard line, is consistency in medical care. This is one of the things TRICARE will hopefully create."

Needham encourages barracks personnel to contact him at (202) 433-4517 for more information, or check out the TRICARE website at www.ha.osd.mil.

TRICARE also affords all of its participants access to the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-308-3518, available 24 hours a day for questions and concerns.

Call 1-888-999-5195 or contact a local clinic for a TRICARE enrollment package.





Sergeant Bryan C. Duprey, United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon guide, carries a flower arrangement to the presentation area of a ceremony commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Belleau Wood in France. The Battle Color Detachment recently went to France to participate in the ceremony and perform for French audiences. (photo by Sgt. Chance D. Puma)

Marines return

*by Sgt. Chance D. Puma
Community Relations*

Chateau Belleau, France — A mere 30 miles from Paris lies the Aisne-Marne American Military Cemetery, the final resting place for more than 2,200 American men. It is a small island of American soil within the scenic countryside of France.

To the unaware visitor, the Aisne-Marne is a calm and peaceful cemetery — nothing more. To a Marine, it is sacred ground.

Below the cemetery hill in a small Chateau Belleau courtyard is a wellspring. The only noise to break the peace there is of flowing water, pouring from the stone bulldog head of “Devildog Fountain” onto the moss-covered stones below. Above the cemetery, stands a small chapel and beyond it the wood of Belleau, the ancient hunting preserve that became a focal point of the German offensive in World War I. It was the closest the Germans ever got to Paris, and it became a proving ground for the United States Marines.

On the solemnly overcast morning of May 31, General Charles C. Krulak, 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps, spoke here on the sacred grounds of the cemetery in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the sacrifices made at Belleau Wood.

General Krulak’s voice echoed from the base of the chapel’s steps over the stolid head-



n to Belleau Wood to pay tribute

stones. Marine Barracks' Marine Battle Color Detachment, and Embassy Guard and French Army detachments stood at parade rest as hundreds of French and American patriots assembled in remembrance of those who fell in one of World War I's — one of the Marines' — most important battles.

The Commandant's address

"It was here, 80 years ago — in this beautiful forest and its surrounding wheat fields and villages — that the forces of freedom prevailed over those of tyranny.

"I walked the wheat field on the south side of Belleau Wood where the Marines started their attack on the 6th of June, 1918.

"I walked towards the treeline, through waist-high wheat, just as they did, 80 years ago. The history books describe that 800-yard advance, but I never fully appreciated how difficult it must have been until I walked it myself. The Germans had every square inch of that field covered with interlocking machine-gun and artillery fire. The Marines paid dearly with every step they took. As I got closer to the forest, I walked over a freshly plowed field. I picked up a handful of soil and found several pieces of shrapnel. After all those years — long after the flesh and blood disappeared — the soil still tells the story of

the price those young men paid.

"I walked among the trees of the Bois de Belleau and found a battlefield that defied written description. I looked up and saw that many of the older trees were grossly distorted. Their misshapen forms bear testament to the carnage that raged throughout the forest. I saw the massive rock formations that the German defenders turned into pillboxes.

"Once again — as in the wheat field — the Marines would pay dearly for every step they took. Yet, they advanced.

"It took them 20 days — 20 days of little sleep, little food, poison gas, machine-gun fire, artillery, loneliness, and death. In those 20 days, they beat back five German counterattacks — fighting off more than four divisions of crack German troops. They did this with their rifles; their bayonets; and, at times, their fists. On the 26th of June, the

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(left) Retired Marine Col. W. T. Anderson guides Marines in the Battle Color Detachment on a tour of the grounds at Belleau Wood during their visit to France recently. Barracks Marines spent the day at this battlesite study of the battlefield learning about the battle and walking the grounds Marines and Germans fought on 80 years ago in World War I. (photo by Sgt. Chance D. Puma)

(above) During their battlesite study, barracks Marines found ammunition shells used in World War I. (photo by Sgt. Chance D. Puma)



Marines share secrets with Air Force counterparts

by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick
Staff Writer

Marines in the Body Bearers section here recently helped some of their Air Force counterparts at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, develop a new fitness program.

Earlier this year, Air Force Staff Sgt. Ruben Gonzales Jr., body bearers' platoon sergeant at Bolling, was devising a new workout for his unit when he contacted the other services to see what their workouts included.

"We were trying to get the body bearers from all of the services together, and we were going to sit down and see what kind of workout program and what kind of criteria they had," Gonzales explained. "The Marines gave us a copy of their workout program we could refer to, and [I used that to] develop my own workout program."

Gonzales said he used the Marine Body Bearers' workout program, along with a few tips from other health experts, as a reference and developed a workout for his unit.

"We did not really take a workout program from anybody," Gonzales explained. "We mainly used [the Marine Body Bearers' workout plan] for reference. We would look at the program, a

few fitness magazines, and a workout developed by our monitor; and we determined how it applied to us and what we were doing."

Sergeant Edward D. Parsons, Body Bearers section leader here, said he visited with the Air Force after Gonzales called and shared his views on an ideal physical fitness program with Gonzales.

"Safety is my primary concern in a workout," Parsons explained. "In the past we have had a lot of injuries in shoulders, backs and knees, and

they were coming from Marines using improper technique. It is a lot more than just throwing a few weights around. Proper technique and safety precautions need to be taken when doing any type of physical activity."

In addition Parsons said an ideal workout will help a person gain mass, but not too rapidly.

"My next concern is not bulking up so fast [the athlete] can not, at minimum, [run three miles in 24 minutes]," Parsons explained.

Gonzales said he used Parsons' input, along with additional information from a variety of other sources, to develop a workout which is proving effective for his airmen.

"We have been implementing this workout for a month and it is working really well," Gonzales explained. "The guys are getting stronger so it is getting easier on everybody when holding the casket."

Parsons said he also benefited from sharing knowledge with other services by giving him another reason to take pride in his unit.

"It makes me feel good to know we passed something on to a different service that we take tremendous pride in," Parsons explained.



Body Bearer Cpl. Anthony Taylor Jr. provides a "spot" and a dose of encouragement as Sgt. Edward D. Parsons, Body Bearer section leader, pushes through another set. (photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

Barracks scheduled to receive 782 issue soon

by Cpl. Matt Schafer
Staff Writer

The Marine Corps has recently started distributing career issues of 782 gear to leathernecks around the Corps, and the Marines at 8th & I may receive their full issue in the next few months.

According to the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Memorandum from April 22, 1998, Marines at 8th & I and other posts and stations around the Corps can expect their own issue of 782 gear as soon as October.

"The Marine Corps policy states that Marines will receive an issue of 782 gear to support them throughout their careers," Chief Warrant Officer-3 Felix M. Arnold, barracks supply officer, explained. "There are already Marines who are getting issued career length issue in boot camp, and we have quite a few Marines who have checked aboard who have the career issue."

According to Arnold, if Marines have already checked out 782 gear from the post supply office here, they may end up keeping the serviceable items for their careers. As for the Marines who do not have a full issue, the barracks currently has enough gear to provide every Marine with a career issue, and they are ready to start the process.

"The posts and stations, which is what we are, are on the tail end of the process," Arnold explained. "Once we receive direction from Headquarters Marine Corps, we will initiate the process here. At that time we will do any surveying that needs to be done with the gear they [may have been issued before], and we will issue the Marines' [career issue 782 gear]."

According to Arnold, Marines will receive everything in their standard career issue. However, "flak jackets," sleeping bags and Nuclear, Biological and Chemical gear

are not part of the Marine Corps' standard full gear issue.

In order to keep track of the gear they issue, Marines in the Post Supply Office will enter the information about the gear issue into a computer program dedicated to keeping track of Marines during their careers. In addition, the Marine Corps will make note of the gear issue in Marines' Service Record Books.

Arnold said this requires Marines to be more responsible with their 782 gear.

"The Marines will be held accountable for the gear. Once an individual owns something and knows it is theirs for the next few years or so, they will take better care of it," Arnold explained.

With a new system of gear, however, comes another challenge. Arnold said the Marine Corps is currently tackling the issue concerning where and how Marines should mark their gear.

"The idea of having name tapes has come up, but we still have not been provided an answer for where Marines will mark all of their gear," Arnold said. "That is something we, as a command, and the individual Marine are going to have to think about, because once a Marine has the gear, that Marine is responsible for it."

While this new movement challenges Marines worldwide to exercise some additional responsibility, it will also enable supply offices around the Corps to accomplish goals which seemed more difficult in the past. One advantage the Marines will have is an abundance of room in their warehouse after supply Marines issue all of the gear.

"It is a good move for us because it is going to allow us to stock items we couldn't stock before because we just did not have room for it," Arnold said.

"A" Company Marines overrun Capitol Hill

by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer
Staff Writer

The Marines from Company "A" exchanged their M-1 Garand rifles for a truckload of rakes, mulch and "weed-wackers" May 21 when they assaulted a few blocks of Capitol Hill during a recent clean-up.

The Marines spent an entire day

cutting grass, pulling weeds and picking up trash around Tyler Elementary School, according to Capt. Sasan K. Sabet, "A" Company executive officer. In addition they conducted a clean-up along 8th Street in front of the local businesses, and they trimmed the weeds on the south side of the overpass on 9th Street.

"We do something like this every

year for the community where we spend a day cleaning up the area around the barracks," Sabet explained. "We decided we wanted to do a community service project, so we looked around and figured out what we could do in the time we had."

Marines here conduct the

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Barracks helps athletes succeed in Special Olympics

June 2, 1998

Dear Colonel Hejlik,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Special Olympics, I would like to recognize the Marines for their outstanding volunteer efforts during our 1998 Annual Summer Games. The support they, as well as the other branches of the military, provided was instrumental in the overwhelming success of the 1998 Special Olympic Summer Games.

The competition, held May 16-28, was the host to 2,500 athletes with developmental disabilities who participated in Aquatics, Athletics, Gymnastics, Volleyball and Golf.

The Annual Summer Games is the largest competition of the year and allows our athletes to experience the spirit and splendor of true sportsmanship. The importance of the Special Olympic Summer Games cannot be under-

stated — it gives all athletes with developmental disabilities a chance to be recognized as competitive individuals who excel at their sport. Through sports we are providing a safe environment in which all citizens with developmental disabilities can improve their self-esteem, gain self-respect and grow to become productive parts of our community. This would not be possible without the overwhelming support of the United States Marines.

Colonel Hejlik, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for lending us your support through volunteers. We are already looking forward to the 1999 games and we hope we can, once again, count on your team.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Paterno

Assistant Director, Corporate Affairs
Special Olympics, District of Columbia



(left to right) Special Olympics athletes William Johnson, 14-year-old Andreas Evans, and Mike Winston each unleash a softball during the Softball Throw competition at the District of Columbia's Special Olympics May 22. Service member volunteers, including Sgt. David D. Cringan (right), barracks maintenance section Tool Room non-commissioned officer in charge, cheer the athletes on to victory. (photos by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick)



Iwo Jima:

by Staff Sgt. Shannon Arledge
Public Affairs Chief

All Marines know of the WWII Battle for Iwo Jima.

The assault on Iwo Jima began February 19, 1945. The battle left 17,372 wounded and 5,931 killed. Through smoke, dust, flames and enemy fire, Marines of the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions and the 27th and 28th Marines paved the way to ending the second World War.

The battle climaxed February 23, 1945, in one of the most famous photographs ever taken: the flag raising on Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima.

Associated Press Photographer Joe Rosenthal took the Pulitzer Prize

Barracks honors sculptor who created one of Marine Corps' greatest symbols, memorials

winning photograph that made stateside headlines just hours after it was taken.

Then an artist for naval aviation and serving in the Navy, Felix W. de Weldon was about to make history — Marine Corps History. Stationed at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station, Md., de Weldon was painting a depiction of “The Battle of the Coral Sea” when he first saw the photograph.

“When I saw the flag raising photo I asked my C.O. if I could interrupt the Coral Sea painting and make a model,” de Weldon said. His commanding officer replied, “Go ahead.”

Lacking sculpting materials, he developed a mixture of floor and sealing waxes.

“I worked all Friday night, all Saturday, all Sunday and on Monday morning the model was complete,” de Weldon explained.

He had created a three-foot-high model of the current memorial. Seeing it, military and government officials prompted a joint resolution of Congress, commissioning de Weldon to create the permanent memorial to commemorate the sacrifices of all Marines who have fought and died in the service of the United States.

Surviving participants in the flag raising — Pfc. Ira H. Hayes, Pfc. Rene A. Gagnon and Petty Officer 2nd Class John H. Brad-



Brigadier Gen. Jan C. Huly, general officer host for the June 9 Sunset Parade, helps 91-year-old Felix W. de Weldon to his seat for the parade honoring de Weldon as the creator of the Marine Corps War Memorial. (photo by Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin)

ley — served as models for de Weldon’s masterpiece, aiding him in creating near perfect likenesses.

The three remaining heroes — Pfc. Franklin R. Sousley, Sgt. Michael Strank and Cpl. Harlon H. Block — were killed in action. De Weldon used photographs to complete their lifelike images.

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The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps performs in front of the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., during a Sunset Parade honoring Felix W. de Weldon, the monument’s sculptor. (photo by Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin)



Training qualifies Marines in Guard

Lance Cpl. Randon L. Knoll, Guard Section, Headquarters & Service Company, receives a dose of "pepper spray" (Oleoresin Capsicum) during a recent training evolution. According to Staff Sgt. James A. Rzonca, guard chief, the Guard Section conducts these training evolutions so guard Marines can become familiar with the effects of pepper spray — which is required for them to carry it. (photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

France continued

Marines of the 4th Brigade emerged from the hell of Belleau Wood on this very spot — victorious."

An untested wild card

Marines entered the war with three units transferred to the American Expeditionary Force in 1917. They were siphoned from around the Corps' posts and ship detachments to form the 5th Marine Regiment. Marine Corps Base Quantico, then a new station, formed the 6th Marine Regiment, and the unit later designated as the 6th Machine Gun Battalion was assembled. They were deployed by March 1918 to what was considered a non-critical place in the line of France's defense — a fitting starting place for these newcomers to the front.

But by May, the last of three final German offensives brought enemy troops much farther into France than the Allies had foreseen. The likelihood of stopping this charging assault looked uneasy and the French were already preparing to abandon the city of Paris, now dangerously close to the nearing front.

An unprecedented sacrifice

Within this scenario lie the marks of Belleau Wood's importance in Marine Corps history. Two things happened in those days of May and June. First, the German advance was indeed stopped with the Marines' staunch defense — credited greatly to Marine Corps marksmanship, which was earning a reputation at that time for accuracy at fantastic ranges. Second, and at great cost, the Marines pushed the Germans out of Belleau Wood where they had taken up defense.

From beginning to end, the Marine Brigade suffered

more than 50 percent casualties, a total of about 5,200. Accounts show these casualties to be greater than American brigade losses in any other single offensive of the war. Even more striking, more Marines died retaking the French preserve than in all of the Corps' battles up to that date combined.

But numbers alone do not account for the Marines actions there. It was the spirit and bravery, the will to fight and win, that characterized the Marines.

The tactics of the time were evolving and, while Marines began to use over time what could be recognized as squad tactics, large units fought battles of attrition. Many commanders were forced to employ frontal tactics since they had no form of modern communication to eliminate confusion. With only signals and messengers, the Marines often advanced on line, neatly dressed, and especially vulnerable to machine-gun fire.

With little or no cover, platoons were isolated by incoming rounds, moving against what they could only guess to be their objective — inch by inch against German machine-gun nests with interlocking fields of fire. Platoons were decimated to a few Marines led by a corporal. Platoon commanders were wounded and, with no one to lead, forced to regroup with another platoon under cover of night.

They faced confusion, fatigue, and murderous opposition — the truest definition of warfare — and overcame it. Their esprit de corps is well recounted with Sgt. Maj. Dan Daley's famous words, rallying Marines on the open wheatfields against the entrenched enemy, "Come on you sons of bitches, do you want to live forever?"

“Retreat, hell!”

The outcome of pitting fresh new Marines against proven, experienced German troops was at first unclear. But when the fog of war finally rose from Belleau after those famous 20 days of rifles, bayonets, and fists June 26, 1918, the Marines sent a famous message to their brigade commander and on to the American forces: “Belleau Woods now U.S. Marine Corps entirely.”

Marines were a force to be reckoned with in the eyes of the world and the German troops who spread word about the devildogs through their ranks. “Beware the yellow legs,” they said, referring to the distinctive colored leggings Marines wore in campaign uniform.

Shortly afterwards, in July, the Germans failed in their last great offensive of the war, putting them in a downward spiral toward defeat.

Sacred ground

Eighty years later, the scene at Belleau is vastly different. As the Marines triumphed over chaos then, they left a legacy for the Corps today.



Lance Cpl. Antwain T. Waters, Silent Drill Platoon, and another Marine “baptize” Marine Corps Mascot Cpl. Chesty XI in Devildog Fountain in France. It has become tradition for every Marine who visits Belleau Wood to drink from the fountain. (photo by Sgt. Chance D. Puma)

General Krulak described the legacy left by the battle and what the wood itself represents to Marines everywhere during the anniversary ceremony.

“After the battle, the Marines combed the wheatfields and forests looking for the remains of friends who didn’t survive. When they found their bodies, they picked them up, and gingerly carried them to this grassy plain and laid them to rest. The veterans could think of no more fitting place to bury their fellow warriors than here at the north end of the forest — a position they fought so hard to reach.

“Walking among the rows of crosses, and looking at the names, I felt the strongest sense of comradeship. While many of these young men died alone — fighting as individuals — they knew

they were fighting as a team for a common cause — freedom. And now, as we all can see, they rest forever under these trees, in this beautiful place, in this wonderful free country — together — as a band of brothers.”

Clean-up continued

clean-ups to help the local community, according to Cpl. Leonel Flores, 2nd Platoon, “A” Company.

“The Marines try to help out a little, and they try to make southeast (Washington, D.C.) a better place,” Flores explained. “We get a lot of people who own these businesses [and neighbors who reside in the area] telling us we are doing a great job. That motivates the Marines who are doing the work.”

Lisa Choy, the owner of a cafe on 8th Street, said the Marines’ contributions to the local community are just part of the reason she appreciates them.

“I just have great feelings towards the Marines because they are gentlemen,” Choy explained. “They are



Lance Cpl. Brandon K. Cooper, 2nd Platoon, “A” Company, spreads a pile of mulch around a tree on 8th Street during a recent clean-up. (photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

continued on pg. 14

Clean-up continued



Lance Cpl. William Torrez Jr., 1st Platoon, "A" Company, uses a "blower" to sweep piles of cut grass off "I" Street behind Tyler Elementary School during a recent neighborhood clean-up. (photo by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer)

respectful to others and they are always doing great things for the community."

In addition, the local community included an article in its newsletter, *PSA-112 West News*, thanking the Marines for cleaning the area.

"Thanks once again to our Marines for cleaning up the Tyler School yard," the article stated. "The park, enjoyed by the neighborhood children, ball players, dog walkers and Marines alike, received this much needed sprucing up on May 21."

While the clean-up improved the general appearance of the area within Capitol Hill, 1st Lt. Jason W. Walker, 1st Platoon commander for "A" Co., said it also proved beneficial to the Marines.

"[The clean-up] is a good change from the ceremonies and the field," Walker said. "Something like this is a different exercise for us and it adds a little variety to the training schedule."

Once the Marines finished the clean-up, Flores said their efforts gave the area a better appearance and the people of Capitol Hill a positive view of Marines.

"[Clean-ups] enable the Marines to work out in the community, and it actually lets the people see that Marines like to help the community. That is a pretty good recruiting tool," Flores said.

In the process, Sabet said the Marines enjoyed the sense of a job well done.

"I think they [felt] they made a contribution to the community," Sabet explained. "The difference [in the area's appearance] before and after gave the Marines quite a sense of accomplishment."

Sculptor continued

"I was put on temporary duty with the Marine Corps," the sculptor said. "But the temporary became permanent; so permanent, I'm still with the Marine Corps [in heart]. Nine years later it was complete.

De Weldon specified, "It took six years to make the plaster model, three years to cast it in bronze and a few months to erect it here."

President Dwight D. Eisenhower dedicated the Marine Corps War Memorial November 10, 1954, the 179th

anniversary of the founding of the Corps.

The Memorial is the largest bronze sculpture in the world at 78 feet tall, weighing 100 tons. The five Marines and one Sailor sculpted on the memorial are each approximately 32 feet tall. It stands in Arlington, Va., adjacent to the Arlington National Cemetery.

"I was so inspired, the first two years I worked 18 hours a day. My wife started to worry about me, so she

took me to the doctor. He said I needed to slow down, so I slowed down to 16 hours a day," said [laughing] the now 91-year-old sculptor.

The June 9 Sunset Parade honored de Weldon for his spectacular monument.

Alongside the internationally-acclaimed sculptor was [parade host] Brig. Gen. Jan C. Huly, Director, Operations Division, Headquarters Marine Corps, and Col. Dennis J. Hejlik, barracks commanding officer.

As the three stood to receive honors, it was evident de Weldon still remains part of the Marine Corps, and the Marine Corps remains a permanent part of de Weldon.

The artist glowed with pride as he reviewed the marching Marines. His smile showed the pride and passion he has for the Corps and the five Marines and one Sailor who are standing reminders that, "Uncommon valor was a common virtue."

"Every time I see the statue, I think of those Marines who were there," de Weldon said.

"There was nothing hard about the sculpture, I was so inspired by the great history of the Marines. My inspiration gave me drive, force and strength to do it."

In addition to the Marine Corps War Memorial, de Weldon has created more than 30 public sculptures in the Washington area over the years.

His works appear in the Capitol, the Rayburn House Office Building, the Kennedy Center, the Smithsonian's



Marine Corps War Memorial sculptor Felix W. de Weldon pauses to talk to a Marine before a Sunset Parade honoring the artist. (photo by Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin)

National Air and Space Museum, the George Washington Masonic Temple, and along the Avenue of Heroes leading to Arlington National Cemetery.

Correcting copy

May Issue

Cpl. Matt S. Schafer incorrectly identified the "Commandant's Own" as playing "Colonel Bogey" during the Friday Evening Parade on page 23. The "President's Own" actually plays this song.

Cpl. Matt S. Schafer incorrectly identified Sgt. Scott M. Hebert as a member of "B" Company's 2nd Platoon in a cutline on page 28. Hebert is assigned to 1st Platoon, "B" Company.

June Issue

Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick incorrectly identified Pfc. Tony D. Hinds as Hines in cutlines on page 3 and 21.

Cpl. Matt S. Schafer incorrectly quoted ALMAR 369/97 in a story on crunches on page 4. In a proper crunch, according to the ALMAR, Marines must raise up until their elbows touch their thighs, not their hips as the story stated.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

A Marine was found guilty of seven counts of Article 86, Absent Without Leave (AWOL), and Article 91, Disobeying a Lawful Order. He received 30 days restriction, and a suspended forfeiture of \$591 for one month.

A Marine was found guilty of Article 91, Disobeying a Lawful Order; Article 92, Dereliction of Duty; and Article 134, Discredit to the Armed Forces. He received 60 days restriction, and a suspended forfeiture of \$539 for two months.

A Marine was found guilty of Article 112a for drug use. He received 60 days restriction, a reduction to private first class, and a forfeiture of \$519 for two months.

A Marine was found guilty of violating a six-month suspended sentence for Article 92, Disobeying a Lawful Order. He received a forfeiture of \$569 for two months.

A Marine was found guilty of Article 92, Disobeying a Lawful Order. He received a forfeiture of \$251 for one month, 14 days restriction, and 14 days of Extra Police Duty (EPD). All punishments were suspended.

A Marine was found guilty of three counts of Article 86, AWOL, and Article 92, Disobeying a Lawful Order. He received 30 days restriction, a reduction to private first class, and a suspended forfeiture of \$591 for two months.



A Marine was found guilty of Article 93, Cruelty, and Article 128, Assault. He received a reduction to lance corporal, 30 days restriction, and a suspended forfeiture of \$604 for two months.

A Marine was found guilty of four counts of Article 86, AWOL. He received a forfeiture of \$557 for two months and 60 days restriction.

A Marine was found guilty of Article 86, AWOL. He received 14 days of EPD, and suspended sentences for forfeiture of \$259 for one month and 14 days restriction.

DOD needs first-hand accounts from Gulf War vets

by *Diana Berardocco*
Office of the Special Assistant
for Gulf War Illnesses

WASHINGTON (June 2) — The Defense Department's Office of the Special Assistant for Gulf War Illnesses is calling on Gulf War Veterans for first-hand information in the investigation of incidents that happened during the Gulf War.

The department is engaged in a comprehensive effort to identify what happened before, during, and after the Gulf War, and to determine how incidents and practices relate to various potential causes to Gulf War illnesses.

Investigators are facing special challenges as they pursue the case of an alleged chemical exposure to a Marine Feb. 27, 1991, or during the first week of March 1991. The incident is thought to have happened in the vicinity of Kabrit, Saudi Arabia, when the Marine was taking readings with a Fox vehicle to determine whether the enemy prisoner of war gear contained a chemical agent. He subsequently developed blisters thought to be from contact with contaminated enemy equipment.

Investigators are looking for a witnesses who may have been present and could provide critical information. Witnesses who call should report that they have information pertaining to the "Injured Marine" investigation.

Since the Office of the Special Assistant was established in November 1996, DoD has released 10 case narratives that focus on possible exposure to chemical or biological warfare agents. These reports lay out the facts

and provide an assessment about a suspected incident.

Investigators undertake an exhaustive and methodical investigative process to ensure the most accurate story is reported regarding specific events or issues. They rely heavily on first-hand accounts from witnesses to gain insight into the conditions surrounding the incident. Interviews are conducted with key military personnel who have the knowledge to reconstruct battlefield operations. Thousands of original source documents are examined and inter-agency information is exchanged and reviewed.

Once the original interim case narrative has been released, the case remains open to incorporate new information in follow-up reports.

In addition to those narratives already published, 19 case narratives, two information papers, and two update reports are in progress.

Bernard Rostker, the special assistant, is attempting to assemble the most accurate picture possible of the "Injured Marine" incident and other events surrounding possible exposure of troops to chemical and biological agents. As a result of lessons learned from these investigators, his office plays an integral part in recommending the DoD makes changes in equipment, policy, and procedures to protect future service members.

"If we can not explain what went on in the Gulf, then we will have a very poor ability to put in place military doctrine, medical policies, and procedures that would allow us to avoid these kinds of problems in the future," said

continued on pg. 18

Registration deadline cut short for Marine Marathon

Public Affairs Office
Marine Corps Marathon

QUANTICO, Va. (June 1) — Applications for the 23rd Marine Corps Marathon are being received at a record-setting pace. The original deadline was Sept. 1, but marathon planners anticipate closing the registrations by mid-July, a month earlier than last year.

By May 29, Marathon Headquarters had already received 10,500 applications for this year's race, 8,000 more than at that time last year. An average of 500 applications are being processed each week.

"We receive hundreds of calls and e-mails daily," said Rick Nealis, marathon race coordinator. "We want every-

one who has been training for the marathon to be able to run. So if you are planning to participate, mail your application today. There is not a minute to lose."

When an application is received, the runner's information is entered into a database and assigned a runner number. The marathon staff sends confirmation letters to everyone who enters each week. The entire application process takes approximately two weeks.

This year's race will begin at 8:30 a.m., Oct. 25, at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va.

Applications are available by calling 1-800-RUN-USMC, or on the internet at <http://www.marathon.quantico.usmc.mil>.

Upward mobility begins with career planning

by Gunnery Sgt. Joe Steele

Public Affairs Office, MCAS Yuma, Ariz.

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz.

(June 4) — Some Marines reach a crossroads in their career when their Military Occupational Specialty is closed to re-enlistment, forcing them to find another occupational field or leave the Marine Corps. The decision these Marines face is not always easy.

“Wanting to be a Marine is not enough,” said Cpl. Sergio Jimenez, who recently changed MOSs to re-enlist. “You want to be a Marine, but you also want to do what is in your heart ... do what you are good at. There were a lot of uncertainties. I was concerned about how it would affect my family. I considered deployments, promotions and what things I was good at.”

Jimenez is one of the few Marines who found a job in another field so he could stay in the Corps. According to Master Sgt. Donald A. Huser, Marine Aircraft Group-13 career planner, staying in is much harder now that the Corps has shrunk.

“Re-enlistment is very competitive, more so than promotions,” Huser said. “The First Term Alignment Plan for Enlisted Career Forces Control determines how many Marines per grade in each MOS are needed. The toughest, most competitive hurdle is the first re-enlistment.”

So, what should Marines do to increase their chances for retainment?

Some things are out of their hands. Headquarters Marine Corps sets the number of controls, but Marines can plan their career to make themselves more retainable. Once Marines have cleared that first hurdle — re-enlistment — career planning becomes more important for upward mobility.

The Career Highway

A career in the Marine Corps is like getting on a toll road. If you pay the toll, you cruise along quickly and smoothly with very little delays in your progression. If you do not pay the toll, there are detours, delays and stops that slow the progression.

Marines checking into their first duty station should take a look at their career and decide the best means for them to progress. To get on the career toll road, these Marines need to take out their Professional Military Education (Marine Corps Institute courses and professional reading), maintain a high physical fitness score and rifle range score, and begin thinking about a “B” billet.

These are the toll fees that you will have to pay to stay on the expressway. Once you are on the toll road, there are other toll gates to pass through.

Professional Military Education

The first toll gate comes when a Marine is promoted to corporal. He or she should attend a corporals’ course if one is available and complete required MCI courses. Once a Marine earns sergeant, the toll road takes on additional emphasis — future promotions are tied to PME.

“While PME is not tied to retention, it is very strongly linked to promotion,” Huser said.

“It is the key to road map success.”

All Marine Message 339-96 outlines what nonresident courses are required in each rank.

“A Marine’s record that does not reflect nonresident PME completion when considered for promotion, and those who do not complete the PME requirements prior to the convening day of the board, will be considered ‘less than fully qualified’ for promotion,” according to the ALMAR.

Other PMEs to consider are resident courses. These no longer affect retention but do reflect very favorably, Huser said. They are, however, looked at for promotion consideration and indicate that the Marine is proactive in his or her career.

“Nobody will walk up and give you the next stripes. You have to work hard for them,” said Huser.

Marines should be actively seeking a seat in the Sergeants’, Career and Advanced Courses and completing the prerequisite MCIs each time they attain a new rank.

“B” Billets

A career plan should also include serving in a “B” billet, as a successful tour is indicative of a well-rounded Marine.

“After your first re-enlistment, you should take a look at drill instructor duty, recruiting or Marine Security Guard. If you do not choose, Headquarters Marine Corps will choose for you,” said Huser. “Once assigned as a drill instructor, recruiter or security guard, you automatically receive 100 bonus points towards your cutting score.”

While not all Marines will not have the opportunity to serve in a “B” billet due to their MOS being critical, they can show their interest in a “B” billet assignment on their fitness report.

Request an assignment on your fitness report and let Headquarters Marine Corps tell you no,” Huser said.

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New York offers service members special club

by *Christine M. Biddle*
SSMA Club Public Relations

NEW YORK (JUNE 2) — One of New York's best-kept secrets is a club for service members and their guests, located in the historic Murray Hill section of midtown New York at 283 Lexington Avenue (between 36th and 37th Streets).

The Soldiers', Sailors', Marines' and Airmens' Club is open 24 hours a day and offers accommodations and club-style facilities.

There are two large club lounges with fireplaces, a grand piano, 19th Century antiques, a jukebox and historical photos and prints. The library and canteen have big

screen televisions.

The USO of Metropolitan New York operates its General Douglas MacArthur Memorial Center at the club and provides free and reduced-price tickets to Broadway shows and sporting events; as well as maps, brochures and sightseeing advice. A complimentary continental breakfast is served on Sundays and holidays.

The club provides lodging for all military personnel — active, retired, veterans, reservists, military cadets, National Guard, and their families and guests, as well as those of our Allies. The rates are \$25-\$40 per night (children are less).

For more information and reservations, call (212) 683-4354 or toll free (800) 678-TGIF (8443).

Gulf War continued

Rostker. He views each case narrative as an appeal to those who may have additional information.

In other cases under investigation, researchers are seeking to locate and interview people present at the An Nasiriyah S.W. facility in Iraq, service members who have knowledge of other chemical incidents, medical personnel, or anyone else who may have been in contact with wounded Iraqi civilians after the war. Investigators also want to talk

with veterans about the short- and long-term symptoms suffered as a result of oil-well fire smoke exposure and health care providers (doctors, nurses, medics) regarding vaccine administration.

Anyone with information about these cases or other incidents may contact the Veterans Data Management team at 800-497-6261 or the Incident Reporting Line at 800-472-6719.

Career continued

"Promotion boards looking at your records will see that you have never been sent, but comments in your Section C will show your interest and it will be briefed. It looks good on the board."

Other Considerations

Marines in Jimenez's situation, who must find a new job in the Corps, can also increase their chances of qualifying for different jobs if they take the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery. Many jobs in the Corps require a specific General Technical score.

"If your GT score is less than 100, re-test to get your score up to 110," Huser said. "In most cases, test scores go up. And you can buy study guides or check them out from the library." While MCI courses offer more points towards cutting scores, college is another thing Marines should be considering.

"It is not a crime to be enlisted and have a degree," Huser said. "Whatever Marines do to better themselves, whether they are staying in or getting out, betters the Corps and makes them higher caliber Marines."

Finally, Marines should know the reporting system and the fitness report. According to Sgt. Maj. Jerry R. Abel, who recently retired from the Corps, a Marine is responsible for his or her own career and the fitness report will make or break him or her. Abel said Marines need to know the reporting occasions, the procedures for rebutting a report and how to request to have a fitness report pulled. Marines should also review their Master Brief Sheet annually to look for missing reports.

Those who do not take the time to plan their careers, especially those Marines in the career force, will find themselves off the toll road at a traffic light while the rest of their peers cruise along in the fast lane. While a plan will not necessarily ensure promotions, it will help Marines achieve their goals and the requirements for promotion and retention.

To learn more about career development, read the Enlisted Career Planning Retention Manual, Chapter 5, or contact Staff Sgt. Derrick F. Ledford, barracks career planner, at 433-5404.

Lifetime decisions:

Parade influences woman to make Corps career, now she shares Marine Corps history with others

by *Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin*
Editor

Marines at the “oldest post of the Marine Corps” maintain the history and traditions of the Corps and share them with thousands of people each year through tours and ceremonial performances — and the general officers who live here are no exception.

She has only lived at the barracks about two years, but Lieutenant General Carol A. Mutter, currently residing in Quarters 2, has been influenced by and has been sharing the Marine Corps’ proud heritage through the Evening and Sunset Parades since 1966.

Born in 1945, this Greeley, Colo., native said she planned to become a teacher, but was very impressed with the Marine Corps when she attended Officer Candidate School in the summer before her senior year of college.

“I thought it would be something interesting to do and try out for the summer,” said the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs at Headquarters Marine Corps.

That same summer, this college student would see her first Friday Evening Parade, inspiring her to make a change that would affect the rest of her life.

“It was such an energizing experience and motivating,” the lieutenant general said about her first parade. “The motivation you get from [the parade], the esprit de Corps, and just the feeling [you get] that there is nothing else in the world you should be doing besides being a Marine ... that feeling lasted throughout my senior year, and that is why I joined.”

No one knew then the lieutenant general’s career would one day bring her back to these stirring beginnings.

This first impression prompted her to return to the Corps for a three-year tour after graduating from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. Lieutenant Gen. Mutter completed the Woman Officer Basic Course in 1967 at Marine Corps Base Quantico in Virginia and began her climb to the top echelon of the officer corps.

Surprisingly enough, this general, the first woman to attain lieutenant general in the Marine Corps, said she initially only planned to stay for three years, but re-enlisted because she enjoyed being a Marine and contributing to the Corps.

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Barracks resident Lt. Gen. Carol A. Mutter, Quarters 2, entertains Georgia Senator Zell Miller (right) and another guest during a pre-parade reception she hosted June 5 as the general officer host. The general said living at the “oldest post” is an honor, and she takes pride in sharing the Corps’ history with guests. (photo by Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin)

Trust, teamwork

Exercises build cohesion, ensure mission accomplishment

by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick
Staff Writer

It was getting dark in Quantico's training fields. Fireflies sparked inside the tree line, and the air was heavy and smelled like rain. Marines from "B" Company, finishing a long day of training, looked at the gray sky and nodded before their squad leader spoke.

"We cannot take prisoners during this mission," said Lance Cpl. Brian T. Wood, 3rd squad leader, 1st Platoon, "B" Company. "If you have any questions ask them now."

The men merely stared back until the squad leader smiled.

"We have gone over this before; it is nothing new," said Wood. "You know what needs doing and you know how to do it."

Wood stood up slowly and said, "We are the best squad, and we will wreak serious destruction on anything getting in our way."

The next day the mission went without any problems and the squad did cause serious destruction, eliminating an enemy patrol with simulated claymores and automatic weapons fire. The squad also found valuable documents among the dead and continued a silent patrol back to their camp site following the mission.

It was only training, but their ability to establish and carry out a successful ambush with zero friendly casualties was possible because of unit cohesion and trust, according to Fleet Marine Force Manual 1-0, "Leading Marines."

"This [trust] is born of the confidence that every Marine can fight, that every Marine can contribute to

the mission ... and is confident of his own ability and that of his buddies. [Trust] is why Marines fight with discipline and steadfastness in the toughest situations ... why they fight for one another, their unit and the Marine Corps," according to the manual.

Trust is an abstract idea, but 21-year-old Lance Cpl. William T. Stewart, point man, 1st squad, 1st Platoon, "B" Company, is a living example.

He was once an average teenage boy from Cincinnati, Ohio, who was living a self-described "thug lifestyle" until he joined the Marine Corps. Today he is responsible in part for the

"This [trust] is born of the confidence that every Marine can fight, that every Marine can contribute to the mission"

-- FMF Manual 1-0, "Leading Marines"

lives of every Marine in his squad.

"Trust is hard to explain, but I trust the Marines around me," said Stewart. "We train together so much I know I can count on them, and that is the key to everything."

Stewart may understand the importance of trust in training, but Staff Sgt. David M. Sosinski, platoon sergeant, 1st Platoon, "B" Company, knows the importance of trustworthy Marines from his combat experiences during operation Desert Storm.

He said the repetition in the training makes Marines worthy of their comrades' trust because it builds precision and faithfulness to the original mission.

"My grandmother can go outside and glance at the sky and tell me if it is

going to rain, because she has experience," said Sosinski. "Training gives that kind of integrity to a unit, and in combat there is not time to think, just react.

"I have been in situations where I have been shot at, and you do not know what you are going to do until you experience it for yourself," he continued, "which is why we rehearse tactics, maneuvers, ambushes and patrols, over and over again until they become second nature."

A recent ambush exercise in Quantico put Company "B" Marines' dependability to the test in the field.

Cheeks to the buttstocks and noses two inches from dirt, insects and other parasites, Marines waited for chilling, motionless hours.

"I sat in the ambush and said to myself, 'These people are going to come. These people are going to come. I cannot fall asleep,'" said Pfc. Dennis K.

Mack Jr., 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, "B" Company. "These Marines count on me.

"I was so tired lying down holding my weapon. I thought about home. I prayed it would not rain. I thought about anything to keep me alert."

Mack's determination to remain loyal to his fellow Marines is the result of a strong resolve against conflict built with training, according to Sosinski and the Marine Corps Doctrinal Publication 1, "War Fighting."

"I have waited in ambushes for so long my right arm went entirely numb," said Sosinski. "[This exercise] was only training, but it taught discipline, it built confidence in each Marine and it can ultimately save their lives."

Motivation: Parades inspire pride, patriotism for thousands who come to see Marines

by Cpl. Matt S. Schafer
Staff Writer

Thousands of people worldwide visit Washington each week during the summer to view the Evening and Sunset Parades. Whether it is a former service member reuniting with his comrades or a tourist off the street, the parades welcome people of all walks of life.

As spectators stand outside the barracks' gates waiting for Marines to escort them to their seats or find a place on the grass at the United States Marine Corps War Memorial, people like Harrison Pendergrass of North Carolina anticipate an evening of excitement.

"I'm not exactly sure what we're going to see, but I'm really going to enjoy this tonight," Pendergrass said. "My son (Lance Cpl. Jason M. Pendergrass, a Body Bearer in "B" Company) is stationed here, so we are mainly here to support him in whatever he does."

While family ties brought Pendergrass to the parade, Larry Downing from Simpsonville, S.C., said he and his family heard about the parade during their vacation in Washington.

"We were over in the National Archives earlier this week when we met a fellow who brings a group of high school students here every year from Omaha, Neb., and he had been doing this for the last 15 years," Downing explained. "He described the parade to us briefly and we said, 'We're there.'"

As the Pendergrasses, the Downings and thousands of other guests file into the bleachers or around the memorial for the parade, one man takes his place in the audience, which he has been part of for the last 13 years.

According to Cenon Naval, perhaps the parades' biggest fan, a newspaper article written about the parade sparked a fascination.

"Many years ago my mother clipped an article about the parade from the Washington Post," Naval explained. "I had just moved back from New York and I thought it



Visitors such as Joe W. Spalviero, his wife Kelly, and 11-year-old daughter Meghan, from northern Virginia, are willing to sit through the rain to catch a Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial. Tourists and other visitors from around the world attend the Sunset and Evening Parades throughout the summer. (photo by Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin)

might be a beautiful thing to see. So I went to my first parade and [moments] into it, during "Officers' Call," I said 'I think I want to see this for the rest of my life.'"

Following that parade, Naval became a regular guest, attending nearly every Sunset and Evening Parade since then.

In addition, Naval said "Officers' Call" is still one of his favorite parade sequences.

"I love 'Officers' Call.' It exemplifies the simplicity of the entire parade," Naval explained. "It is locked on, and it shows teamwork."

In the last 13 years, Naval has developed a solid friendship with the Marines at 8th & I. For example, Col. John B. Sollis, barracks commander from 1992 to 1995, provided Naval with his own seat in the section designated for honored guests. Naval said the officers of Company "A" even included a movement in their drill sequence dedicated to him.

"Right before the officers march off during 'Officers' Call,' the officers from Company "A" give a 'thumbs up,'"

continued on pg. 24

Small company supports high operational tempo

by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick
Staff Writer

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (May 28) — The Marine Corps has gained a reputation of doing more with less, and the United States Naval Academy Company is no exception.

The company provides the foremost in security for the United States Naval Academy, and they do it with the smallest company in Marine Barracks, Washington.

The company came into existence approximately 147 years ago when Marine guards aboard the USS Savannah, USS Santee, USS Constitution, USS Macedonian, USS Winnepec and USS Preble were stationed sporadically at Annapolis between 1851 and 1855.



Sergeant Robert A. Blakley, 1st Section Leader, marches his section next to Bancroft Hall after a colors ceremony recently at the United States Naval Academy. (photo by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick)



Lance Cpl. Patrick M. McMahon (left), supply chief, prepares to call out the time prior to a colors ceremony at the U.S. Naval Academy recently. Corporal Anthony R. Aquino, acting administration chief, Pvt. Douglas G. Faust, administration clerk, and Lance Cpl. Jason M. Linker, armorer, stand by to raise the colors. (photo by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick)

Marine guards became a permanent detachment when the United States Naval Academy was completed in 1865. Marines became a permanent detachment there in 1870 — Marine Barracks, Annapolis.

The detachment was redesignated five times before it finally became the United States Naval Academy Company in 1947.

The company is made up of a headquarters section and three guard sections. These Marines provide security and ceremonial support to the USNA by performing simple and full honors funerals, parades, and color details.

“Our responsibilities take up a lot of manpower,” said Sgt. Robert A. Blakley, 1st Guard Section noncommissioned officer in charge. “[Our guard sections] work very hard, so we try to use the Marines from the duty section to meet our ceremonial commitments. Sometimes though, we need to call off-duty sections back to the company. It seems like we are always short on personnel.”

The sections also have collateral duties, such as instructing midshipmen in weapons training and

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Lt. Gen. Mutter continued

A lot has changed in the last 31 years of Lt. Gen. Mutter's career, particularly for women. She is quick to point out, however, the Corps has not made changes for women specifically, but rather in consideration for Marines as a whole.

"We do not try to make changes for women," she explained. "[We try to ensure] we make maximum use of all our Marines according to their abilities. For readiness, we have to keep the mission of the Marine Corps in mind, so we do not do things for social experimentation or because of some politically correct reason. We [make changes] after we consider what is best for the Marine Corps as an institution and for mission accomplishment.

"A team of 11 quarterbacks will not win the Super Bowl," she continued. "You need a team of different people with different perspectives, different strengths, and different capabilities working together with a common goal. There is value in having diversity."

At the office she said she focuses on Marines and their families, but the lieutenant general's work does not stop there.

At home Lt. Gen. Mutter takes on the mission of sharing the Marine Corps' heritage with the thousands of guests who come to the barracks each year.

"I always say '4,000 of our closest friends go tromping through our garden every Friday night in the summer,'" she said.

Occasionally, Lt. Gen. Mutter hosts a parade here, such as the one in June for the Honorable Zell Miller, Governor of Georgia.

The General Officer Host is primarily responsible for the Guest of Honor and his or her guests, as well as a pre-parade reception. The host prepares and briefs the Guest of Honor about the evening's events, ensures he or she and the other invited guests are enjoying themselves, and prepares them "for the very special experience they are going to have at the parade."

"You worry about all the things you are supposed to do and making sure they go right," she said of hosting a parade. "You try to ensure what you do is worthy of the Marine Corps and the location ... that you will carry on those traditions in the way in which they need to be carried on and ought to be [carried on] ... and that you live up to the high standards of those who have gone before you.



Lieutenant Gen. Carol A. Mutter, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs at Headquarters Marine Corps, visits with a guest during a recent pre-parade reception she hosted in her home here. The general is the first female officer to live in the barracks' general officers' quarters. (photo by Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin)

"Fortunately the people at the barracks make it easy for you — everyone from the commanding officer down," she continued about the many Marines tasked to support the parade and the host. "The folks at the barracks just make it so easy for you. They make it so seamless and effortless. You very quickly get a sense of confidence that you do not have to worry about what is going on."

The lieutenant general said all this work is important in ensuring things go well during a parade and the guests enjoy themselves, otherwise they may leave the barracks with a very negative impression of the Marine Corps.

"That extra effort and tactfulness and patience," she explained, "is really worth it. It makes a difference to our Corps."

Although she said she is privileged to share the Corps' history and traditions by hosting parades for the commandant of the Marine Corps, the first female general to reside here also enjoys her time off.

"On special nights when we are not involved with the parade," she explained, "[my husband, Retired Col. James M. Mutter, and I] have talked about going to the movies ... but we really like being at home. We knew what the situation [with the parades] was before we moved in, so we made sure we put our den, where we spend most of our time, on the back side of the house from the parade deck."

Motivation continued

Naval explained. "Six years ago, they started giving it to me because they always saw me in the [audience], and that tradition has been carried on from year to year."

Since his first Evening Parade, Naval has joined thousands of different spectators in watching the leathernecks of 8th & I tell the story of the Marine Corps.

In the process, the parade sometimes brings fans to tears as they exit.

Some people speak in awe of the Marines marching across the parade deck while others gasp in amazement at the performances of the musical units.

In addition, some members of the audience ask Marines for photographs or autographs.

Whether it was the Marines performing in the event or the leathernecks who greeted, escorted or seated them, bright-eyed spectators pile out of the bleachers or off the grass ready to tell their families and friends about what they just witnessed.

"I am so impressed by the precision and the [rifle] handling. It was all fabulous," said Lois Downing. "I have decided that my son is going to a military school."

While this type of enthusiasm fills the air after a parade, viewers such as Pendergrass leave the Evening and Sunset Parades nearly speechless from amazement.

"You can not walk away from this thing without feeling patriotism and pride in country — there is no way," Pendergrass emphasized. "It gives you a good insight into where that pride in the Corps comes from."

According to Naval, the parade often leaves spectators with a re-



Visitors file into the bleachers here before an Evening Parade. The barracks averages about 3,500 visitors per parade throughout the summer. (photo by Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin)

freshed dose of patriotism, and he tries to let all Marines know how much he and other fans appreciate it.

"I always like to thank [the Marines] for what they've done, all of the things they do, and the sacrifices they make," Naval explained. "I love and respect Marines, and I think [the parades are] the most incredible things."

USNA Company continued

conducting joint emergency training for Navy and Department of Defense police. These are primarily instructive courses on the proper use of pepper spray, tactical batons and Marine Corps Linear Infighting Neural Engagement training.

"The company does a lot of motivating training in our infantry Military Occupational Specialties," said Lance Cpl. David M. Tokar, security guard, 3rd Guard Section. "We also enjoy staying proficient in our primary MOS as well as our secondary security forces MOS."

The Marines also provide a less tangible service in their roles as protectors ... as role models. Because of this, the poise and professionalism of the barracks security detachment at Annapolis has a very real impact on the 4,000 midshipmen who see these Marines standing guard every day.

"It is outstanding [being stationed here and being part of 8th & I], because of the influence I have on the

midshipmen as future officers in the Naval Service," said Pfc. Kris I. March, security guard, 3rd Guard Section.

"It makes me feel good as a Marine to know many midshipmen look at the Marines [on duty] and they want to be like us," said Blakley. "It is also good to know that the 1.5 million people who walk past a Marine post [here] every year see solid, professional Marines. We are the first thing they see when they enter the academy."

Blakley said the energy level of the Marines stationed in Annapolis allows the detachment to keep pace with hectic schedules. Their motivation level is due largely to the detachment's various training exercises.

"We can go spyrigging with Naval Academy students," said Blakley, "and we can use Annapolis' zodiacs for amphibious exercises. Whatever we do, we try to keep the troops busy and motivated. Our priority, however, is mission accomplishment, which is pretty easy because the Marines here are hard workers and they want to be here."

June 8, 1998

To Marine Barracks Commanding Officer,

On behalf of the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit from Jeffersontown High School, I want to extend our sincere appreciation for hosting our unit on 5 June 1998.

The assistance, support, and professionalism provided and displayed by the Marines at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., was truly commendable.

From the moment we arrived at 6:00 a.m. until our departure at 10:30 p.m. we were impressed with the professionalism of the personnel and their "can do" attitude. In particular, we would like to extend our thanks to Chief Warrant Officer-3 Felix M. Arnold (Food Service officer) and Staff Sgt. Scott B. Wilde (Chow Hall Cash custodian).

On the morning of 5 June we arrived at the barracks' chowhall at 6:00 a.m. and Staff Sgt. Wilde went out of his way to accommodate us. After breakfast we departed 8th & I for our scheduled tour of the White House and Washington, D.C.

At 11:00 a.m., Chief Warrant Officer-3 Arnold and Staff Sgt. Wilde personally delivered box lunches to us at the Air and Space Museum, and Chief Warrant Officer-3 Arnold provided me with specific instructions on how to get all the cadets to 8th and I via the Metro.

We arrived back at the Marine Barracks messhall by 5:15 p.m. and we were soon seated in the chowhall and feasting on terrific meal.

At 5:45 p.m. the cadets were released to visit the Post

Exchange at the Marine barracks. By 6:50 the cadets were finished shopping, but much to their disappointment it was starting to rain outside.

Staff Sergeant Wild told the cadets not to worry, it never rained on the Evening Parade. It might rain before the parade and it might rain after the parade, but it would not rain during the parade!

Needless to say the cadets were more than just a little doubtful.

By 7:00 p.m. it was coming down pretty hard and as a last resort, the cadets began to don plastic garbage bags as rain coats. At 7:45 p.m. we headed to our seats as the rain continued.

However, at 8:43 p.m., just two minutes before parade was to begin, the rain stopped! The parade went on flawlessly and by the end of the evening the cadets were hoarse from yelling out their appreciation for the Marines.

We departed Marine Barracks 8th & I at 10:15 p.m. and arrived back at Jeffersontown, Kentucky at 10:35 a.m. on Saturday, 6 June, thoroughly indoctrinated in love of corps and country and now a new respect for one particular cook/weatherman!

Without exception, every Marine our cadets encountered at the Marine barracks left a lasting impression and there is no doubt in my mind that their attending the Evening Parade at Marine Barracks, 8th & I, will be one of the high points of their lives.

Very Respectfully,

Lt. Col. J.L. Henson, USMC (ret)

May 14, 1998

Dear Col. Hejlik,

On Friday, May 8, my wife and I had the distinct honor of being your guests at the Evening Parade ceremonies. There is no purpose in trying to describe how much we had fun looking forward to the evening. What we experienced, however, far outdistanced any of our expectations.

From the moment we arrived, we were accorded the most gracious welcome that we ever received by fine young Marines. The Sergeant Major took time to personally acknowledge our presence and engage in a few warm words. Your XO took pity on an old captain talking to a young second lieutenant and ushered us into the

prime area, directly behind five former Commandants and General Charles C. Krulak, our existing inspiration. Having served under General Chapman, I was particularly pleased to witness he and his counterparts standing proudly as these fine young Marines passed in review. How young General Mundy looked.

Our observation at the Evening Parade ceremonies were the most memorable two hours that we ever spent must sound like an echo to you now. Nevertheless, it is a message that we must get out.

Our young people need credible role models. By God, I saw hundreds of them at Marine Barracks.

Having served in the Corps it was

no surprise to find such efficient and caring people. However, it has been 30 years and I forgot how impressive hundreds of poster Marines can be.

Colonel, the Silent Drill Platoon and the Drum and Bugle Corps provided unbelievable performances. Seeing that lone bugler blowing taps on the ramparts was one of the most moving experiences of the evening.

How proud we are to be Americans. How proud I am to be a Marine. Thanks for sharing those wonderful people with us. They are clearly a testimonial to your leadership and a credit to our beloved country.

Yours gratefully,

Captain Frank M. Corcoran,
USMC (ret.)



OUTSTANDING!

Petty Officer 1st Class (FMF) Christopher F. Needham, barracks senior medical representative, repeats the oath of enlistment during his promotion ceremony here June 12.

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

H&S Company

- Sgt. J. R. Cruze IV
- Sgt. P. L. Franklin
- Sgt. C. E. Terry Jr.
- Sgt. J. J. Torrespordillo
- Cpl. M. J. Brown
- Cpl. R. L. Numerick II
- Cpl. G. O. Pageot
- Lance Cpl. A. G. Collins
- Lance Cpl. J. J. Debarros
- Lance Cpl. A. S. Murray
- Lance Cpl. S. E. Padgett
- Lance Cpl. M. J. Rosati Jr.

MCI Company

- Cpl. J. Charles Jr.
- Cpl. L. C. Goss
- Cpl. K. D. Moody

Jurgensen

- Lance Cpl. B. A. Lawson
 - Lance Cpl. L. A. Mendoza
 - Lance Cpl. D. M. Powell
- Drum and Bugle Company**

- Sgt. D. T. Drake
- Lance Cpl. J. G. Henson

WHCA

- Sgt. G. A. Getter
- Sgt. G. A. Wehby II

Security Company

- Cpl. J. A. Hayes
- Cpl. J. L. Schneider
- Lance Cpl. C. A. White

Congratulations to the following Marines for the awards they recently received.

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

- Gunnery Sgt. B. R. Guilmette

- Lance Cpl. D. S. Steakin
- Lance Cpl. W. J. Holsworth
- Company "A"**
- Cpl. J. D. Dyczewski
- Cpl. T. H. Hoover
- Cpl. G. O. Moore
- Lance Cpl. T. A. Goodson
- Lance Cpl. B. E. Jones
- Lance Cpl. E. Perez Jr.
- Lance Cpl. J. A. Stoneback
- Lance Cpl. W. Torrez Jr.
- Lance Cpl. T. F. Trimpey
- Company "B"**
- Cpl. J. T. Allen Jr.
- Lance Cpl. A. A.

- Staff Sgt. C. Arnold
- Staff Sgt. S. McElvine
- Sgt. T. A. Lebo
- Sgt. K. G. Morris
- Sgt. R. R. Price
- Sgt. C. D. Puma
- Cpl. R. G. Dodds
- Lance Cpl. K. Johnson
- Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal**
- Capt. M. Freese
- 1st Lt. J. A. Ogilvie
- Staff Sgt. S. McElvine

Congratulations to first-term Marine Sgt. C.D. Puma, who recently re-enlisted for a re-enlistment bonus.

Congratulations to the following career Marines who re-enlisted recently.

- Sgt. T. J. Lyle
- Sgt. G. C. Markley

Best wishes to Cpl. and Mrs. T. E. Dailey who had a 4-pound, 2-ounce baby boy, Jesse Ray, May 24.

Congratulations to the following gunnery sergeants select:

- Staff Sgt. S. A. Arledge
- Staff Sgt. P. A. Bair
- Staff Sgt. W. D. Bullock
- Staff Sgt. R. W. Crumpton
- Staff Sgt. J. C. Duncan
- Staff Sgt. G. L. Earst
- Staff Sgt. D. J. Haslam
- Staff Sgt. S. A. Maile
- Staff Sgt. C. A. Melendez
- Staff Sgt. J. A. Stafford
- Staff Sgt. S. K. Wetzel
- Staff Sgt. S. B. Wilde

Should I feel guilty about being a Marine?

Why the profession of arms is not an unholy trade

by Lt. Kenneth D. Counts
Barracks Chaplain

Is the profession of arms displeasing to the God of Scripture? Is it morally wrong to wage war and, if necessary, to kill in warfare? Should one feel that he, or she, is out of God's will and out of God's favor by serving in an armed force like the Marine Corps?

NO! The God who has authored the Bible authorized and blesses the profession of arms.

The sixth commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," properly translated should read, "Thou shalt not murder." Murder is a criminal act. God's purpose for establishing this command must surely center in the need to protect human life and to value it most highly.

In posting this order among His Ten Commandments, God was distinguishing murder from certain other forms of killing. To read "Thou shalt not kill" as an all-inclusive, undistinguished reference to any and all forms of killing would cause confusion.

Scripture permits killing animals for food (Genesis 9:3). Scripture permits capitol punishment in certain criminal convictions (Genesis 9:6; Proverbs 28:17). Scripture, likewise, recognizes the need for war and the profession of arms (Deuteronomy 20:1, Psalm 18:29-50, Matthew 24:6-7).

What Scripture forbids is the unauthorized, violent, malicious, willful assault upon an innocent life with deliberate intent to bring it to an end (Deuteronomy 19:11-13). No private individual is authorized to use deadly force for personal advantage over those who are defenseless, but God does authorize certain institutions to bear

and use deadly force.

In the first five verses of Romans 13, Paul the Apostle explains to us that God has authorized the state "to bear the sword" in order to punish and execute. That mention of the sword symbolizes weaponry in general and the power to punish.

The Bible is not an outdated book. Just because swords are mentioned,

"If you have ever felt your heart skip a beat when a police car's blue lights flashed in your rear-view mirror, then you can understand the fear Paul refers to in the State's power to bear the 'sword.' The power to punish deliberately motivates us all to behave and abide by the laws of the land."

do not take this as archaic, obsolete writing. The Bible speaks in principles which remain true through all ages. Paul's words in Romans command citizens to respect and obey the government, because "it does not bear the sword for nothing" (verse 4).

If you have ever felt your heart skip a beat when a police car's blue

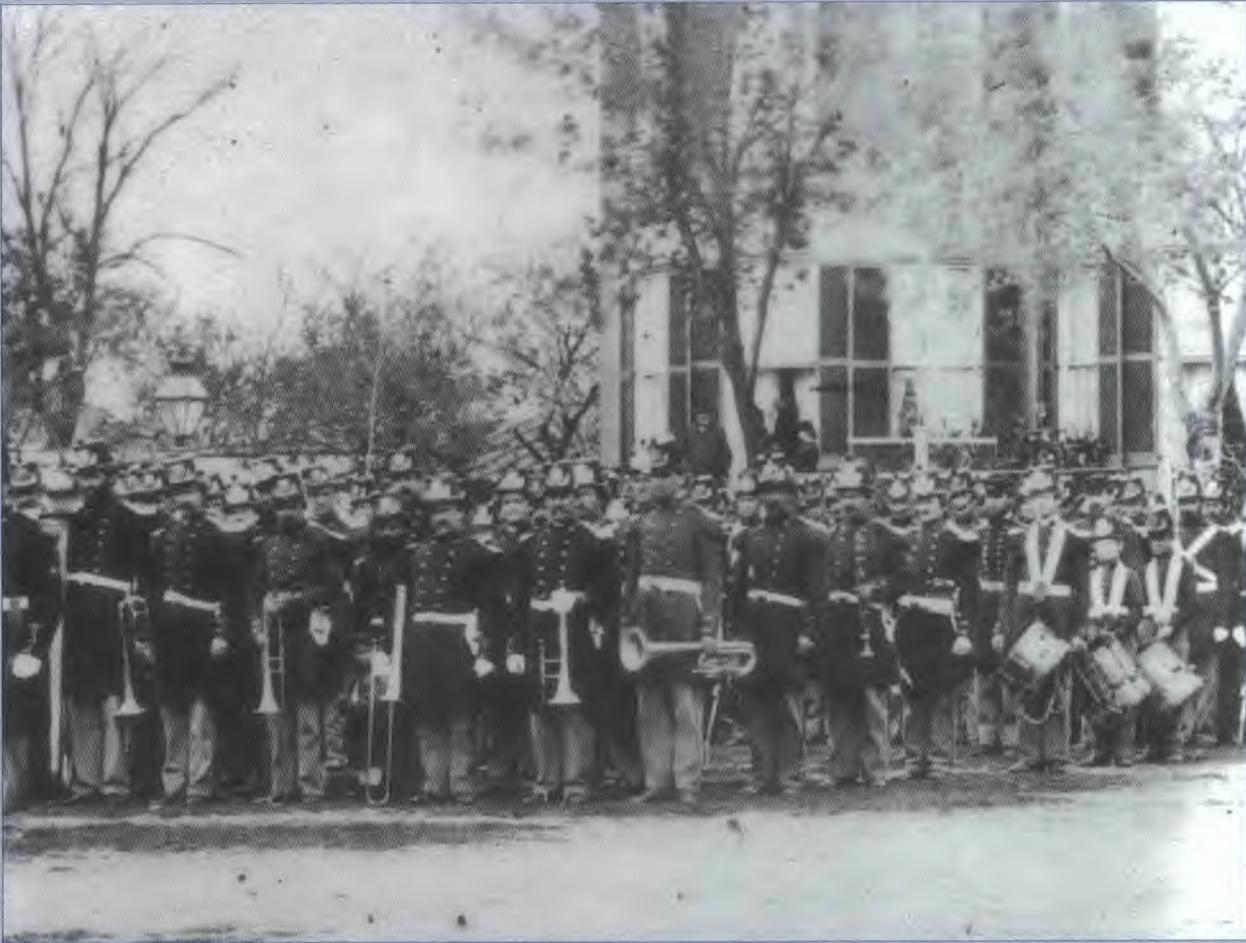
lights flashed in your rear-view mirror, then you can understand the fear Paul refers to in the State's power to bear the "sword." The power to punish deliberately motivates us all to behave and abide by the laws of the land.

God is no fool! He knows nobody respects weakness. Men and women break laws and do wrong with impunity when they fear no retribution. If no authority could punish wrongdoers, civilization would crumble into chaos. Where respect for the law declines, citizens violate the laws with arrogance. So God authorized deadly force for every citizen's good, but not for tyranny.

The God of Scripture is the Author of Liberty. He was NOT naive like some of the philosophers and pacifists who proposed that man, from his innate goodness, would naturally cooperate and never over-step the bounds of propriety and civility. Instead, the Author of Liberty has established that a free people must always be ready to defend liberty. As one nation under God, God decreed that nations should arm some to "bear the sword" as warriors, so that any invader would think twice before adventuring to pillage and plunder a weaker people.

God knows the need for warriors is genuine. He approves the profession of arms. He does not frown or cast guilt on those who stand ready to fight. He blesses them, so long as they bear the sword for the causes of truth and justice, and to provide for the common defense.

United States Marine Band 1864



Civil War photographer Matthew Brady took this photograph on the parade deck here in front of the Commandant's house in 1864 -- the oldest known photograph of the unit. America's oldest professional musical organization celebrates its 200th birthday this year July 11.

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