

Press in Review

the Corps"

November/December 19



Battle honors immortalized on Marine Corps War Memorial

Parade-deck facelift



Historical look at Harper's Ferry

Network of support

Help groups aid Marines, families during holidays

By Col. David G. Dotterer

As you read this, 1996 will be nearly over. We had a great year, and you should be proud and pleased with your accomplishments and contributions to the Marine Corps.

The year started with the worst winter in a hundred years dumping mounds of snow everywhere. We made it through and accomplished the mission in true 8th & I style. By March, the snow was nearly all gone and Parade Season was upon us. Spring and summer saw hundreds of thousands of guests impressed and awed by the professionalism you exhibited each time you stepped onto the field or escorted a guest. The pace was hectic, but you never wavered. As soon as Parade Season ended, we went into the field to sharpen our combat skills. We came out of the field just in time to put our blues back on for the Marine Birthday celebrations. Most of us are already anticipating next year's Parade Season. Is it really only four months away? Let's take a moment to enjoy the holidays and rededicate ourselves to our loved ones.

As we approach the holiday season, we naturally think of family. Some of us are fortunate to have our families here with us, others have our loved ones back home. Wherever they may be, families are an impor-

tant part of our lives. Our families provide loving, unfailing support as we defend the nation. Supporting the families who support us is the job of fine organizations like the American Red Cross, Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society, Family Services, Key Volunteers and the various spouses' clubs. They have a big job to do.

The American Red Cross has been serving military people and their families for most of this century. We mostly think of the Red Cross assisting in disasters, but the organization does much more. Red Cross personnel across the country notify the command when a Marine has a death or illness in the family. The Red Cross also provides a large portion of the blood used in America.

The Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society's only goal is to serve Marines and Sailors in need. Navy/Marine Corps Relief will often make loans or provide grants to those in need. The layette program provides free baby clothes and other items to new parents. Volunteers provide financial counseling free of charge and assist in many more ways.

Family Services Centers aboard

Marine and Navy bases perform the invaluable task of supporting family members on installations. Many FSCs offer day care and family counseling.

The Key Volunteer Network is the commanding officer's "ace in the hole." They stop little problems from becoming big problems. Key volunteers are spouses who give of their time to assist others. Whether providing a ride to the doctor for a spouse whose car has broken down or lending a sympathetic ear as someone

who has "been there," key volunteers are the often-unsung heroes of the unit. As your commanding officer, I can tell you that 8th & I could not do the great job it does without our key volunteers. They are absolutely invaluable.

These fine organizations do a wonderful job and they deserve our

thanks and support. As we enter the hectic holiday season, let's not forget to support one another. The holidays can be a lonely time for Marines and Sailors far from home and loved ones. Let's make an effort to ensure those living in the barracks have somewhere to go for the holidays. Be alert to the signs of depression which often seem to accompany the holidays. A kind word or an invite to a holiday dinner can go a long way. Let's take good care of each other.

1996 was good, but I'm looking forward to a great 1997. Happy Holidays.



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Thomas Winkler, a professional stone cutter from Wheat Ridge, Colo., carves the first of three new Battle Honors onto the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. (Photo by LCpl. Jerry D. Pierce)

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Co. A Marines take in an interactive history lesson with the Barracks Commanding Officer and Sergeant Major on a guided tour of Civil War battle sites.

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Parade-deck facelift

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New honors added to Marine Corps War Memorial

Three new battle honors were added to the Marine Corps War Memorial during the Marine Corps Birthday Wreath Laying Ceremony, Nov. 9. The honors were added with the approval of the National Park Service and Washington's Commission of Fine Arts.

The honors: **PERSIAN GULF 1987-1991 PANAMA 1988-1990 SOMALIA 1992-1994** were engraved on to the monument by Tho-

mas Winkler, a stone cutter from Wheat Ridge, Colo.

"Mr. Winkler was chosen from a group of three final selectees," said Col. Michael F. Monigan, Acting Director of the History and Museums Division for the Marine Corps. "The final decision was made after examining prior works and work history."

"It's a true honor to be chosen for such a job," said Winkler. "I'd never seen the monument in person but it was a great honor to carve a piece of history for the world to see."

The monument itself is a casting of six figures, each standing about 36 feet tall. The monument required about 100 tons of bronze, 90 tons of copper and 10 tons of tin, making it the largest cast bronze statue in the

world. Total height of the statue to the tip of the flag staff is 78 feet. The memorial is one of a select few places where the American flag is authorized to be flown 24 hours a day by virtue of a presidential proclamation.

The statue was modeled after photographer Joe Rosenthal's photograph of the flag raising atop Mount Suribachi during the battle for Iwo Jima. It was created by Felix de Weldon, a Seabee during WWII. He worked on the project from 1945 until its completion in 1954. The memorial was dedicated Nov. 10, 1954, the 179th anniversary of the founding of the Marine Corps, in honor of all the Marines who have died in the service of their country.

The original honors form a single band at the top of the polished black

Co. A Marines get special lesson in Civil War history

During the Civil War, Gettysburg knew all too well the sound of marching feet treading through the spoils of the battle-ravaged city. On Oct. 5, 100 Marines from Co. A marched on Gettysburg to learn of and pay homage to the brave men of another day.

The Marines were accompanied by Col. David G. Dotterrer, Barracks Commander and SgtMaj. Larry J. Carson, Barracks Sergeant Major. "We wanted to go with our Marines to show them that we're never too busy to learn something about our nations' history and the great men who fought to make it what it is," said Dotterrer.

Led in two groups by battlefield tour guides, the Marines started out on a four-hour journey that led them through the three long days of the bloody battle.

"The one thing that came alive to me

was the realization of how close the opposing sides were to each other when they fought," said LCpl. Jesse A. Padilla, of first platoon. "It seems ridiculous by today's standards, but both sides were dedicated to winning the war, no matter what the cost."

The tour guides answered questions ranging from the different types of cannon used in the battle to why the opposing generals used certain battle strategies.

"One of my favorite pieces of information is about the equestrian statues," said Richard Stevenson, a 12-year licensed battlefield tour guide from Gettysburg, Pa. "When you see a statue where the horses hooves are all on the ground that means the individual lived, if one was raised he

was wounded and if two were raised he was killed in battle."

"I've been here before, but I only walked around looking at the markers and monuments around the battlefields," said LCpl. Kenneth G. Morris, Co. A Training NCO. "It means a lot more when you hear the specific accounts of the individual

companies and the price that thousands of men paid serving their country."

When all was said and done 100 Marines took home a few different ideas about what happened in Gettysburg. "Although the Civil War took place a long time before I was born, there's a lot to be learned from those who gave their lives for what they believed in," said Padilla. "Their strength and courage is an example for everyone to follow."



Richard Stevenson, battlefield tour guide, points out a distant battle site for Marines on the terrain walk. (Photo by LCpl. Jerry D. Pierce)



Professional stone cutter Thomas Winkler carves the first of three new battle honors onto the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. The battle honors were unveiled during the Marine Corps Birthday wreath laying ceremony Nov. 9. (Photo by LCpl. Jerry D. Pierce)

granite base. They included wars such as Korea; some are campaigns, such as the Marianas Islands; and some are battles, such as Peleliu. The last honor on the original band was **KOREA 1950**. The first addition without dates was added in 1974 on the panels on the base at the head of the monument.

In 1984, the bombing of the Beirut barracks in Lebanon prompted the addition of a second band of honors. It now reads: **LEBANON 1958 VIETNAM 1962-1975 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 1965 LEBANON 1981-1984 GRENADA 1983 PERSIAN GULF 1987-1991 PANAMA 1988-1990 SOMALIA 1992-1994**.

Parade Deck Receives New Drainage System

A group of construction workers recently stripped away the parade deck here at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., to install a new drainage system.

Construction of the new system took three weeks and was completed in late December. The drainage system was built to prevent water from standing on the parade deck during Evening Parades held at the barracks during the summer.

"This system will improve the conditions on the surface after heavy rains by increasing the saturation point of the soil and cutting down on the time it takes for large amounts of water to drain," said Ken Patterson, maintenance foreman at the barracks.

The drainage system absorbs water

from the surface of the parade deck to a combination of underground irrigation pipes and canals. This water is channeled to the gutter system on the west end of the parade deck. The gutter sends the water to the city's sewage system leaving a drier parade deck for Marines to march on.

According to the barracks public works coordinator, SSgt. Jeffrey B. Evans,



Construction workers cover the newly installed drainage system before laying sod. (Photo by LCpl. Matt Schafer)

the parade deck has needed these improvements since 1994. Since that time, different parts of the parade deck have

been retaining heavy pockets of water after it rained. These water pockets would sometimes remain for long periods of time, making it difficult to perform Friday Evening Parades. The parade sequence had to be altered for a few parades last summer due to standing water.

These new improvements enable the drainage system to absorb approximately 35,285 cubic inches of water.

The repairs required 2,808 linear feet of perforated pipe, 156 tons of masonry sand and 180 tons of washed gravel. After repairing the problems underground, 1210 square yards of sod was laid down to replace the lawn, which was stripped when construction started.

In addition to the drainage system, the replaced the gutter system around the walkways. Both projects were completed in late December.

Inspection team takes S-1 through bi-annual analysis

The barracks S-1 section distinguished itself during a Marine Corps Administrative Analysis Team (MCAAT) inspection held here Oct. 2.

The 24-Marine section began preparing for the bi-annual inspection in June, working seven days a week, 10 to 12 hours a day. For their diligence, the section received an eight percent error rating, a low rating compared to the 10.2 percent Marine Corps average.

"I knew my Marines would do well because of the hard work we put into preparing for the inspection but I had no idea our error rating would be so low," said GySgt. Michael T. Peterson, administration chief.

The inspection was used to identify and help in resolving problem areas in personnel administration and pay-related procedures. With the problem areas identified, the MCAAT team recommended actions necessary to improve these areas. The MCAAT inspections are one of the primary tools the Marine Corps uses to ensure its administrative sec-

tions are mission-capable.

"Everybody came together to do the best for the section and for the command as a whole. It was a total team effort," said Peterson.

A four-Marine team from Camp Lejeune conducted the inspection. They checked for pay-related errors, reviewed the unit diary and service record books



SSgt. Kevin D. Green, a MCATT-team examiner, gives LCpl. Anthony M. Suggs, S-1 Personnel Clerk, tips on how to correct administrative errors. (Photo by LCpl. Jerry D. Pierce)

and provided administrative guidance.

"Each inspector questioned our personnel on administrative policies and procedures," said LCpl. Gabriel J. Pavay, unit diary clerk. "If we were asked something we didn't know, the inspector would give an in-depth explanation.

Everyone learned something."

"The inspection helps make sure administration procedures are correct and the Marines served by that section are getting paid correctly," said Chief Warrant Officer-4 Lynne Tingen, officer-in-charge of the team.

Preparing for the inspection encouraged the S-1 Marines to pull together in order to meet the high expectations of the inspectors and the command. Preparations began during the busiest time of the year for the barracks -- parade season. Getting ready while keeping-up with ceremonial commitments made the inspection a bigger challenge.

"Working toward this inspection was a real test. Whether it was on the parade deck or in the office, each Marine was counted on to contribute. Everyone gave their best and it showed," said Sgt. Elijah Savage III, unit diary chief.

"After all of the preparation and anticipation of the inspection it was a big relief to hear of our Marines getting such high marks," said CWO-3 Michael A. Ladd, Personnel Officer.

The Marines were recognized by both the analysis team and the Barracks Commander, Col. David G. Dotterrer, for their professionalism, courtesy and knowledge of administrative matters.

Marines TAP into job resources with new technology

The Transition Assistance Program has added a new tool to help Marines leaving the Corps make the move back to the civilian sector a little more comfortable.

TAP now offers the Transition Bulletin on two new computers located at Morale, Welfare and Recreation. It's a series of programs that include a federal job list, a dictionary of occupa-

tional titles and additional resources that will help Marines find a job following their military career.

According to TAP's transition program manager Winston Coye, the Transition Bulletin is a computer program that allows Marines and family members to create a resume and forward it to a job bank reviewed by over 65,000 employers around the world.

TAP helps Marines write these resumes and sends the completed product to the job bank headquarters in Monterey, Calif. Employers around the world read the resumes, and if the applicant fits their company's needs, that employer

contacts them for an interview.

The Marines also have the option to retain copies of their resumes to take with them when they separate from the military. A staff member from TAP visits the barracks weekly to help Marines get through the program and assist them with overcoming other obstacles they will face after leaving the Marine Corps.

"We've had numerous successes finding jobs for service members since this program came out in 1991. It's one of the best tools for helping people make that transition from the service to civilian life," said Coye.

Board selects new Color Sergeant from final seven

More than 22,000 sergeants wear the eagle, globe and anchor of United States Marines, but only one serves as the Color Sergeant of the Marine Corps. The Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Charles C. Krulak, announced Nov. 8 the honor will go to Sgt. Russell R. Robinson, a 29-year-old helicopter crew chief from Tacoma, Wash. Robinson will assume his new duties in a January ceremony here.

Robinson was chosen in a rigorous selection process that culminated with seven Marines from various commands coming to Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., for a final, week-long selection board.

The selection process began with personal interviews with Barracks Sergeant Major, Larry J. Carson and Barracks Commander, Col. David G. Dotterer. The process also included a writing class and evaluations on the fundamentals of Color Guard drill. When the board was finished, Robinson was recommended to and approved by the Commandant.

Robinson has been in the Marine Corps for six years and is a crew chief on a CH-53D Sea Stallion with Marine Helicopter Training Squadron 301, 1st Marine Air Wing, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. He replaces SSgt. Thomas W. Rollison, Sylvan Lake, Mich., who will step down as the current Color Sergeant of the Marine Corps following the two-year tour of duty.

Sgt. Russell R. Robinson will assume his new duties as the Color Sergeant of the Marine Corps in a January ceremony here.

4-inch minimum height requirement.

The Color Sergeant heads the Color Guard Section at the barracks, performing in parades, ceremonies and official functions



Gen. Charles C. Krulak addresses the seven Marines participating in the final Color Sergeant Selection board. (Photo by LCpl. Jerry D. Pierce)

The Color Sergeant is tasked with carrying the National Ensign during ceremonies, carrying the Presidential Color for all White House State functions, and touring with the Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment.

The billet is a two-year tour open to sergeants in all occupational specialties who meet the 6-foot,

around the world.

"This year our section participated in more than 800 ceremonies, usually two to eight ceremonies per day," said Rollison.

"I am fortunate to have had a chance to do this job," said Rollison. "This billet is the best thing that has ever happened to me and I recommend any Marine who has an interest in the job to let the command know."

The billet was filled in an unofficial capacity until 1965. The post officially began with former color sergeant, GySgt. Shelton L. Eakin, who was later killed while serving in Vietnam.

A memorial trophy dedicated in his honor and bearing the names of all color sergeants to date is passed down to the incoming color sergeant.





A changing institution:

The Marine Corps Institute continues to streamline non-resident training courses and customer services

Address changes cut mailing delays, improve service

The Marine Corps Institute changed its mailing address Nov. 10 to improve customer service.

The new address is:
 Marine Corps Institute
 Washington Navy Yard
 912 Poor St. SE
 Washington, D.C. 20391-5680
 According to the postal chief at

MCI, Company GySgt. John J. Mackrell, the address was changed to make it easier for MCI to receive incoming mail. The mailing address was in Arlington, Va., and mail traveled through the northern part of the state, causing unnecessary delays.

"This new mailing address sends mail straight to the Washington Navy Yard, eliminating unnecessary handling. With the old system, mail would take much

longer to reach its destination," said Mackrell.

Since there are still thousands of envelopes labeled with the old address circulating throughout the Marine Corps, the change won't take place overnight. Marine postal units are currently consolidating all mail going to MCI at their individual posts, and mailing it



to the new address.

The postal units will continue to do this for 18 months or until the old enve-

Course designers bring interactive MCI's on-line

When General Krulak challenged Marines to "ride the dragon" of change into the next century, the Marine Corps Institute was ready with one of the most exciting innovations since MCI came into being seven decades ago. Marines of the near future will enroll in, complete and receive credit for distance learning courses taken without ever opening a book. Someday, all courses may be completed via computer.

"Basically, everything we produce here (at MCI) is paper," said Pam Marsh,

MCI interactive courseware developer. "Just recently, a contract was let to convert five courses out of 155 'paper' courses," she said, adding the materials are now in development. The courses, Terrorism Awareness; Land Navigation; Incidental Motor Vehicle Operator; Fundamentals of Diesel Engines and Personal Finance, were carefully selected.

"These are the top five courses, said co-developer GySgt. Peter Hoefft. Terrorism Awareness is a hot topic now, according to Hoefft, and the interactive courseware will allow MCI to provide new information to Marines in the field quickly."

Do all these improvements mean the death of "paper copies?" Not at all, says Marsh. "We have to maintain the 'paper copies,'" she said. "Not everybody has

access to a computer with a CD-ROM player," Marsh added. "You're looking at Marines stationed on ships; you're looking at Marines at embassies who don't have the equipment out there for them to do a course on CD-ROM, so we are going to be offering both paper and CD-ROMs."

"A Marine will order the new course, just like they would any other course," said Marsh. "At the time the course is ordered, the Marine tell us if he wants the book or the CD-ROM.

"Our ultimate goal," said Marsh, "is to get all this out on the Internet so a



Sgt. Michael J. Bessey, 1st Marine Division, takes a look at the new Terrorism Awareness Course on one of five subjects CD-ROM. (Photo by L...

velopes are used up. Once all the old stock is gone, MCI will release envelopes and packets labeled with the new mailing address.

With the new mailing address going into effect, there are also new policies dealing with its use.

"This new address is an official mailing address used for the exclusive business of the U.S. Government only. This is not a personal mailing address for Marines in the company," said Mackrell.

Although the new mailing address is in effect, mail going to the old address in Arlington, Va. will continue to be forwarded to the Washington Navy Yard.

Customer service reinforces toll-free student assistance

The Marine Corps Institute recently installed seven new phone lines connected to their customer service exten-

sion to assist Marines with MCI-related problems.

According to Cpl. Randall F. Mitts, a programmer for MCI, the new lines more than doubled the number of calls MCI can field. They now have 14 phone lines devoted to serving Marines.

"We were leaving a lot of people unhappy because they couldn't get through to us on our toll-free number. The lines were always busy. These new phone lines enable us to serve the Marines who need help faster and more efficiently," said Mitts.

Before this fall, there were only five operators handling seven lines. Now there are nine Marine operators handling the 14 lines.

If the toll-free number is busy, the calls automatically go into a queue until a line is open. A recording tells the caller waiting for an open line that

they have reached the Marine Corps Institute and asks them to hold until the next available operator can help them. Callers should wait less than three minutes before they speak with an MCI operator. Previously, callers could spend up to 15 minutes waiting to speak with an operator.

Calls taken before and after business hours, 7 a.m. through 5:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, will be fielded by voice-mail. MCI receives about 250 calls from Marines needing assistance each day.

"Since we installed the new lines, there haven't been very many calls feeding into the mailbox," said Sgt. Michael A. Williams, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the student services division at MCI.

The number Marines should call to speak to a student services representative will remain 1-800-MCI-USMC (624-8762).



student could take the course through Internet means." Both Marsh and Hoeft added that offering a course on CD-ROM is much different than offering the same item via the net.

"We're still looking at the hardware requirements for the Internet version," said Marsh. "When you look at perhaps 80,000 students on the Internet, you run into some interesting problems," she said. While MCI works out the

questions raised by placing the courses on the Internet, the project to place the courses on CD-ROM goes forward.

"A student could order the CD-

ROM, take the course home and complete the course on a personal computer," Marsh said. One major question to be resolved is how to maintain the integrity of examinations.

"When you are working in a CD-ROM environment, you lose the proctor; you lose the control," said Marsh. "These are issues that are still being worked out." Marsh added she is confident a satisfactory resolution will be found. Exam integrity is only one issue with which MCI officials must deal. Many others are more fundamental, such as how the program will appear.

"Some of the first decisions we made dealt with the colors and look of the screens," said Marsh. "We needed to determine the 'feel' of the screens."

"One of the things we're trying to

do is make it as user-friendly as possible," said Hoeft. "We want it to look as 'high speed' as possible. We want to have a lot of video, a lot of animation and that kind of thing. It keeps the (student's) interest," Hoeft said. "You're not seeing the same screen, you're going to see it presented in a different fashion."

The team had definite ideas about the organization of the course software. "We wanted it to move forwards and backwards and to react to the student, just like a normal Windows environment," Marsh said, referring to a popular civilian computer program.

While the course only exists in prototype form now, MCI officials look forward to introducing the final version for IBM-compatible machines next spring.



MCI Co. Graphics Desk at the Terrorism interactive software, being developed for Cpl. Matt Schaffer)

Newborn care costs increase

WASHINGTON — Parents started paying for newborn care at DoD hospitals Oct. 1, from the time of birth whether or not they carry health insurance.

DoD used to charge the standard family member rate for the mother and nothing for the baby, if both were DoD eligible beneficiaries, and they went home together.

The same rate was charged for DoD-eligible babies requiring hospitalization after the mother was discharged.

If the family had health insurance, DoD billed the insurer to recover full costs from the time of birth. Currently, DoD bills parents without health insurance for all newborn care from time of birth.

In most cases, officials said, they don't see the policy having a huge financial impact.

Medical treatment facilities charge just \$9.90 a day for babies eligible for DoD health care, the same it charges new mothers.

The charges are significantly higher, however, for newborns not normally eligible for care — newborns of dependent daughters, for example.

They are now billed for all costs the treatment facility incurs in delivering the baby, officials said. For normal deliveries of healthy babies, the charges total \$600 to \$800.

During 1995, newborn care cost DoD \$140 million. The new policy will generate some additional revenue, but officials said the real reason for the policy is to comply with legal requirements "to recover rea-

sonable costs of providing care."

"This is not a cost-cutting initiative," said Air Force Maj. Gen. George K. Anderson, deputy assistant secretary of defense for health services operations and readiness. "But we have a legal obligation to charge for services we render at taxpayers' expense and particularly for those services beyond the health benefit.

"We're concerned about causing financial hardship for anybody and don't think that will typically be the case," Anderson added.

He noted that higher costs don't usually occur for well babies, and health insurers typically cover the costs of extended care. "We bill only to recover our costs, not to make a profit," he said.

Anderson said the department has been open about policies affecting payment for medical services, even posting information about the new policy newborn billing on the Internet, (<http://www.ha.osd.mil/hsf/newb41.html>).

Medical treatment facility collection offices assist all offices with their bills, the general added, including billing insurers directly. Full payment is due within 60 days of discharge, he said.

Patients who can't afford to pay their medical bill can request relief under their service branch's secretarial designee program.

The program allows the service to absorb all or a portion of costs a patient can't afford, officials explained.

"Under today's budget restraints, we must pay very close attention to every health care dollar we spend, but we never have and never will turn away a patient who needs our help," Anderson said.

Pendleton Marines help combat rising brush-fire threat

MCB, CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Distant smoke on the horizon raised the curiosity of three Marines as they were driving to a video store. As they moved closer, they realized the smoke was caused by a brush fire. Having heard about brush fires where firefighters were short-handed, the Marines decided to offer their help.

LCpls. Joshua Richardson, Daniel Pershing, and Lance Owens would end up assisting firefighters and saving houses.

The brush fire began southwest of Carlsbad, Calif., and escalated into a raging firestorm that whipped through several towns. It burned more than 8,000 acres and destroyed more than 130 homes.

Pershing, Richardson and Owens found their way into a Carlsbad neighborhood by following a fire truck headed toward a threatened area. When the trio arrived on Cadencia Street, they offered their assistance. After getting approval from the senior firefighter, the Marines were put to work pulling hoses from fire trucks.

"The Marines showed-up out of nowhere," said Les Fandel, acting fire chief for engine 1211 from Vista Fire Department. "They were heaven-sent. We didn't have enough manpower, so when they offered their help, I gladly accepted."

Owens, a water purification specialist with 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group, happened to glance down the street and saw flames on the roof of a wood-shingled house. Firefighters were committed to other burning houses, so the Marines rushed to the house hop-

ing to douse the flames. Grabbing a garden hose, they climbed onto the steep roof.

"The garden hose wasn't helping because the water pressure was too low," said Owens, a 19-year-old native of Westwego, La. "It looked as if we were going to lose control of the fire until a police officer gave me a fire extinguisher from his car. The extin-

guisher didn't put out the flames, but it helped keep the fire in check until firemen arrived with hoses."

Once firefighters started working on the roof, the Marines headed into the house to help fight the fire from the attic. Before heading upstairs, they checked the house to make sure no one was inside.

"I was thinking of my own family, my wife and kids," said Owens. "There was nothing this family could do to save their home, but we could do something."

The trio reached the smoke-filled attic, armed with a small hose from the fire department. With smoke burning their eyes and lungs, they began battling the blaze inside.

"The smoke was really bad. It was difficult to walk and find your way around," said Pershing, 22, a motor transport operator with 7th Engineer Bn.

With firefighters battling the blaze on the roof and the Marines working in the attic, their combined efforts finally paid off when the last of the flames were extinguished. Despite roof damage, the home and its contents were saved.

"My mom's house burned while I was stationed on Okinawa," Pershing said, a native of Great Falls, Mont. "I couldn't do anything about her house,

but here I had a chance to do something."

The Marines assisted in saving three homes that night. Unfortunately, a fourth could not be saved.

It burned to the ground despite the trio's best efforts.

When the Marines weren't saving houses, they found other ways to help.

They spotted a man struggling to carry possessions out of his home. The trio jumped in to help him save furniture, a grandfather clock, and clothes. They also helped police and firefighters direct traffic through streets that had become a maze of emergency vehicles, hoses, and people.

Bill and Susan Pierce had lived on Cadencia Street for the past 10 years. When the fires began, Bill tried to remove family keepsakes, including pictures and videos of their daughter, but before he could finish, he was ordered to evacuate the area.

After several hours of waiting and hearing rumors that their whole neighborhood had been destroyed, the Pierces decided to work their way back to their house to see what was left.

"We parked and started walking down the street towards the glow coming from our neighborhood," Pierce said. "When we got to our house, we were shocked to

see that it had survived.

"All I know is three angels in cammies flew up to my roof and saved my home," Pierce said. "This was a real blessing."

"They did everything we asked and they never hesitated with orders. There was great teamwork between them and the fire department," Fandel stated.

"Every bit of our Marine Corps training kicked in, from MOUT training to climbing the obstacle course, it all helped us that night," Pershing said. "I feel great that we were able to help out," said Richardson. "My parents always taught me to help my neighbors be-

"I was thinking of my own family, my wife and kids -- there was nothing this family could do to save their home, but we could do something."

-- LCpl. Lance Owens



LCpl. Lance Owens grabs a fire extinguisher from LCpl. Joshua Richardson as they battle to save the first of three homes in Carlsbad, Calif., neighborhood threatened by a firestorm.

cause someday I may need help from someone."

"We feel so bad for those people who lost their homes," said Owens. "I can't begin to imagine what they are going through. I'm relieved that we were able to do some good."

Commandant issues wake-up call to Marines

HQMC — The equal opportunity climate in the Marine Corps is improving, but not quickly or extensively enough to satisfy the Commandant.

When findings from the 1996 Marine Corps Equal Opportunity Survey were released earlier this month, General Charles C. Krulak characterized the Corps' progress over the last two years as moving "at a snail's pace."

"If the survey is our equal opportunity report card, then in 1996 we are passing and have even improved slightly since 1994," said Gen. Krulak. "But we are still a long way from the dean's list. I am not satisfied with average results or ambivalent opinions of our efforts to improve the equal opportunity climate in the Marine Corps. I expect better — much better."

Over the past two years, the Corps has invested much time and effort in developing a comprehensive training and awareness program dealing with the issues of race and gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and conflict resolution. All Marines are educated on these topics within their first 90 days of service, and annual training is required thereafter. But the onus rests with the Corps' leadership, said the Commandant.

"Because Marines are our most precious asset, we will protect them through fair, scrupulous, and unbiased treatment as individuals — caring for them, teaching them, and leading them. I see it as the obligation of each member of the chain of command — from top to bottom — to ensure that this sense of fairness is constant and genuine."

Using ALMAR 408/96 as his vehicle, Gen. Krulak issued a "Wake-Up Call" on Nov. 15: "Get the message," he said. "Equal opportunity is not a program. This is leadership! I hold commanders ultimately responsible for cre-

ating and sustaining a positive command climate in which all Marines are given fair, scrupulous, and unbiased treatment, and prompt action is taken when they are not."

While tasking the Corps' leadership with ensuring his directives are met, Gen. Krulak reminded all Marines of their individual responsibilities. "Let me reiterate that Marines of all ranks are obligated to treat each other with respect as human beings, individuals, and comrades in arms. I expect every Marine to be part of the solution — those who are part of the problem will be dealt with under the full measure of law and regulations. This includes those who falsely accuse another of discrimination or harassment."

Referring to the critical role of education and awareness in achieving the Corps' equal opportunity goals, the Commandant said there are plenty of tools to help the Corps get to where it needs to go. "From the Team Marine training package, to the informal resolution system, to the commander's handbook for process-

Secretary of the Navy sends out holiday message

WASHINGTON — Happy holidays Navy and Marine Corps! As we steam full speed into the busy holiday season and a new year, I want to congratulate you on a job well done. In this joyous time of Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, you should be proud of your role in securing your benefits we enjoy as Americans.

It is your united efforts—dedicated to a common goal—which safeguard the precious values, rights and freedoms of our democracy. It's because

of you that our Navy and Marine Corps so successfully defend our nation's interests around the world, and our team is unbeatable in war and a beacon of hope in peace. It's because of you we make a difference in the lives of real people here and abroad.

You are truly guardians of the American ideal, and I am very proud to serve as your secretary.

For those of you away from home and family during this holiday season, you should know that your hardship is appreciated. You, and the more than 50,000 members of our team who are forward deployed, are the front line of our nation's commitment to peace and freedom around the world.

On behalf of the Navy and Marine Corps, and a grateful America, thank

you for your dedication and sacrifice. Thank you for keeping the faith.

As we begin the new year, let us resolve, at every level of the chain of command, to value, respect and protect the dignity of each Sailor, Marine and civilian in our Navy-Marine Corps family. We are a team, and our team's effectiveness depends on our unwavering support of the men and women with whom we stand shoulder to shoulder.

I wish each of you happy holidays and the very best in the new year. God bless you and your families, God bless the Navy and Marine Corps, and may God keep America free, peaceful and prosperous.

—Released by the Honorable John H. Dalton, Secretary of the Navy.

ing equal opportunity and equal employment opportunity complaints, we have the means to educate ourselves and enforce our policy ... Put these tools to work."

To measure the Corps' progress in equal opportunity, Gen. Krulak has ordered another survey to be conducted a year ahead of schedule. He has also directed that results from the 1996 survey be sent to all commanders.

"The bottom line," he said, "is Marines are still discriminating against and harassing each other. America's finest are being subjected to negative comments and offensive jokes, even physical threats and assaults because of their race, creed, or gender. These actions are fundamentally inconsistent with our core values and our ethos. They must stop now!"

Marines to check out 782 gear as career issue

HQMC — Marines checking into a new duty station will no longer trudge from the unit supply warehouse bogged down with 782 gear. Nor will they have to worry that some items are temporarily out of stock or that the only item available doesn't fit properly or is un-serviceable.

Beginning with the Marine Forces Reserve, every Marine reporting to his/her first permanent duty station will receive a one-time personal issue of 782 gear. Marines will be responsible for maintaining and safeguarding 31 items throughout their career. Fleet Marine Force units will institute the program late next year, followed by bases, posts, and stations soon thereafter.

The Commandant's decision to give Marines their own personal issue of field gear was based in large part on what the Marines themselves told him they wanted. "Issue us the gear and let us be

responsible for it," they told Gen. Krulak as he visited them and through suggestions submitted to Marine Mail.

The idea made sense to Marine Corps leaders, who were concerned about sizable equipment losses due to poor care and maintenance. The goal is to ensure every Marine has the right size and quantity of 782 gear.

The current way of doing business is very inconvenient as well as costly," said Master Gunnery Sgt. Edmond Lettinhand with the Field Supply Maintenance Analysis Office Coordinator, Installations and Logistics, Headquarters Marine Corps. "Sometimes items on hand at unit supply activities just can't accommodate an individual's

size requirements. Every Marine has his/her own way of adjusting the gear to be as comfortable as possible, which means they have to repeat the process every time they draw their new unit issue. Now, a Marine not only will be able to set up his gear and keep it as he moves from one assignment to another, but will take care of it because he is responsible for it."

The administrative requirements associated with providing every Marine a career issue of 782 gear were minimal, according to Lettinhand, because Marine Forces Reserve had already developed an automated tracking system to issue uniforms to reservists. "The database at the reserve support center in Kansas City, Mo., was a perfect fit for our requirements," said Lettinhand. "The tracking system they had in place answered a critical concern. How do we keep up with the gear's whereabouts when Marines PCS? The automated clothing system fit right in."

Lettinhand also explained that since MARFORRES developed the system,

they will be the first to implement the career 782 gear issue, test the procedures and make any necessary adjustments before the program goes Corps-wide.

To prevent any shipping costs to Marines and avoid time lags in delivery, 782 gear will be considered professional equipment and authorized to be sent by express shipment as part of the Marine's household move.

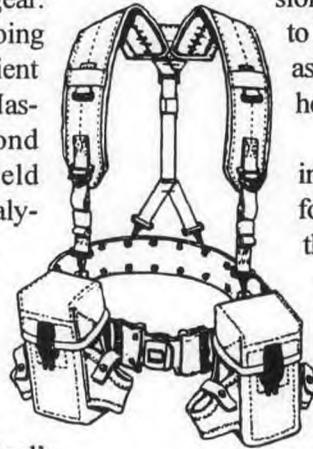
The Corps is also examining the least cumbersome way for Marines to ship and store their gear. Lettinhand said the Marine Corps Systems Command at Quantico, Va., is examining a roller-type carrying case with locking mechanisms that can be palletized for unit

movement and be attached to a wall or locker.

"A Marine's level of accountability for the 782 gear has also been resolved," said Lettinhand. "Unit supply activities will still have a limited quantity of 782 gear on hand. If an item of gear is damaged or lost during operations and the Marine was not negligent, the commanding officer can authorize replacement issue," he explained. "If, on the other hand, the Marine fails to care for and maintain the gear or loses it through carelessness, he will be responsible for its replacement. Marine Corps Exchanges will be carrying the gear for Marines to purchase."

The total value per set of gear is approximately \$600. The flak jacket will not be included in the issue because many Marines rarely require one and it would add about \$400 to the issue cost.

Additional information on the career issue of 782 gear can be found in ALMAR 394/96, published Oct. 28 as CMC Message 280103Z OCT 96.





Drill Instructor School students work together to get Sgt. Thomas Taylor, student, through a small opening in SSgt. Howard's Maze, one of the Crucible's Warrior Stations.



Sgt. Ella swing at

Up *against* the **CRUCIBLE**

DI's get personal with new recruit challenge

Story and photos by
LCpl. William M. Lisbon

MCRD, Parris Island, S.C — Transformation. Rite of passage. Fifty-four hours long. Food and sleep deprivation. Mentally and physically challenging problem-solving exercises. The final test.

All of these describe "The Crucible," the culminating event designed to enhance recruit training.

A recent class of Drill Instructor School students took up the challenging event, completing it as the first group to go through the Crucible event on Parris Island.

The Crucible is part of enhancements being made to recruit training. The event will be conducted near the conclu-

sion of recruit training and will test recruits physically, mentally and morally.

The course is designed to be the defining moment in a person's quest to achieve the title "Marine."

For the DI students, the test began at 2 a.m., Sept. 18, as the class stepped off on a six-mile march from DI School. Upon completion of the early-morning movement, Marines grounded their packs and went right into the events.

The Crucible is made up of 12 problem-solving stations at the Reaction Course, 11 Warrior Stations of teamwork-required obstacles, an enhanced confidence course, several movement courses, a casualty evacuation exercise,

an endurance course, team pugil sticks, unknown distance firing, and a night infiltration and march — all in a 54-hour time-span.

"It's not only going to see if they've (recruits) got heart, it's going to see how much heart they've got," said Sgt. Donald Tallman, a DI student who ran the course before graduating Sept. 26.

Not only did the students have to complete all the events, they had to do it with tired bodies and hungry stomachs. Marines were given two Meals, Ready-to-Eat per day and were only allowed approximately four hours of sleep a night. The purpose of the Crucible is to confront recruits



Sgts. Greg Waters and Gomez attempt to transport water jugs across a prop



McGovern, DI School student, swings on a tire attempting to negotiate a Warrior Station.

ible

with mental and physical challenges and allow them to work as a team with little interaction from their drill instructors.

“At the end of recruit training, when faced with the Crucible, the emphasis that was placed on team work since the start will help recruits realize what it’s all about,” said Gunnery Sgt. James Fields, another DI student who undertook the Crucible challenge.

“We’re leaning more toward the role of the teacher and father-figure than we are as the old type of drill instructor,” said Tallman. “Now that we’re incorporating many more things, we’ve got to be smarter about the way we’re doing things.”

The crucible is another tool in the Corps’ training toolbox — one the Corps hopes will make Marines better able to cope with the demands of Marine life.



Robert transport the bridge.



Sgt. Veney Cochran, Drill Instructor School student, makes his way across a rope bridge with a filled water jug. Negotiating obstacles with little physical or mental rest is one of the most challenging aspects of the new Crucible.



THE STORMING OF THE ENGINE-HOUSE

Illustration from an 1859 issue of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Weekly, a popular newspaper of the day. Newspapers throughout the north widely carried the story to whip up public sentiment against slavery. (Illustration courtesy of University of Virginia)

Since its founding, 8th & I has many times had a hand in shaping American history. One need only consider the year 1859, when Marines were called to quell an insurrection at ...

Harper's Ferry

Story by CWO-2 Boyer

In a conflict marked by irony, Marine First Lieutenant Israel Greene changed the course of the Civil War by bringing the wrong sword to the battle. Commander of the 100 man-strong Marine Barracks in Washington, DC on October 17, 1859, Greene was conducting routine business at the nearby Washington

Navy Yard. A courier from Secretary of the Navy Isaac Toucy galloped down the muddy streets, carrying an urgent order.

"Send all available Marines ...," Toucy ordered, "under charge of suitable officers by this evening's train of cars to Harper's Ferry to protect the public property at that place, which is endangered by a riotous outbreak."

The "riotous outbreak" was in fact the seizure of the federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry by the fanatical abolitionist John Brown and a small group of followers. Brown's goal was as simple as it was hideous. He planned to seize weapons at the arsenal to arm a rebellion of slaves throughout the south. The slaves were to flock to Brown's standard and the self-styled

Moses would lead his children from bondage, killing millions of slave owners in the process.

On October 16th, Brown and about 20 accomplices seized the arsenal, overpowered the lone night watchman and took hostages from among the populace. Shots were fired, and soon the whole community knew of the seizure. Local militia swarmed to the scene, armed with a motley collection of firearms. The militiamen began to bang away indiscriminately, endangering civilians and insurrectionists alike.

Under a hot but not particularly accurate fire (no one was hit despite numerous rounds expended), Brown's little band took refuge with their hostages in the arsenal's fire station. Enconced in the stone firehouse, Brown's party began firing back toward the town. The idea of facing return musket fire cooled the militia's ardor. Most contented themselves with surrounding the building, taking the occasional pot shot at the besieged within.

A standoff developed. Brown's small party could not escape, and the militia could not or would not evict them. The scene quickly assumed a carnival atmosphere as militiamen flocked to the local taverns to fortify themselves. Order was clearly needed.

Back in Washington, Greene received his marching orders at about

noon the next day. He quickly went to work. In a hallowed tradition as old as the Marine Corps, Major William Russell, of the headquarters staff



John Brown as he appeared some years before the Harper's Ferry incident. Tried for treason, Brown made a number of speeches which made him famous. (Photo courtesy of the National Archives)

was sent to "assist" Greene. Russell's actual task was to oversee Greene's actions. With 12 years service, Greene was considered perhaps to young and brash for such a delicate mission.

Greene quickly assembled 86 Marines, drawing muskets, ammunition and rations for a long stay. An artillerist by trade, Greene also included two 3-inch guns and a quantity of shrapnel shells. During the frenzied preparations, Greene may have simply forgotten to exchange the dress sword he would have routinely worn for the deadlier field sword. This oversight was to have far-reaching consequences.

Having drawn their equipment, the Marines then partook in that other revered Marine tradition, hurry up and wait. The Marines marched through the city of Washington to the train station, where they

waited until 3:30 p.m. to board a train to Harper's Ferry.

Eight hours later, Greene debarked his Marines and reported to the senior army officer on the scene, Col. Robert E. Lee, home on leave from duties in Texas. Lee directed the Marines to relieve the largely-inebriated militia surrounding the firehouse. They were to prepare to storm the building if surrender negotiations failed. Although no detailed record of Greene's actions in the next few hours exist, he must have been busy. He had to relieve the militia (hopefully without being shot in the darkness by a drunken militiaman), put his Marines in place and decide upon a plan to storm the firehouse. The lieutenant doubtless got little sleep that night.

At 6:30 a.m. on October 18, Lee sent a surrender ultimatum to the firehouse, via another officer soon to become famous, Captain Jeb Stuart. Lee's ultimatum was rejected. Stuart signaled to the Marines, who sprang into action. As other Marines prepared to rush into the breach, three privates wielding sledge hammers bashed at the heavy wooden doors, to no avail.

Spying a wooden ladder nearby, Greene ordered his Marines to use it as a battering ram. On the second blow, one of the firehouse doors splintered. The Marines wasted no time rushing inside.

The scene inside the besieged structure was hellish. The boom of musket fire and the shrieks



Israel Greene in the uniform of a Confederate Major of Marines. (Illustration courtesy of University of Virginia)



Marines used a ladder to bash in the engine house's heavy wooden doors seen at the lower left. The first two Marines through the breach were shot by insurrectionists. (Photo courtesy of the National Archives)

of the wounded mixed with the cries of the hostages in a cacophony which rang off the stone walls. Smoke from the discharging muskets clouded the already gloomy firehouse. The first two Marines through the breach were shot by insurrectionists. Greene charged in hard on their heels, dress sword drawn. Once inside, he could not recognize Brown until one of the hostages pointed him out.

John Brown was on one knee, attempting to reload a musket as Green lunged forward through the swirl of combat to strike. Greene caught Brown hard across the neck with his dress sword, but the old man was built of tough stuff. Stunned by a blow which would have prostrated most, Brown gained his



Six Marines as photographed at the Washington Navy Yard circa 1860. The officer at left holds the regulation field sword, sharper and heavier than the dress sword normally worn in garrison. (Photo courtesy of the National Archives)

feet, still attempting to reload. Greene thrust, only to have the dress sword bend nearly double, then break as it failed to penetrate Brown's heavy leather belt.

Undeterred, Greene continued his assault on the still-combative Brown, finally pounding the old man senseless with a series of blows to the head with his sword hilt. As Brown collapsed, so did his planned insurrection. In the three-minute melee, a Marine was killed and another wounded. The insurrectionists lost two killed. No hostages were injured.

"I must also ask to express," wrote Col. Lee in his report to the secretary of war, "my entire commendation of the conduct of the detachment of Marines, who were at all times ready and prompt in the execution of any duty."

Brown and the rest of his party were turned over to civil authorities

to be tried for treason. Brown made several fiery speeches during his trial. Carried by a sympathetic press, these harangues gained him worldwide fame. Abolitionist press notwithstanding, the trial's outcome was never in doubt,

"I must also ask to express my entire commendation of the conduct of the detachment of Marines, who were at all times ready and prompt in the execution of any duty."

-- Col. Lee in his report to the secretary of war

nor was the sentence.

Brown's ultimate execution earned him the notoriety he sought in life. Union soldiers marched to war singing a popular song of the time, "John Brown's Body Lies A'Moldin in the Grave." Had Brown been killed by either of Greene's sword blows in that

shot-torn firehouse, he doubtless would not have become such an abolitionist icon.

Following Harper's Ferry, events spiraled toward war. New York-born Lt. Israel Greene tendered his resignation at the outbreak of the Civil War to accept a Confederate commission. Greene rendered no explanation, but he must have been influenced by his wife, a Virginian. Like hundreds of others, Israel Greene made the difficult choice to leave the country he had sworn to defend.

Greene served faithfully as adjutant and inspector of the Confederate Marine Corps until his capture following the fall of Richmond. It was ironic that by failing to kill Brown at Harper's Ferry, Israel Greene helped make him a martyr, hastening the end of the Confederacy he served so well. All because he brought the wrong sword to the battle.



Marines parade at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., just after the Civil War. The garrison rushed to Harper's Ferry to control the "riotous outbreak" unleashed there. (Photo courtesy of the National Archives)

Marines support photog

Volunteers model for local artist's composite prints commemorating military veterans' experiences

Story by LCpl. Matt Schafer

A man in his forties pulls his motorcycle up to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C. He slowly gets off his bike, takes off his jacket and walks up to the wall. He stands motionless as his eyes scan the names on the black, marble surface. The singing of the birds and the sounds of the city slowly fade away as the sounds of gunshots and screaming amplify themselves in his mind.

His memories create the images of soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines he once knew on the wall. Some are patrolling, others are saluting their old friend. Their lives may be over, but their legacy lives on and their stories are still told by the survivors of the war.

This is the message of 47-year-old photographer and artist William R. Gunzelman's graphic print "Veteran's Vision".

Volunteer models from Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., represent a veteran's fallen comrades -- ghostly images within the Vietnam Memorial. (Electronic-composite photo courtesy of William R. Gunzelman)



grapher's unique vision



O SAY! CAN YOU SEE,
BY THE DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT

Gun
198

Gunzelman uses computer graphics to create a collage with photographs he has taken of barracks Marines.

The themes of his portraits symbolize his military experiences and the experiences of veterans he has interviewed.

According to Gunzelman, "The prints are based on things I've heard, seen and been told by other people."

Gunzelman starts his project by taking pictures of monuments, models and anything else he needs a

Gunzelman has already made three prints and is currently working on seven different projects.

photo of to do his project. He scans his photos he has and uses a computer program to blend the images.

Gunzelman spent four years on his first print, but these days, he can turn out a project in a few months.

Gunzelman has already made three prints and is currently working on seven different projects.

"I'm doing one print for each of the armed forces, and I'm also doing one on women in the military," Gunzelman said.

Gunzelman, a former sergeant in the Air Force, already finished his reproduction for the Marine Corps. It's a portrait based on former Master Gunnery Sgt. Len Maffioli titled "Legacy".

Marines from 8th and I help Gunzelman make his portraits more realistic by posing for photographs he takes for the collage.

Gunzelman called the barracks looking for volunteers. The barracks sent an E-mail message out and Gunzelman was overwhelmed with phone calls.

"I really like working with Marines because they're 'gung-ho'. They care about the Corps, the country and their history," Gunzelman explains.

According to volunteer Cpl. Madelene G. Engle, of the H&S Co. supply warehouse, "Bill Gunzelman does a good job in commemorating veterans with his work."

Gunzelman doesn't just limit his relationship with Marines to the photo sessions.

"We gave the last group a home cooked meal and free prints of the photos we took for them. These guys are tremendous," Gunzelman said.

Gunzelman maintains his friendships with the Marines he works with. In fact, Gunzelman said Cpl. Cody Riggs, a Marine formerly stationed at the barracks, visited the Gunzelman home before leaving for his new station overseas.

Gunzelman explained his favorite aspect of working with Marines is their reason for helping him with his prints.

"They're doing this because of what the Marine Corps is. They do this all for nothing. We give them a free meal and a few prints, but they're doing this for Esprit de Corps," Gunzelman

said.

According to Gunzelman, the Marines' positive energy and ability to follow instructions helps him achieve his goal of portraying the military.

"I think it's important that people understand pride and Esprit de Corps. When an old gunny walks up, looks at my print, then comes



William R. Gunzelman (right) used images of 8th & I Marines in each of the three commemorative prints he has produced. (Photo by Cpl. Patrick E. Franklin)

up and says, 'That's it, that's the Marine Corps;' I've done my job."

Gunzelman's portraits are always on display at the Friends of Vietnam stand next to the Vietnam Memorial.

Congratulations to those barracks Marines who participated in the 1996 21st Marine Corps Marathon. These leathernecks ran, walked and crawled through 26.2 grueling miles Oct. 27.

Co. A
Sgt. E.A. Hodge

Co. B
Capt. S.D. Berg
1st Lt. M.G. Broniec

Marine Band
CWO2 J.M. Hurley
LCpl. C.R. Zovinka

D&B
Sgt. R.W. Duncan
Cpl. N.A. Bennett

H&S
Maj. M.P. Crotty
Capt. E.M. Martin
Cpl. D.S. Callen
Cpl. T.C. Hodge
Cpl. A. Santiago-Alvarez
LCpl. M.A. Knutson
LCpl. M.S. Schafer

MCI
Capt. M.C. Cochran
GySgt. S.K. Johnson
GySgt. P.R. Mason
GySgt. J.W. Sutton
SSgt. R.A. Audette

SEC Co.
Sgt. L. Barber, III
LCpl. W.M. Willis

When you see these Marines, congratulate them on their new ranks. Recent promotions for November include:

Co. A
Sgt. B.C. Duprey
Sgt. G.Q. Ford
Sgt. M.B. Mayo
Sgt. S.W. Snyder
Cpl. R.W. Brown
Cpl. T.M. Butner
Cpl. W.R. Fasci
Cpl. C.P. Garrity
Cpl. K.G. Morris
Cpl. D.W. Owens, II
Cpl. R.R. Price
Cpl. P.A. Santos
Cpl. J.P. Steinbach
Cpl. T.D. Todd
PFC M. T. Weddel

Co. B
Sgt. J.D. Austin, III
Sgt. D.T. Bryant
Cpl. R.J. Brinker, Jr.
Cpl. A.L. Brown
Cpl. R.J. Finn
Cpl. T.T. Mason



Left: Cpl. Adrian Santiago-Alvarez burns another mile during the 1996 Marine Corps Marathon. Santiago-Alvarez was one of 21 barracks Marines who ran in the event Oct. 27. (Photo courtesy of Cpl. Adrian Santiago-Alvarez)

Cpl. T.R. Middleton
Cpl. R.C. Sexton
Cpl. A. Taylor, Jr.
Cpl. G.M. Weber
LCpl. K.M. Miles
PFC J.G. Hauptman
PFC R.T. Nance
PFC B.A. Wooddell

H&S Co.
CWO3 M.A. Ladd
Sgt. J.R. Dunlap, Jr.
Sgt. J.D. Polzin
Sgt. H.W. Rist
Sgt. R.A. Watkins
Cpl. V.L. Holmes
Cpl. P.E. Kerber
Cpl. M.S. Lane
Cpl. P.M. Roebuck
Cpl. D.H. Ruth
LCpl. B.A. Fogle

MCI Co.
LCpl. B.R. Summers

USNA Co.
Capt. T.E. Prentice
Cpl. L.W. Fisher
Cpl. C.M. Smith
Cpl. A.M. Hoffer
LCpl. C.D. Arnette

WHCA
Cpl. W.M. Perkins, III
Cpl. R.B. Cambell
Cpl. J.S. Castle
Cpl. J.C. Bracken
Cpl. T.B. Maduzia

SEC Co.
Cpl. S.D. Linden
Cpl. I.L. Gresham
Cpl. N.A. Rios
Cpl. V.L. Street, II
Cpl. M.S. Malinowski

We usually have several new faces at 8th & I. Make a point of greeting these new barracks members.

Co. A
SSgt. A.T. Anderson
LCpl. G. Valenzvelreyes

PFC A.L. Dowell
PFC A. Ferguson
PFC J.M. Lumm
PFC J. Phillips
PFC M. Redding
PFC R.E. Saw
PFC C.W. Thompson
PFC M.T. Weddel
Pvt. J. Cochran
Pvt. A.B. Harvey
Pvt. T.H. Hoover
Pvt. J.A. Smith
Pvt. J. Wheeler

Co. B
Sgt. E. Parson
PFC G.A. Bartinick
PFC M. Cheplick
PFC C.J. Hewett
PFC T.L. Hillard
PFC M. Johnson
PFC W. Johnson
PFC C.S. Kinley
PFC D. Kolesar
PFC T.R. Martin
PFC T.A. Matthews
PFC L.B. McKinley
PFC I.W. Miller
PFC C.O. Moore
PFC J. Monroe
PFC J. Norton
PFC T.L. Nutter
PFC D.S. Price
PFC B.D. Reeve
PFC J.P. Rogers
PFC T. Trice
PFC E. Wilson
PFC B.T. Wood
PFC B.A. Wooddell
Pvt. M.P. Borgard
Pvt. W.J. Bracken
Pvt. J.O. Burge
Pvt. A.B. Calvello
Pvt. M. Collins
Pvt. J.L. Cook
Pvt. S.M. Faisey
Pvt. J. Hauptman
Pvt. A.G. McLawrence
Pvt. R. Nance
Pvt. M.R. Smith
Pvt. R. Wilson

Band
SSgt. J.P. Creveling

H&S Co.
SSgt. R. Brown
Sgt. C. Toglena
Cpl. D. Parker
Cpl. B.M. Laster
LCpl. E. Gomez

MCI Co.
Capt. S.A. Burke
GySgt. J.L. Teachy
SSgt. T.L. Hoffman
SSgt. S.B. Wilde
PFC C.E. Freas
PFC L.A. Morgan

USNA Co.
Capt. T.E. Prentice

FOLLOWING THE 1996 BATTALION FIELD EXERCISE

Story and photos by
LCpl. Matt S. Schafer

During parade season, the leathernecks of Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., don their blue-whites and take up M-1 Garand rifles to perform before countless spectators at parades and ceremonies across the globe. Recently, they traded their dress uniforms and ceremonial weapons for camouflage utilities and M-16A2 service rifles and traveled to Fort A.P. Hill, Va. to conduct field exercises.

Barracks Marines were in the field for two weeks practicing weapons employment, the execution of squad assault exercises, rappelling and visited the gas chamber.

Marines from Company B spent the first week in Fort A.P. Hill while Co. A went for the second. H&S and MCI Companies split their Marines into groups for the training.

For Marines who have spent most of their enlistment at the barracks, going to the field can be a nice change of pace after a long parade season.

According to Cpl. Jerry G. Bowman from Co. A, "We were all reintroduced to the principles of being a basic Marine rifleman."

SSgt. Richard L. Wilson from Co. A explained the knowledge was crucial to preparing the Marines for future assignments.

"While Marines are stationed at the barracks, their primary mission is ceremonial drill. These exercises give the Marines the chance to

get familiar with the skills they will need when they go to the fleet," Wilson said.

Although the Marines make trips to the field throughout the year, most of the exercises are spent reviewing the basics. Since Marines from MCI Co. and H&S Companies also spend a good deal of time away from the field, they can learn and train on a similar level with the infantry Marines.

**8TH & 1 MARINES PRACTICED
WEAPONS EMPLOYMENT, SQUAD
ASSAULT AND RAPELLING --
CRUCIAL KNOWLEDGE FOR FUTURE
DUTY STATIONS.**





PFC Carlton T. Smith from Student Services, MCI Co., maneuvers an ammo crate during a Leadership Reaction Course exercise.

F E X 9 6

FEEX96



*LCpl Jason W. Poat, A Co. 2nd Plt.,
awaits the signal to ready his
weapon on the live fire range.*



Co. A Marines rush through live fire courses during Squad Attack exercises.

While the training was basic, Sgt. Deanna M. Hall from MCI said the principles learned in the field can help the Marines to work better as a team in their everyday duties at the barracks.

“We usually have our own work loads at MCI so teamwork doesn’t come into play as often. By completing the Leadership Course, we got to know each other better as Marines. There seems to be a lot more teamwork around the office since we returned,” said Hall.

Hall explained the positive results from the field were beneficial. She feels barracks Marines should visit the field more often.

The field exercises benefited the Marines in many methods. It broke the monotony of their daily routine, whether it was marching, standing post or working in an office.

It was a review of the skills needed to be a basic rifleman and it helped Marines identify with the overall mission of the Marine Corps.



LCpl. Christopher G. Filipowski (left) and LCpl. Johnnie W. Crouser from H&S Co. Guard Detachment climb over one of a series of obstacles on the Leadership Reaction Course.



A fire team from MCI Co. transports ammunition over a canal with an improvised wood-plank suspension bridge.



Standing *In-line*



Story and photos by
Cpl. Chance D. Puma

In-line skating's promise of speed and excitement has made it hugely popular in the United States in recent years. In fact, equipment sales show it has been the fastest growing sport in America for the past seven years, according to spokespeople for Rollerblade, a leading manufacturer of in-line skating equipment. Like most traditional sports, it combines fun and fitness; but many athletes find in-line skating can take many non-traditional forms.

This versatility is visible at 8th & I. As a growing number of Marines take to the streets of Washington, D.C. on in-line skates, they show there's more than one set of rules to this sport.

These Marines are out to fulfill their own personal combination of physical training, recreation and competitive play.

"It's an easy sport," said LCpl. Carl D. Moore, Co. A. Skaters can go at their own pace — getting into freestyle stunts or aggressive roller-hockey, or simply getting outside and enjoying a relaxing ride, according to Moore.

However, most skaters would agree it is a physically demanding sport, said Moore.

"Skating is definitely a good workout for building up more support muscle in the legs," said LCpl. Michael A. Knutson, H&S Co., who began in-line skating while training for the Marine Corps Marathon.

"I started skating to break through a plateau in my running time," said Knutson, "and to try to mix things up and do something interesting."

In-line skating can help competitive runners by changing the emphasis of their training sessions and using different leg muscles, according to Knutson. "It's awkward at first but it really develops the inner thigh and shocks muscles into developing more stamina."

"It doesn't offer so much aerobic strength, but offers strength in ligaments and tendons in the legs that many Marines seem to have a hard

"Skating is definitely a good workout for building up more support muscle in the legs."

--Lance Cpl. Michael A. Knutson, H&S Co.



Above sequence left to right: Cpl. Joshua G. Brown, D&B Co., works on gaining altitude during an “aggressive skating” session in front of the Federal Reserve building.

time with from running,” said Knutson.

Marines identify with fitness, and many say in-line skating is an enjoyable exercise

off the beaten path of traditional physical training.

In addition, in-line skating’s growing popularity at 8th and I is boosted by the barracks’ unique location.

Many barracks skaters say the Washington, D.C. area is ripe with places perfect for in-line skating.

“I started skating when I first got stationed at the barracks just as a means of transportation,” said Moore. “I spent hours on skates just getting to know the area and finding new trails.”

“You can skate just about anywhere in D.C.,” said Sgt. Paul B. Felix, White House Communications Agency. “Sometimes I skate around to some of the monuments just to see the sights,” said Felix, who also plays pick-up games of roller-hockey around Washington, often in front of the White House.

“The White House is like any of the monuments in the area,” said Felix, “it’s just a common meeting place.” “I person-

Left: LCpl. Sean T. McNeill, H&S Co., launches off bleachers at the barracks’ underpass-basketball courts.



Street Traffic is the skater's main safety concern

ally like playing there because it's a safe part of the city and the street is blocked off from traffic."

Street traffic is the skater's main safety concern, according to Felix.

"Traffic can make it hard to get around," he said.

"Busy traffic on top of pot holes and construction sites can make things dangerous," said Knutson. "You have to be careful when you're by yourself."

However, it doesn't seem that most skaters are letting traffic or anything else become an obstacle to get in the way of enjoying their sport as it continues to rise in popularity.

Skate safety



While there are no laws as of yet on safety equipment use for in-line skating, there are some nationally recognized guidelines. The Aggressive Skating Association, as well as leading equipment manufacturers, recommends the following as the minimum safety gear worn at any time for skaters.

- Helmet
- Kneepads
- Elbowpads
- Wristguards

Additionally, there are no Marine Corps Orders on in-line skating safety, but Headquarters Marine Corps Safety Division has provided

guidance similar to the above on safe skating, including the following for MWR league hockey play:

- Full shield face protection
- Mouth guard
- Hand protection
- Protective cup for males

One reason for the Corps' concern with in-line skating safety: in fiscal year 1996 there were five reported Marine skating injuries ranging from leg fractures to a concussion. These injuries alone resulted in a total 108 lost work days and an estimated cost of over \$42,593 for the Corps.

As in any sport, Marines are encouraged to compete responsibly.

The gift and giving

By Lt. Kenneth D. Counts, USN

People ask me, "Are you ready for Christmas?" What they mean is, "Have you finished shopping and buying gifts?"

Sometimes the thought of holiday crowds and added expenses takes all the wind out of my "sales." But then the thoughts of how fun it can be to give energizes and empowers me to get up and get out there searching for a parking space.

My experience, and the Word of God, convince me that there is far more pleasure in giving than in receiving. To receive a gift in this materialistic age brings serious potential hazards. We already enjoy such prosperity that we need very little. And wants and needs swirl like tornados within the mind as one gazes at packages, wishing for specific results. Without ever intending to, we can overlook the value and love which went into our gifts.

It strikes me that some people are better at choosing good gifts that really please the recipients. I wish I could be like them. There is an enthusiasm and joy in people as they open gifts they really like and want. It blesses the giver to see their gift bring happiness and delight. I guess that those who know how and what to give are motivated by love and understanding of the ones to whom they brought

those gifts. They chose gifts after careful reflection and from true love.

Christmas, of necessity, must be about gifts and giving. From the gift laid in a manger on the first Christmas, we have this happy custom today. What an extraordinary gift that was! There in a dirty feed trough, lay the most priceless treasure in all the universe. There was given to us a gift of incalculable worth. There the living God, who is infinite, eternal, and all-powerful had taken on our



humanity and had joined us in our human condition. This, the ultimate gift, was not a thing.

This gift was the Person who from all times, places and peoples is rightly most worthy and most virtuous. This our gift, would prove to be the ultimate Gift. This gift is God Himself.

Kings traveled from distant lands bringing Him expensive gifts. Is it not strange that we still try to give things to God? What can we give to the One who gave us everything we have and hold? Yet because of His dignity and authority, presenting gifts to Him was, and still is, most appropriate. Here the mystery of God's gifts begins to astound me. He came, not

to take from us. He came, not to demand His rights and His holdings, which would have been totally appropriate. Instead, this baby when grown to maturity, distributed gifts to all who would receive. He gave healing to the sick. He gave sight to the blind. He gave forgiveness to the guilty. He gave salvation to the lost. He gave wisdom to the simple. He gave mercy to the undeserving. He gave life and light, truth, hope, and purpose to all who had grown disillusioned with this world and all its shopping malls offer.

Giving becomes expensive. The Apostle Paul described the generosity of Jesus in these words. "...you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich." Coming here cost Jesus everything. He who was exalted, stooped in humble sincerity to reach us. He who had the best, partook of this life's hardest and worst conditions. He who had perfect companions became the friend of sinners. His gift brings us what we most deeply need. He gifts us with restoration to loving relationship with our heavenly Father and a warm welcome back into His house. Through Him we can receive what no store can sell: life abundant with purpose and satisfaction, peace which endures, and grace to empower us to live daily.

I hope you receive what you want for Christmas this year. I hope you want what the Lord would gladly give you freely. Thanks be to God for his priceless gift.

Support network needs volunteers

The Barracks Key Volunteer Network needs more volunteers. Key Volunteers serves primarily as a support and information resource for the families of Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., personnel.

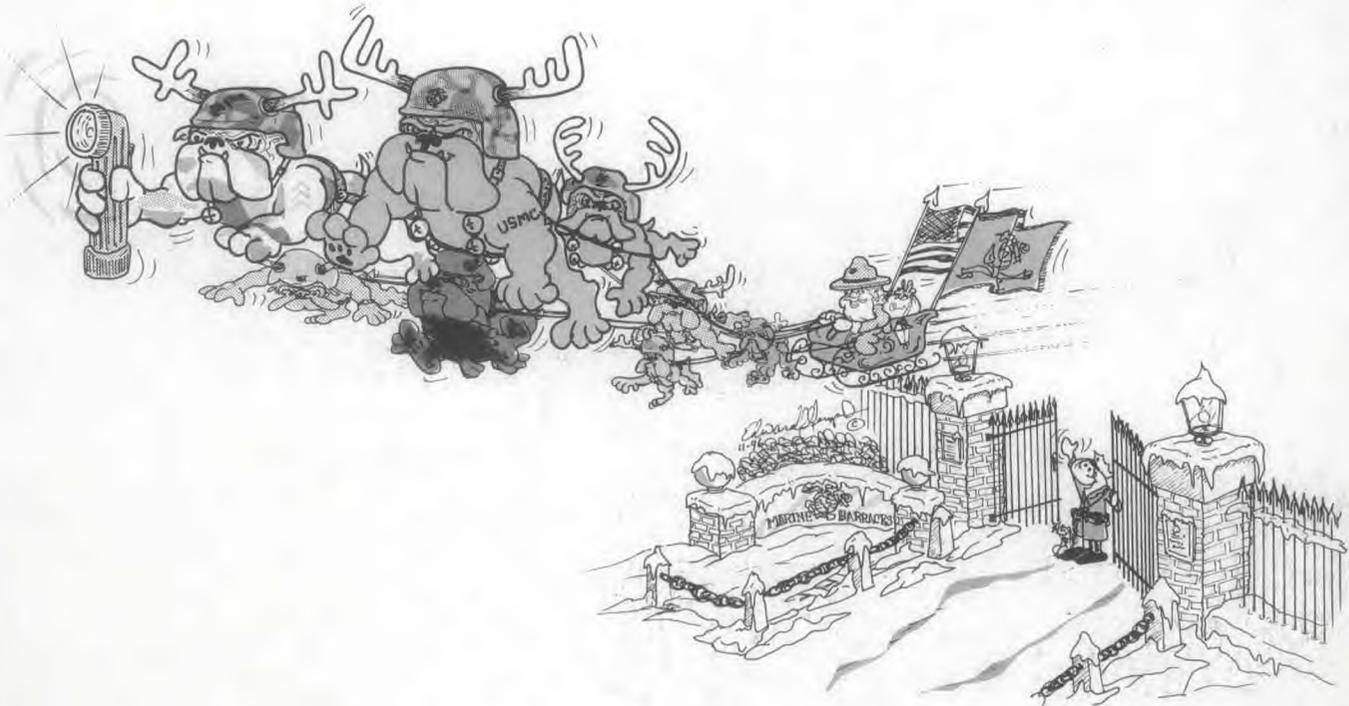
On Saturday, October 12, a group of Key Volunteers and prospective volunteers met in the home of Col. and Mrs. Dotterrer. Mrs. Marcia O'Donovan, the Key Volunteer Program Coordinator from Henderson Hall, presented the work of Key Volunteers and invited prospective volunteers to the training sessions presented at Henderson Hall.

All Key Volunteers must be trained

by taking classes at the Family Service Center at Henderson Hall. These Classes are taught on a continuous rotation, so you can receive the training at your convenience.

If you would like to know more about Key Volunteers, here at 8th & I, please call Chaplain Counts at (202) 433-6201 or Mrs. Deanna Broom at (703) 781-8336.

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



"Happy Holidays!"

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
MARINE BARRACKS
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