



MARINE BARRACKS
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WASHINGTON, D.C.

PASS IN REVIEW

Serving "The Oldest Post of the Corps"

December 2001/January 2002

The Barracks Marine

"Balanced Excellence"

INSIDE: Combat experience, Ceremonial Drill School

Barracks Marines remember two of their own

"A time to mourn ..."

A memorial service was conducted here Feb. 1, for Lance Cpls. Ronald D. Williams, of LaPlace, La., and Bennie J. Welch, of Chicago, who were killed in a one-car crash Jan. 27 in Fairfax County, Va., along U.S. Highway 1 at Janna Lee Avenue.

Williams and Welch, both 21, were cooks assigned to Headquarters and Service Company.

Williams is survived by his father, Ronald D. Williams, of Marrero, La., and his mother, Peggy J. Clark, of LaPlace, La.

Welch is survived by his parents, Haveard and Linda Welch of Chicago.



Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shiflett

Sergeant Charles S. Cox, Lance Cpl. Ryan A. Roque and Cpl. Trickey Finch, wait for their turns to speak at the memorial service for Lance Cpls. Ronald D. Williams and Bennie J. Welch.

Lance Cpl. Bennie J. Welch
October 6, 1980 - January 27, 2002

"Many people only knew Welch as being quiet, but a hard working Marine," said Pfc. Jauron E. James, cook, messhall, Headquarters & Service Company. "He had another side other than being quiet. He was also loving and very outgoing. He made so many people laugh and smile in his own little way. There will never be another like him. He was so trustworthy and would keep the deepest of dark secret. As a roommate and a close friend, I will always miss him."

"Welch was very close to his family," said Lance Cpl. Ryan A. Roque, cook. "I have never met anyone who loved his mother and brother more than he loved his mother and brother. He always went with the flow of things. He would do anything for anyone and anybody. At work he maintained a professionalism. When he was around his friend he was the funniest guy you'll ever meet."

"I knew him as always being shy and quiet," said Pfc. Christina N. Majors, reservations clerk, Protocol. "One thing I will miss greatly is his beautiful smile. May God keep you."

"Williams was like no other I've ever met in the Marine Corps," said James. "He was outgoing, always joking around and making people laugh. He was a very athletic person. He did many things that I loved to do, things like shopping, partying, trying to get girls, and most of all, jumping around on the basketball court in the gym. He'll be missed in many people's hearts. Rest in peace from a close friend and a teammate."

"He was professional and very outgoing," said Roque. "He always spoke his mind. He loves his brothers very much. He was very close to them. At a young age he was always moving from place to place. His father was a sergeant major in the Army. He was very giving. If he knew you needed something in any way, he would try to help you whether you asked him to or not."

"Williams was the type of person you wanted to get to know as a friend, said Majors. "He was always quiet or singing when I saw him. He was a good person. I will miss seeing him around."

Lance Cpl. Roland D. Williams
August 4, 1980 - January 27, 2002



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Pass in Review is an authorized publication for members of the Armed Forces. It is published six 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

Private First Class Eric W. Larkin, marcher, 1st Platoon, "B" Company, represents the duality of the Barracks Marine. (graphic design by Lance Cpl. Alissa M. Bilden, Marine Corps Institute; photos by Cpl. Leah A. Cobble)

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Battle of rank

Michael Jordan may get all the headlines, but Barracks Marines show some basketball "Wiz-ardry" of their own during the inaugural "Battle Among the Ranks Basketball Tournament."

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Archeological excavation unearths details of District's history

*story and photo by Pfc. Elizabeth A. Thomas
Staff Writer*

Archeological excavation of the future site of the Barracks Annex and Band Support Facility at 7th and "L" Streets, Southeast, has turned up notable pieces of the District's history — dating back to the 19th century.

Thunderbird Archeology Associates has found evidence of the District's old Eastern Market.

Public fresh-food markets were included in Pierre L'Enfant's original plans for the City of Washington. Then, in 1802, a public farmers' market was established on what is now the grounds of the U.S. Capitol. Throughout the 70 years that followed, an eastern-area market existed, but the location changed periodically, until 1873, when the present Eastern Market was built at 7th Street and North Carolina Avenue.

Prior to 1873, some historians believe the market operated further south on 7th Street, in the vicinity of the Barracks Annex site.

An archeological survey of the future Annex site has been conducted in several phases, before groundbreaking and construction can be initiated. The survey involved what is known as "sampling."

"Sampling the ground is important," said Antonia M. Davidson, archeologist, Thunderbird Archeology Associates. "All we do is dig with the back hoe about five feet down and see if there are any artifacts to warrant exploring further. It might be time-consuming but it can be rewarding. If the archeological team that searched for the city of Teotijacan in Mexico hadn't sampled the ground in 50-foot intervals, they never would have found the city."

The survey site was profiled to determine the layout of the old market, and soil samples were taken to reveal what the vendors could have sold.

"By examining the soil we can determine whether a particular section was the meat department, flower section

or clothing part of the market," Tammy L. Bryant, site supervisor.

The archeological team has uncovered two arms of the "U-shaped" market, and smaller items extracted at the site continue to shed light on the market's operating methods.

"So far we've found a number of artifacts from the market," said Michael W. Clem, site worker. Buttons, beads, bones from the butcher shop, nails from the woodwork, and ceramic pieces have been uncovered.

"The most exciting artifact we have found is the 1804 two-cent, copper coin found on the oldest side of the market," said Davidson. "It is likely that whoever built the market put it there to show when it was built. This is thought because the coin is in such good condition. Copper wears very easily, but the edges of the coin are still raised, and no heavy marks have been made on it."

The foundation of the market has not yet been completely uncovered; however, the archeologists believe its dimensions are 75 by 200 feet.

There are two separate sites for the market. One was built a few years before the other. The foundation is thin and made primarily from brick and small pebbles. The second has a foundation that reaches

four feet under the ground and is made out of large stones.

"Whoever built the second site wanted to make sure it would withstand anything," said Davidson. "It's built more like a fort than a market."

Recently, Marine Barracks opened the archeological site to the public in order to show the community what was being done in their backyard.

"A good number of people showed up for the tour. It was good that the Marines came through for us," said Bryant. "They've been helpful since we first arrived here. Headquarters Marine Corps is funding the excavation directly, and the Marines of '8th & I' are in charge of the site itself."

Distribution and display of the artifacts will be coordinated through Nancy Kassner of the District's Historic Preservation Office and Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.



Beneath a modern-day light pole lies what is believed to be the old Eastern Market.

The new face of the Barracks ... Renovations keep "Oldest Post" looking inspection ready

by Pfc. Elizabeth A. Thomas
Staff Writer

Eight different renovation projects are currently underway throughout the Barracks.

The renovations began in September 2001 and are scheduled to be completed by the upcoming parade season to maintain the parade atmosphere.

"The renovations will include the installation of more modern systems to update the Barracks, such as fire alarm systems that are compatible with the other systems," said Devaughan Moore, facility manager. "Some of the renovations are for safety reasons and others are to improve the aesthetics of the Barracks."

"The renovations are much needed," said Capt. Mathew Dalkiewicz, assistant logistics officer. "Most of them haven't been done since 1970's, that is why it is important they are done now."

Construction on Quarters 3 is currently in progress. Work began on Quarters 2 and 4 Dec. 17, when new roofs, gutters and down spouts were installed.

"Several projects, like the Staff Club, have been done to improve the



Pfc. Elizabeth A. Thomas

Five employees from the Tuckman-Barbee Construction Co. replace the old slate roof and box gutters atop Quarters 3.

aesthetics of the post," said Dalkiewicz. "Even the low hanging wires in the parking lot were being moved underground to prevent any more interference with trucks coming and going."

"Safety concerns are being fixed as well as other small projects that have been ongoing for some time now, such as the renovations at Center House" said Moore. "It's going to get

one huge makeover before the parade season gets here."

The improvements on the Barracks pose minimal disruption to the personnel, except for the renovations of the Commandant's house.

The renovations began with the Commandant's house and will continue through the office buildings and Center House, ending with the towers along 'I' Street.

"Razor sharp"

Corporal Robert S. Davis, police sergeant, Headquarters & Service Company, presses a uniform in the H&S Company Press Shop.

The Press Shop is for official use only, including White House functions, funerals, Pentagon functions, Parade Staffs and hosting personnel. When pressing the front of the blouse, Marines should remember to remove all badges, buttons and ribbons.

Parade Season Hours

Tuesdays - 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fridays - 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Off-season Hours

7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

or by appointment

For more information, or to make an appointment, contact the company office at 433-6634/4379.



Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shifflett

The keepers of tradition - Duty Musics carry on Corps' history

by Sgt. Jamie Bennett
Drum & Bugle Corps

Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., is known by some as “the keeper of the Marine Corps tradition,” and the Marines who stand as Duty Musics for “The Commandant’s Own” United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps contribute heavily to that tradition.

Bugles and drums have been an integral part of military history; although, the primary mission of musicians in the military has changed. However, the duty musics hold on to a tradition that has communicated the wishes of centuries of commanders. From the raising of the morning colors, to the playing of tattoo and taps, duty musics remain an integral piece of the “Oldest Post.”

Much like other units in the Marine Corps, Drum and Bugle Corps Company has Marines that stand a normal duty day, consisting of answering the phone, checking organizational gear and maintaining all-around security of the Drum Corps’ belongings. As important as those duties are, there is one task in which these musicians take the most pride.

In addition to those assignments, Duty Musics play final honors to fallen military personnel by the playing of taps during funerals.

“To be able to give those Marines their final send off is the biggest honor a musician can have,” said Sgt. Schoen Altland, noncommissioned-officer-in-charge, duty musics. “Carrying on the tradition of Marines before us is important



Cpl. Leah A. Cobble

Duty musics perform in hundreds of ceremonies every year such as this wreath-laying ceremony Nov. 10, at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va.

because of the role that Marine Barracks plays in upholding the history of our Corps. It’s valuable for the new Marines to see that all of the knowledge they possess about the history of the Corps is used for a purpose and that we take that information seriously.”

Besides participating in funerals, these Marines are also responsible for striking the ship’s bell and playing the calls of the day. The Barracks is the only Marine Corps installation in the world that continues the practice of live bugle calls.

Soprano and mellophone buglers are assigned to this duty soon after reporting to the Drum Corps, and after a short training period they are on the deck striking the bell and sounding chow call.

Every year, one member of the soprano or mellophone section is chosen through an audition process to represent the Drum Corps as the Ceremonial Bugler. This Marine is tasked with playing funerals as well as performing during the Evening and Sunset Parades. The high visibility of this position is just one more attribute that makes the duty musics a unique addition to the Drum and Bugle Corps.



Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shiflett

Corporal Timothy D. Judy, bugler, Drum & Bugle Corps, renders Taps during an annual wreath-laying ceremony at Congressional Cemetery in Washington, D.C., Nov. 10.

“8th & I” Young Marines set example in local community

by *Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shiflett*
Staff Writer

Excellence, precision, and attention to detail make Barracks Marines stand out. Just like little brothers, the “Young Marines of 8th & I” follow in their older brother’s footsteps, as they must also live up to those same high expectations.

Established by Congress on Oct. 30, 1979, the nonprofit organization is a “drug demand reduction” program for students ages eight to 17. The program is not a “scare-straight program” for bad kids and wasn’t designed to keep kids off the street. Young Marines is instead an ROTC-style program that teaches leadership and the basics of a military lifestyle. Students are taught core values and are governed by the same customs and courtesies as the Marines stationed here.

All Young Marine programs are mandated to meet once a week. The group here meets for two hours every Thursday, but just like the Marines at the Barracks, they always go above and beyond. On Saturdays, while other kids are watching television or playing video games, the Young Marines hold their second meeting of the week.

“These kids are held to the same standards as Marines,” said Sgt. Kelvin D. Paulk, commanding officer, Young Marines. “We aren’t babysitting the kids, they have to work hard and do their best. If the kid is bad, we try to make them good. If they are good, we make them better.”

Everything that Marines learn in bootcamp is taught and instilled in the Young Marines. They are expected to be neat, respectable and wear their uniform with pride. They learn all the knowledge and have the same rank

structure as the Marine Corps and go before promotion boards that mirror those in the fleet.

“Colonel Tryon and Sgt. Maj. Edwards know about all the hard work we do and have always been in support of the program we have here,” said Paulk. “The kids do a lot of work, and it’s an inspiration to them when the colonel comes out and talks to them.

Just in the last year, the Young Marines have participated in several events around the city.

On top of meeting twice a week and their annual training week at Fort A.P. Hill, the Young Marines have been a part of more than 15 volunteer events in the past year. These include participating in the National Naval Officers Youth Day in Quantico, the Walk for Cancer, Military Family and Friends Day at the National Zoo and hosting the first Metropolitan District of Wash-

ington Basketball Tournament.

However, the most impressive activity the Young Marines took part in was in late September. After the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, the kids went out and sold flags around Washington D.C. In one night they were able to raise \$3,000 for the Pentagon Family Relief Fund.

In this high-speed Internet, cable access generation that is part of American society, kids are supposedly more lazy and less respectable than any other time in our nations history. However, the “Young Marines of 8th & I” are putting that stereotype aside, and setting an example.

Anyone who is interested in enrolling their child or knows a child who would like to enroll can contact Sgt. Kevin D. Paulk, commanding officer, “Young Marines of 8th & I” at 202-433-2738/2528, or by e-mail at PaulkKD@mbw.usmc.mil



Cpl. Chad C. Adams

Young Marine Sgt. Ronald A. Jones, platoon sergeant, leads his platoon during drill. The program instills leadership and confidence.

Combat vets share experience with Marines

by Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shiflett
Staff Writer

In the Marine Corps, infantry Marines are trained to handle wartime situations and to always be prepared for battle. However, the majority of young infantry Marines stationed at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., have spent more of their enlistment performing for crowds than they have preparing for battle.

With so much emphasis placed on ceremonial perfection it can be easy to forget that as members of an infantry battalion the Marines here can be deployed at any time. However, there is only a short list of Marines stationed here who have seen combat firsthand and truly know the importance of always being prepared for battle.

“Serving in the Persian Gulf helped me realize that the

training I had done prior really does work in combat,” said Gunnery Sgt. Allen C. Benjamin, company first sergeant, Headquarters and Service Company.

“All the hours of training allowed me to think quickly and react according to the situation.”

Although the devil dogs stationed here don’t get as much extensive training as infantry Marines in the operating forces, they do get as much combat training in as possible and are expected to know their jobs.

“I was a sergeant and had already been in the Marines for five years before fighting in Operation Desert Storm, so I didn’t gain skills from combat, it’s more like the environment honed the skills I already had,” said Capt. Mark J. Maracle, assistant operations officer, S-3. “It taught me that all those times I was complaining about monotonous training, that I really was gaining a valuable tool.”

“When you get in a situation like that your thinking becomes more defined,” said Staff Sgt. Jason C. Tooman, platoon sergeant, 1st Platoon, “A” Company. “It’s a personal thing to see how you react when you are being shot at.”

For the Marines who have seen combat, the situation was a little intimidating at first, but they agreed that being a Marine and knowing they were prepared took away any fear they may have had.

“It never really crossed my mind that I might not make it back, because I had my platoon with me, and I knew we were prepared, so I wasn’t worried,” said Tooman.

“I can admit I was a little scared at first, but then I realized what we were over there (Persian Gulf) for,” said Benjamin. “I realized that just being a Marine intimidated the enemy, and they were the ones who were really scared.”

While combat affects different people in different ways, the experiences that a Marine encounters in battle can be a very valuable training tool. Combat has the potential to teach Marines great leadership skills, and that can help when they are teaching junior Marines the important combat skills they need.

“Having that experience and wearing the combat action ribbon gives you a little more validity when teaching junior Marines,” said Maracle.



Chief Photographer's Mate Johnny Bivera

At the U.S. Marine Corps Base in Kandahar, Afghanistan, Marines on a Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) prepare to go on patrol as an AH1W Super Cobra helicopter flies overhead. Marines are in Afghanistan operating in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“When I came back I realized that I should take what I learned and teach it to those below me,” said Benjamin. “Marines should pay attention to their leaders, because the training really will save your life if you ever have to apply it.”

Tooman, who has twice earned the right to wear a combat action ribbon, in both Operation Desert Storm and Kosovo, says that a Marine who has combat experience can be a good leader because in most cases he knows what he is talking about.

While it is true that being in battle can be a learning experience and a valuable training tool, it also can have a personal affect on those who have witnessed the side of war that local news doesn't show.

“Seeing what it's like over there makes you thankful for what we have as Americans,” said Tooman. “When you see the bodies of women and children laying in piles, that really makes you realize what we take for granted.”

“I like to be straightforward and honest about combat,” said Benjamin. “War is hell and Marines have the right to know what it's all about before they get there. I have seen friends die and realized personally that life is a precious commodity that can't be taken lightly.”

Maracle said that being exposed to that lifestyle for



photo courtesy of Gunnery Sgt. Allen C. Benjamin

Gunnery Sgt. Allen C. Benjamin (smiling), Headquarters & Service Company First Sergeant, then a corporal with Task Force Tora, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, during Operation Desert Storm.

months at a time teaches patience and tolerance. He said that sleeping in a foxhole, getting two meals a day and standing watch every night for eight months made him realize he has a lot more in life than he realized before.

“Now when something is not exactly how I like it, I'm quicker to be thankful for what I've got instead of complaining,” he said.

“Basically getting ready to and being able to fight is what we as Marines are all about, and when I was over there being shot at it really opened my eyes to the big picture,” said Tooman. “There is a reason that we train in so many different aspects.”

For Marines, the rest of the military and all Americans there was a time period where everyone had been lulled into a false sense of security. Then all of that changed when America, and especially the military, was dealt a whopping dose of reality this past September. But with combat experience firmly entrenched throughout our leadership ranks, Marines all over the world, from Afghanistan to the “oldest post,” stand ready.



The Combat Action Ribbon



Sergeant Michael O. Wilkis, assistant chief instructor, Ceremonial Drill School 1-02, teaches Pfc. August D. Barber proper techniques used in ceremonial drill.

Ceremonial Drill School builds foundation for new marchers

*story and photos by Cpl. Leah A. Cobble
Editor*

Thirteen Marines graduated from Ceremonial Drill School 1-02 here Dec. 10, continuing the Barracks commitment to ceremonial excellence.

Ceremonial Drill School is a four-week course for all new Marines assigned to "A" and "B" Companies. Assigned to the Barracks right out of the School of Infantry, CDS teaches these leathernecks how to handle the M-1 Garand and the fundamentals of ceremonial drill.

"It is important for us to instill the basics of ceremonial drill in the new Marines from the beginning," said Sgt. Michael O. Wilkis, assistant chief instructor, Headquarters & Service Company. "The new Marines need to have some understanding of what parades consist of and the discipline needed."

"Classwork" begins at 6 a.m., and ends around 5 p.m., every evening. While building the foundation for ceremonial drill, the new Marines are introduced to the Barracks, taught uniform requirements and familiarized with drilling under distracting circumstances.

"The new Marines have never performed drill at night, or in front of an audience that can sometimes exceed 4,000 people," said Wilkis. "For the new marcher, these elements can be intimidating and contribute to a loss of bearing and concentration. It is the job of CDS and the instructors to make sure that the Marines are ready for the Evening Parades."

The instructors know exactly what needs to be taught, having marched at least one or two previous parade seasons themselves.

"The three most important factors in CDS and marching is the focus on discipline, esprit de corps and confi-

dence,” said Sgt. Adam M. Wohlever, platoon guide, 2nd platoon, “A” Company.

Starting without weapons, the Marines are taught basic movements and then proceed to drilling with music. Each movement is scrutinized until it is perfect.

“My first parade, I was nervous and shocked at the number of people out there watching,” said Wohlever. “There’s no way you could march a parade without going through CDS.”

One of the reasons that CDS is successful is the instructors.

“My instructors must have good drill skills and teaching abilities,” said 1st Sgt. William A. Winters, company first sergeant, “A” Company. “Marines teaching CDS will either be a guide or a squad leader for the upcoming parade season, and I want them to have some experience working with the Marines that will eventually be in their squad or platoon.”

The possibility for many different variables during a parade require that Marines must always be ready. Heat, light and the size of the crowd are just some of the distractions that can elevate the potential for mistakes on the parade deck.

The young Marines confident in their drill from boot camp don’t realize how important CDS is until they begin to practice and learn a whole new set of rules and techniques used in ceremonial drill.

“Not until I was about half way through CDS did I have a real understanding as to why the time is needed to drill,” said Wohlever.

At the conclusion of CDS, Marines perform the parade sequence for the commanding officer and the first sergeants of the marching companies.

“This is not just the conclusion to CDS,” said Wilkis, “but the first completed step towards a successful parade season.”



Lance Cpl. Robert E. Giddens, ceremonial drill instructor, looks for “proper trails” during a long day of drill.



Lance Cpl. Eric M. Ives, ceremonial drill instructor, “B” Company, inspects a new marcher performing the first count of present arms. Ceremonial drill instructors must have shown excellent marching skills to be chosen.

Corporals Course: The first step to becoming a better NCO



Marines in the Corporals Course take part in their "daily 16" exercises before martial arts sustainment training.

story and photos by Pfc. Elizabeth A. Thomas
Staff Writer

Several corporals and senior lance corporals graduated from Corporals Courses 1-02 and 2-02 here recently.

The young devil dogs completed the newly revised course after two weeks of leadership training.

"These classes will last them the rest of their enlistments and possibly their lives," said Sgt. Derrick E. Oliver, chief messman, messhall, S-4.

During the course students are instructed in inspection preparation, sword manual, physical training and leadership skills.

"It's good for every corporal to go through this class," said Oliver, "This class helps them find their own style of leadership."

This year, the course has been designed differently from past classes.

"Before the classes even began, staff noncommissioned officers critiqued the sergeants on the material they would be teaching the students," said Gunnery Sgt. Gregg M. White, staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Corporals Course.

The course is set up so that even before the classes start the Marines are helping out one another.

"The noncommissioned officers that teach the classes are first critiqued by the staff NCOs on their teaching styles so they are prepared to get up in front of the corporals," said White. "It allows the staff NCOs to lead Marines and

the NCOs to teach and prepare to become staff NCOs."

The structure of each class has been set out so that right after a lesson is taught, the students have practical application time to act out what the lesson was about.

"The knowledge taught in the class seems to get across better this way," said Sgt. Charles S. Cox, galley captain, messhall. "When I went through it the instructors stressed the physical part of the course."

Now, when they are taught to perform a task, such as conducting a counseling session or issuing proficiency and conduct marks, it is put into the class.

"For instance, after they have learned how to give pro and con marks, they give their fellow squad members marks in their file for the class," said White. "So far they are performing very well and learning quickly."

Additions to the course are daily inspections by their class commander and squad leaders. Counseling sheets are also drawn up with pro and con marks and are sent to the company first sergeants after the course has ended.

"This is an outstanding way to develop leadership skills in upcoming leaders," said Lance Cpl. Jared S. Donahue, 3rd squad leader, 2nd Platoon, "A" Company. "It teaches them to lead their Marines regardless of their job."

Students also get in front of the class and teach subjects in which they're familiar, while peers point out weak points.

"Learning from mistakes is a good way to learn," said White. "Besides, I'm not just here training Marines, I am here training future Marines. How and what we teach these Marines today will determine what future Marines are taught."



Corporal Robert A. May, Fiscal, S-4, Headquarters & Service Company, reviews his notes during a lecture.

A day away from the Barracks - H&S Company ventures to Newseum for education, relaxation

*by Pfc. Elizabeth A. Thomas
Staff Writer*

ARLINGTON, Va. – Thirty Marines from Headquarters & Service Company got a day off from work to conduct a period of military education at the Newseum here Dec. 5.

The Newseum, a place where media of all types is displayed, provided Marines a first hand look at print and electronic journalism.

“I think this was a great place to come,” said Cpl. Robert S. Davis, police sergeant, H&S Company. “It’s good to get out of the office, plus the Newseum is a place where we can learn about current affairs, which we need to keep up to date with.”

At one particular exhibit the Marines were able to sit in front of the camera and be an anchor for the Newseum’s news channel.



Lance Cpl. Adrian A. Lugo, orders clerk, S-1, H & S Company, and Lance Cpl. Brian D. Franks, SRB clerk, S-1, H&S Company take a look at documents almost 100 years old.



Lance Cpl. Nick R. Hanson and Pvt. Ian McConnell get the chance to participate in a mock television broadcast.

“This is so much fun,” said Pvt. Ian McConnell, Grounds Combat Element. “I can’t believe they let us out of work to do this.”

The day continued with even more to be discovered throughout the Newseum, as devil dogs wondered around halls of artifacts filled with news memorabilia from the past and present.

At the end of one hallway, large television screens showed footage from past events in the news that changed the world.

Three separate screens showed footage from American, British, and Japanese news broadcasts from Sept. 11, 2001. Over and over the planes crashed into the World Trade Towers while the Pentagon burned and smoldered.

“You just can’t help but watch,” said Pfc. Michael P. Reece, clerk, H&S Company.

On the third deck, artifacts from WWII could be seen. On display were a cameraman’s field jacket, Kevlar helmet, and a very large field camera that

would take at least two Marines to carry.

Along the walls, headlines from past and present acted as wallpaper behind the protective glass. News clippings from WWI and WWII were displayed; even the headlines from when Marilyn Monroe died was on the wall.

“I’d have to say that my favorite part is where all the old newspapers and the really old cameras they used are displayed,” said Lance Cpl. Lucien W. Lewis III. “I thought it was awesome to be able to see how things started out.”

The trip came to a close with some of the Marines participating in a Jeopardy-type game show in the Newseum’s studio.

“This was a good idea,” said Reece. “It was very educating and motivating.”

The Marines left the Newseum with a better understanding and appreciation of the media and their roles within the mediums as United States Marines.



Cpl. Chad C. Adams

"A" Company's firing party honors fallen CIA officer, and former Marine, Johnny Micheal "Mike" Spann during a full honors funeral at Arlington National Cemetery.

Three Volleys; firing parties pay the final tribute

by Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shiflett
Staff Writer

When Marines perform in one of the many funerals that take place in the Military District of Washington, there are many different parts involved. Marchers, body bearers and buglers are important to every funeral. However, it may be the firing party's three volleys (simultaneous rifle fire) that becomes embedded in the memories of those attending.

"I don't think we are more important than anyone else involved, but I believe that when it's all over, the family will always remember their volleys," said Cpl. Ray S. Esquibel, platoon guide, "B" Company.

A firing party is a group of eight Marines consisting of seven who fire the rifles and one noncommissioned officer-in-charge leading the party. The job of these Marines is to be able to fire off three rifle volleys simultaneously as a salute to the person(s) being honored.

At Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., members of a firing party are

chosen by the NCOIC who trains those Marines. Once a firing party is chosen, they spend two to four weeks drilling, then move on to dry firing and finally start drill practices for funerals at Arlington National Cemetery.

"We always have to practice because it is so important to stay consistent," said Cpl. Aaron L. Davis, firing party member.

Being on the firing party can also be pretty competitive, so the Marines know going in that they have to work hard and practice a lot.

For these Marines, there are many reasons to have the desire to be on a firing party. But there seems to be one single reason that stands out among the rest.

"As a firing party, we are out there to honor that person being buried," said Davis. "We are one of the last things that family sees or hears at the funeral. It's all about honor."

"As a marcher you are in a group of 48, but in a firing party there are only seven, and during that time you have center stage," said Esquibel. "It's more about honor than anything else."

"The Marine Corps is based on

tradition, and that's exactly what the firing party is," said Sgt. James D. Reed, platoon sergeant, Body Bearers. "It shows how important everyone is to the Corps. A private gets three volleys just the same as a general does. No matter what rank they are, when they die for this country they deserve the honor."

The honor of performing at the Sunset Parades belonged to Company "B" during the last parade season. In April, before the season began, a challenge day was held to decide which platoon had the best firing party. The NCOIC for each party was graded on their sword manual and voice commands. Each firing party was graded on drill composure and discipline, firing count and volleys. When the smoke cleared, 1st Platoon was chosen to represent the Barracks.

All the hard work and practice is part of the price these Marines pay in order to honor those who came before them. Just after a family member receives a folded flag, they will hear the sound of seven rifles firing in perfect unison – a final salute to a deserving loved one and hero, a Marine.

NCOs 51, Staff NCOs 30

NCOs wrap up championship, blow-out Staff NCOs

by Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shiflett
Staff Writer

With most of the Marines here getting ready for a well deserved holiday break, the Noncommissioned Officers earned an early Christmas present in the form of a championship trophy.

With a run-and-gun offense and swarming defense the NCO team defeated the Staff NCOs 51-30, in the championship game of the inaugural "Battle Among the Ranks" basketball tournament.

A strong inside presence from center JR Jones and dominance on the defensive glass allowed the NCO's to open up the court and use the speed of their guards, Trickey Finch and John Ellerbee, to jump out to an early

lead and never look back.

The NCO's sprinted out of the gate in the first half opening an early 17-point lead. The Staff NCO's then went on a 6-point run but went into halftime trailing 24-9.

The second half of the game started out with the teams trading baskets, but this time it was power forward Clifton Maxwell taking over down low where Jones had left off.

"Our big guys inside and the quickness of our guards were a big key," said NCO Coach Christopher Jerman. "Outside shots were big too, but like I always say 'defense wins championships.'"

With the clock running down, the NCO's slowed down their offense and forced the Staff NCO's to begin fouling. However, it was too little too late, as the NCO's walked off the court holding their trophies high and their heads even higher.

The halftime festivities were also dominated by the NCO's, with forward Joshua Woodson taking first place in the 3-Point Shootout and Jones winning the Dunk Contest.

The teams advanced to the final game after the Staff NCO's defeated the Officers 45-38 and the NCO's took down the Lance Corporal and below team 43-40 in the first round.



Cpl. Leah A. Cobble

NCO guard Trickey Finch shows off his basketball skills as he leaps towards the basket on a fast break.



Cpl. Leah A. Cobble

NCO forward Joshua Woodson dribbles down court while looking for an open teammate.

Post Supply 20, "B" Company 8

Post Supply takes championship in flag football tournament

*story and photos by Lance Cpl. Travis W. Shiflett
Staff Writer*

NAVAL STATION ANACOSTIA, Washington D.C. – With its offense running smoothly on all cylinders, Post Supply withstood a late scare to defeat "B" Company, 20-8, in the "8th & I" intramural flag football championship game here Dec. 6.

Quarterback John Ellerbee threw one touchdown pass and ran for two more, to lead the supply team. Cornerback Joshua Woodson led on defense with two interceptions.

Costly turnovers and a lack of teamwork by "B" Company was the deciding factor in a game that was closer than the final score reflected.

With time running out in the second half and Post Supply clinging to a 12-8 lead, quarterback Fredrick Retzlaff marched his "B" Company team towards midfield. Retzlaff forced a long pass to Ray Esquibel, but threw his fourth interception when Cornerback Rhian Jackson stepped in front of the ball and returned it to the "B" Company 12-yard line. With less than two minutes remaining in the game, Ellerbee sealed the victory with a five-yard touchdown run.

"I think that without our quarterback's ability to scramble, we wouldn't have done nearly as good as we did," said Jackson.

Ellerbee's quick feet and Supply's ability to force turnovers kept "B" Company off-balanced and unable to get into any kind of rhythm. "B" Company had four drives



With all his receivers covered, quarterback John Ellerbee tucks the ball and runs for a first down.



Quarterback Frederick Retzlaff, "B" Company, slips and falls to one knee while avoiding Post Supply defenders.

stopped by interceptions, three of which led directly to Supply touchdowns.

Earlier in the half, a touchdown reception by Esquibel and a two-point conversion cut the lead to four points.

The touchdown seemed to shift control of the game towards "B" Company's side, but just like in the first half they let a key scoring opportunity slip away with the late interception.

"Even when we made mistakes, we were able to shake them off, keep our composure, and make big plays," said defensive back Jeffery Gibson, Post Supply.

Post Supply showed their big play ability early, turning two interceptions into touchdowns, a two-yard run by Ellerbee and 35-yard, Randy Moss-like, one-handed catch by Jackson.

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

H&S Company

December

- Sgt. Timothy Barrett Jr.
- Sgt. Steven Z. Greene
- Sgt. Jorge R. Morales
- Sgt. Tiege G. Trimm
- Petty Officer 2nd Class
Teresa L. Shine
- Cpl. Cory J. Dressler
- Cpl. Aaron M. Kraft
- Cpl. Lucas T. Rawlins
- Cpl. David R. Smith II
- Lance Cpl. Harold E. Delashmit
- Lance Cpl. Adrian A. Lugo

January

- Staff Sgt. Al C. Murdock
- Sgt. Jennifer Avery
- Sgt. Darien E. McCarthy
- Cpl. Benjamin E. Martin
- Cpl. Joseph Signor
- Cpl. Carlos Tjerina
- Lance Cpl. Aaron Leezer
- Lance Cpl. Corey R. Lewandoski
- Lance Cpl. Donald J. Pritchard
- Lance Cpl. Ryan Stanak

MCI Company

December

- Gunnery Sgt. Phillip R. Gibbons
- Gunnery Sgt. Steve E. Rice

January

- Lance Cpl. Christopher Cuzzort
- Lance Cpl. Armando Trevino Jr.

“A” Company

December

- Staff Sgt. Blake L. Richardson
- Sgt. Herbert E. Becerra
- Cpl. Jacob W. Meyer
- Pfc. Geoffrey A. Bivins
- Pfc. Tyrus P. Conner

- Pfc. Kenneth J. Dooley
- Pfc. Erick W. Larkin
- Pfc. Daniel D. Harrison
- Pfc. Travis L. Whitlock

“B” Company

December

- Sgt. Aaron V. Williamson
- Pfc. Matthew D. Fowler
- Pfc. Bruce A. Sims
- Pfc. Johnathan H. Wright

January

- Sgt. Ray S. Esquibel
- Cpl. Tyronne Cole
- Lance Cpl. Larry D. Rattiff

Security Company

December

- 1st Sgt. Fred E. Szabados
- Cpl. Luis A. Castillo
- Cpl. Patrick J. Donovan
- Cpl. Jayson E. Thunderhawk

USNA Company

December

- Cpl. Matthew M. Edgell
- Lance Cpl. Cody M. Bradley
- Lance Cpl. Joel A. Cartwright
- Pfc. Fredy J. Argueta

January

- Lance Cpl. Derek Mensen

D&B Company

December

- Lance Cpl. Charles B. Hardwick

January

- Cpl. Jeffrie Davis
- Lance Cpl. Charles Hardwick
- Pfc. Jared Conway

Band Company

December

- Cpl. Trickey M. Finch
- Pfc. Christopher M. Ferranti

January

- Lance Cpl. Joel Aubin

Congratulate the following Marines on the awards they recently received.

Navy Commendation Medal

- Staff Sgt. Antonio Raynor
- Cpl. Adriano E. Grullonvillanueva

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

- Staff Sgt. Adam L. Zeiler
- Sgt. Cyrus S. Pattermann
- Sgt. Chad E. Pfaff
- Sgt. Brian J. Allen
- Cpl. Allison G. Comstock
- Cpl. Nathan T. Moeller
- Cpl. Walter H. Paz

Certificates of Commendation

- Staff Sgt. Brandon L. Roessner
- Sgt. Cyrus S. Patterman
- Sgt. Erik D. Walker
- Cpl. Aaron L. Davis
- Cpl. Andres H. Martinez
- Lance Cpl. Michael D. McMillian
- Lance Cpl. Casey L. Ward
- Lance Cpl. Geoffrey G. Yazzie

Meritorious Mast

- Sgt. Justin S. Garcia
- Cpl. Timothy P. Egan
- Cpl. Steven J. Metcalf

To announce a new birth in your family, e-mail your rank, full name, family information and work section to adamsc@mbw.usmc.mil.

Selective Reenlistment Bonus extended until April for first-terms

Gunnery Sgt. Stanton B. Pittman
Career Planner,
Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.



1st Quarter Reenlistment/lateral moves

Name	MOS
Master Sgt. Timothy N. Nelson	3043
Staff Sgt. Rasheem M. Brown	0193
Staff Sgt. Blake L. Richardson	0621
Staff Sgt. William R. Rulapaugh	9812
Staff Sgt. Brian L. Sutton	5811
Staff Sgt. David E. Warner	9812
Sgt. Christopher L. Baugher	0211
Sgt. Reginald Daniels	0311
Cpl. Shawn M. Beckwith	0151
Cpl. William G. Keebler	3531
Cpl. Juan C. Llanos	1171
Cpl. Jeisson D. Manzifortich	3531
Cpl. William F. Nelson II	0311

Cpl. Lester R. Parker II	3051
Cpl. Terry L. Paris	0151
Cpl. Walter H. Paz	0151
Cpl. Luis G. Quetell	0151
Cpl. Joanna D. Rivera	0151
Cpl. Irick W. Scott	4612
Cpl. Joshua C. Shepard	0311
Cpl. Anthony L. Viggiani	0311
Cpl. Antuan T. Walker	3531
Cpl. Adam M. O'Neill	0151

SRBP extended

The Selective Reenlistment Bonus Program (SRBP) cut-off date has been extended from Feb. 1, to April 2, 2002.

Marines must submit a reenlistment package by March 21, to ensure approval is granted before the deadline.

In order to qualify for an SRB payment, a qualified Marine must execute the reenlistment on or before April 2. Marines should not expect further program extensions.



"A day for service"

Brigadier Gen. John R. Thomas, deputy director, Command, Control, Communications and Computers (C4), spoke to Barracks Marines recently in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. During a battalion-wide breakfast in the Barracks messhall, Thomas joined several Marines who watched Dr. King's memorable "I have a dream" speech and other pivotal moments from the Civil Rights leader's life, before the general took the podium. (photo by Pfc. Elizabeth A. Thomas)

MCCS STAFF

MCCS Director, Russell Pantleo	202-433-2338
Operations, Gunnery Sgt. E. Dixon	202-433-2570
Finance, Pam Carroll	202-433-2353
Food & Hospitality, Frank Balduck	202-433-2366
Semper Fit, Jamie Morris	202-433-4295

For private parties, weddings, promotions and wetdowns



Cathcart bids farewell to "Oldest Post of the Corps"

by Lt. Gregory C. Cathcart
Barracks Chaplain

Dear Marines,
I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you and farewell to all the Marines of the "Oldest Post of the Corps."

The only word that comes to mind is "blessed" in describing the days I have experienced here at the Barracks.

Some of you have been here for many years while others have just arrived; regardless, you all know that the Marines Barracks is a very special place and in fact, "The Soul of the Corps."

But as God's word says, "to whom much is given, much is required."

We have been given the awesome responsibility of representing the Corps to the world, and because of that awesome responsibility, there are many demands put upon us and our families.

However, the Marines always deliver, regardless of the situation, they always come through in a bold fashion.

Someone once said the enemy of greatness is mediocrity. The Marines don't have to worry about that. The Barracks Marines are great in all that they do, and may I add, they do so without little acclaim or recognition. Many times I have witnessed a young private first class or lance corporal going the extra mile in doing a job or helping a fellow Marine because they live the motto *Semper Fidelis*.

That is something that is not so common in our society today.

The bible says that each of us have our own special gifts and abilities. Like parts of a body, some are hands,

some are feet, some are arms and others legs, but all come together to form the body or "Corps".

I am very proud of our Corps and in particular of our Barracks Marines. Regardless of your background or where you're from, each and everyone can always look back years from now with great pride that you were here for a brief time in your life. I know I will.

From the Marine Band, "The Greatest in the World," to the marching companies, to MCI, to the Grounds Marines, you are the best. I have said it before, and I will say it forever, it has been the single greatest honor of my life to serve among you for the last three years. Regardless of what comes down the road, this will always be held with the highest regard for me.

There are many here who know and love God, and for my particular faith background that is Jesus Christ, who has made this time possible and who has delivered us through a great deal over these last three

years. I encourage you to draw closer to God in the year that lays ahead and he won't disappoint you.

Over the last few years we have been a witness to many historic moments: General Jones' change-of-command ceremony, the Marine Barracks Bicentennial, the Presidential Inauguration and numerous other occasions. We have taken the Barracks from one millennium to another.

There have been high times and some low times here, such as the tragedy that our country experienced on Sept. 11, last year. For those of us who saw it first hand, I know it will be with us as long as we live. But regardless, come Hell or high water, the Marines will continue to march and lead the way, and in a small way, I hope to be there with them.

Marines, thank you for all that you do and all that you are. You are the best. May God bless you as you have blessed my family and I.



Navy Lt. Gregory C. Cathcart, Barracks Chaplain, seen in-step with Lt. Gen. Garry L. Parks, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Staff Sgt. Jan J. Molvak, casualty representative, S-3, Headquarters & Service Company.

“Winter wonderland”



While most Barracks Marines enjoyed a three-day weekend, the “Oldest Post” received its first snow of the year Jan. 19. However, several sections, including Guard, Grounds Combat Element, and a duty section comprised of marchers, braved the cold and reported for duty to ensure the post was secure. (photo by Cpl. Chad C. Adams)

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