



# PASS IN REVIEW

Serving "The Oldest Post of the Corps"

July 1999

## 32nd CMC takes Corps into 21st Century

Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Post & Relief - Barracks gets new CO



# Col. Hejlik bids barracks farewell, leaves legacy

*"You represent all that is good about our Corps and country."*

Col. Dennis J. Hejlik



Colonel Dennis J. Hejlik, former barracks commanding officer, will move on as the Military Secretary for the Commandant of the Marine Corps. (photo by Sgt. Michael J. Bess)

## *by Col. Dennis J. Hejlik Barracks Commanding Officer*

In July 1997, I had the honor to assume command of "The Oldest Post of the Corps," and it has been my sincere pleasure to serve with you these past two years. Sandy and I will never forget the professionalism and kindness of each and every Marine, Sailor and civilian of this historic barracks. Each of you contributed immeasurably to the success of "8<sup>th</sup> & I."

During my initial inbrief, I stressed ceremonial commitments, Military Occupational Specialty training, safety, and taking care of our families. You have done that and much more. You have been actively involved with the youth of our local schools in the greater Washington area, and also closer to home, our neighbors in South East D.C.

Did you know that the businesses on 8<sup>th</sup> street refer to themselves as the "Barracks Row Business Alliance?" We depend upon them, but more im-

portantly they look to you with sincere respect and admiration because you represent what all of America's youth should be – warriors with a mental, physical and spiritual toughness, a dose of humility, and a sense of purpose.

When you graduated from Recruit Training or Officers Candidate School you became part of an institution that is more than a great military organization – you became part of a family dedicated to protecting our country and the people we serve at all costs.

There is a new best selling book written by Tom Brokaw entitled, "The Greatest Generation." It reflects on the sacrifices made by our mothers, fathers, and grandparents during World War II. You are the next "Greatest Generation." I know that, and you know that – stay with it!

I would be totally remiss if I did not mention a group of very special volunteers – the spouses who are part of the Key Volunteer Network.

The Key Volunteer Network is a critical part of readiness and a valu-

able source of information for available resources located throughout Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Maryland. I urge each family to contact their company Key Volunteer and stay in touch, because the network is a family program that helps ensure we are always *ready* no matter what may come our way.

Sandy and I have been asked what impact we thought we had on the barracks. I hope that our legacy will be one of love, respect, and honor for our fellow Marines. You are absolutely the finest men and women that America has to offer. You have provided Sandy and I with a feeling of pride just by watching what you do each and every day.

I told you two years ago that you were the custodians of our Corps' rich history, its customs, courtesies and traditions, and I know the barracks and all who serve here are truly the heart and soul of our Marine Corps. You represent all that is good about our Corps and country.

We will miss you all, and know that if there is anything we can do for you please ask. I ask this of you in return, take care of yourselves, take care of one another, and remember you are now and forever United States Marines.

"Fair winds and following seas"

Colonel and Mrs. D. J. Hejlik



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

**On the Cover**

General Charles C. Krulak (right), relieved as Commandant of the Marine Corps, passes the Battle Color of the Marine Corps to his successor, Gen. James L. Jones in a ceremony June 30. (photo by Cpl. Justin C. Bakewell)

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## In the news...

### Marine Barracks, Washington welcomes...



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J. L. Jones**  
Commandant of the  
Marine Corps



**Sergeant Major  
A. L. McMichael**  
Sergeant Major of  
the Marine Corps



**Colonel  
G. K. Brickhouse**  
Commanding Officer,  
Marine Barracks,  
Washington, D.C.

## Features...

### Chow time on the parade deck

Barracks Marines took time out from their busy schedules to partake of some "chow" during the annual Barracks' Picnic.



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### The need for speed

Gunnery Sgt. Willard F. Ivins puts his motorcycle racing experience to the test on and off the highway.



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# Bidding farewell to his Marines

General Charles C. Krulak, 31st Commandant, lifts Corps' torch once more before stepping down

by Gen. Charles C. Krulak

31st Commandant of the Marine Corps

**F**rom my earliest days, I was always awed by the character of the Marine Corps, by the passion and love that inspired the sacrifices of Marines like my father and his friends.

As a young boy, I admired the warriors and thinkers who joined our family for a meal or a visit ... Marines like "Howlin' Mad" Smith, Lemuel C. Shepherd, Gerald C. Thomas, and Keith B. McCutcheon. I wondered about the source of their pride, their selflessness, and their sense of purpose.

Now, at the twilight of my career, I understand those Marines. I know that they were driven by love for the institution to which they had dedicated their lives and by the awesome responsibility they felt to the Marines who shared their devotion and sacrifice.

Today, that same motivation burns deep within the heart of each of us. The ethos of our Corps, purchased so dearly by these heroes of old, reaches into our souls and challenges us to strive tirelessly for excellence in all that we do. It profoundly influences the actions of every Marine that has ever stood on the yellow footprints at our Recruit Depots or taken the oath as an Officer of Marines.

The ethos of our Corps is that of the warrior. It is defined by two simple qualities ... our two Touchstones.

The first is our Touchstone of Valor. When we are summoned to battle, we don our helmets and flak jackets; we march to the sound of the guns; we fight and we win - Guaranteed.

The second is our Touchstone of Values. We hold ourselves and our institution to the highest standards ... to our core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

These two Touchstones are inextricably and forever linked. They form the bedrock of our success and, indeed, of our very existence.

Our Touchstone of Valor is the honor roll of our Corps' history. Bladensburg, Bull Run, Cuzco Well, Belleau Wood,





Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Iwo Jima, Inchon, the Chosin Reservoir, Hue City, Kuwait ... the blood and sacrifice of Marines in these battles, and countless others, have been commemorated in gilded script and etched forever on the black granite base of the Marine Corps War Memorial.

The names of these places now serve as constant reminders of our sacred responsibility to our Nation and to those whose sacrifices have earned the Marine Corps a place among the most honored of military organizations. The memory of the Marines who fought in these battles lives in us and in the core values of our precious Corps.

To Marines, Honor, Courage, and Commitment are not simply words or a bumper sticker slogan. They reflect our deepest convictions and dramatically shape everything that we do. They are central to our efforts to "Make Marines," men and women of character who can be entrusted to safeguard our Nation and its ideals in the most demanding of environments.

We imbue Marines with our core values from their first moments in our Corps because we know that Marines, not weapons, win battles. We also know that success on the battlefield and the support of the citizens whose interests we represent depend on our ability to make moral and ethical decisions under the extreme stress of combat ... or in the conduct of our daily lives.

As an institution, we have had to fight hard to maintain our standards. To some, they may seem old-fashioned, out-of-step with society, or perhaps even "extremist," but we know that our high standards are the lifeblood of the Corps, so we have held the line! In this regard, what individual Marines are doing everyday counts far more than anything that is done in Washington. The standards of our Corps are not simply maintained by generals, colonels, and sergeants major, but, far more importantly, by leaders throughout the Corps, at every level.

The Marine conviction that *Semper Fidelis* is a way of life, not just a motto, speaks powerfully to the citizens that we serve. It also unites us with our fellow Marines, past and present - inspiring us to push harder, to reach further, and to reject the very notion of failure or compromise.

Sustained and strengthened by the ethos of our Corps, you have accomplished a great deal during the past four years. I have been humbled to be part of your achievements and witness to your selfless devotion.

Time and again, Marines distinguished themselves in contingencies around the world, across the spectrum of conflict. Marines from across the Total Force were the first to fight, the first to help, and the first to show America's flag — consistently demonstrating our resolve and readi-

ness to win when called to action.

With the involvement of the Fleet Marine Force and input from the entire Corps, the Warfighting Laboratory has looked hard at the 21st Century strategic environment. Marines "stole a march" on change by testing new concepts and emerging technologies, exploring new tools for developing leaders and decision makers, and experimenting in the "Three Block War."

Our recruiters, drill instructors, and small-unit leaders have implemented the Transformation Process and are recruiting, training, and developing the "Strategic Corporals" for tomorrow's conflicts.

Led by Marines at the Combat Development Command, we have deepened our understanding of Operational Maneuver From The Sea (OMFTS), its enabling concepts and technologies, as well as its many challenges.

The men and women serving in the many thankless billets at Headquarters Marine Corps and in the joint arena have developed and articulated our requirements for the future and have secured the resources to translate OMFTS into a reality.

Our supporting establishment, at every post and station, has epitomized selflessness and dedication while providing for our readiness requirements.

All these things are important - and they are the accomplishments of every Marine. None of them, however, are as significant as maintaining our hands on the twin Touchstones of our Corps.

The words of my father ring as true today as when he first wrote them more than 50 years ago.

"We exist today — we flourish today — not because of what we know we are, or what we know we can do, but because of what the grassroots of our country believes we are and believes we can do. ... The American people believe that Marines are downright good for the country; that the Marines are masters of a form of unfailing alchemy which converts unoriented youths into proud, self-reliant stable citizens - citizens into whose hands the nation's affairs may safely be entrusted ... and, likewise, should the people ever lose that conviction - as a result of our failure to meet their high - almost spiritual - standards, the Marine Corps will quickly disappear."

May God bless each and every one of you and may God bless our Corps!

C.C. Krulak





# Secretary of Defense swears in 32nd Commandant

## Headquarters Marine Corps

General James L. Jones, 32nd commandant of the Marine Corps, was born on Dec. 19, 1943 in Kansas City, Mo. Having spent his formative years in France, he returned to the United States to attend the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, from which he received a bachelor of science degree in 1966. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in January 1967. Upon completion of The Basic School, Quantico, Va., in October 1967, he was ordered to the Republic of Vietnam, where he served as a platoon and company commander with "G" Company, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines, and was promoted to first lieutenant in June 1968.

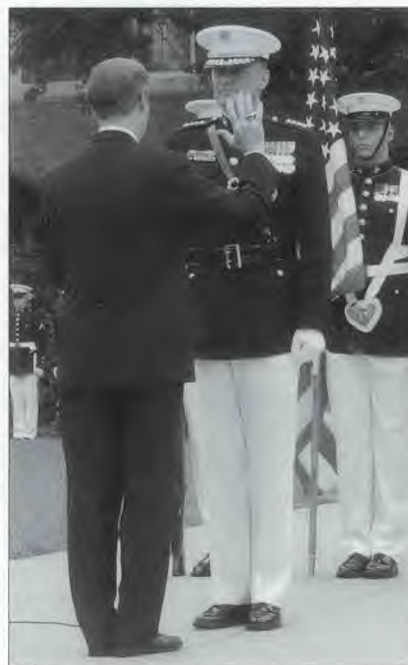
Returning to the United States in December 1968, General Jones was assigned to Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as a company commander until May 1970. He was promoted to Captain in December 1970. He then received orders to Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., for duties as a company commander, serving in this assignment until July 1973. From July 1973 until June 1974, he was a student at the Amphibious Warfare School, Quantico, Va.

In November 1974, he received orders to report to the 3d Marine Division on Okinawa, where he served as the company commander of "H" Company, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, until December 1975.

From January 1976 to August 1979, Jones served in the Officer Assignments Section at Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. During this assignment, he was promoted to major in July 1977. Remaining in Washington, his next assignment was as the Marine Corps Liaison officer to the United States Senate, where he served until July 1984. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in September 1982.

He was selected to attend the National War College in Washington, DC. Following graduation in June 1985, he was assigned to command the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., from July 1985 to July 1987.

In August 1987, Jones returned to Headquarters Marine Corps, where he served as senior aide to the commandant of the Marine Corps. He was promoted to colonel in April 1988, and became the military secretary to the commandant in February 1989. During August 1990, Jones was assigned as the commanding officer, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit at Camp Lejeune, N.C. During his tour



General James L. Jones stands on "Center Walk" while William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense, administers the oath of office, officially naming him as the 32nd Commandant of the Marine, succeeding retiring Gen. Charles C. Krulak. Jones will be tasked to lead the world's premier force into the next millenium. (photo altered by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick)

with the 24th MEU, he participated in Operation Provide Comfort in Northern Iraq and Turkey. He was advanced to brigadier general on April 23, 1992. Jones was assigned to duties as deputy director, J-3, U.S. European Command, Stuttgart, Germany, on July 15, 1992. During this tour of duty, he was reassigned as chief of staff, Joint Task Force Provide Promise, for operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia.

Returning to the United States, he was advanced to the rank of major general in July 1994, and was assigned as commanding general, 2d Marine Division, Marine Forces Atlantic, Camp Lejeune, N.C. Jones next served as director, Expeditionary Warfare Division (N85), Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, during 1996, then as the deputy chief of staff for Plans, Policies and Operations, Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, DC.

He was advanced to lieutenant general on July 18, 1996. His next assignment was as the military assistant to the Secretary of Defense. On April 21, 1999, he was nominated for appointment to the grade of general and assignment as the 32nd commandant of the Marine Corps. He was promoted to general on June 30, 1999, and assumed his current post on July 1, 1999.

His personal decorations include: the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star Medal, Legion of Merit with three gold stars, Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V", and the Combat Action Ribbon.



# 14th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps leads "Leathernecks" into next century

Corps gains landmark leadership with first African-American to hold Corps' highest enlisted post

*compiled by Public Affairs*

**S**ergeant Major Alford L. McMichael was appointed the 14th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps in a post and relief ceremony June 28, making him the first African-American to hold the post since it was established in 1957.

Sergeant Major Alford L. McMichael was born in Hot Springs, Ark. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on Aug. 27, 1970, and attended boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif. McMichael was assigned to Marine Barracks Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, after completing Infantry Training School and Basic Infantry Training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he later transferred to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

In 1974, McMichael returned to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif., as a drill instructor, series gunnery sergeant, and battalion drill master. His next assignment was with 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division.

He served as a shore party chief with 3rd Division Support Group 1978, and in Jan. 1979, McMichael received orders to Marine Security Guard School. Upon completion of school, was assigned to the American Embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark. He then returned to Quantico as an instructor at Marine Security Guard School in 1981.

In 1983 McMichael was assigned to the University of Minnesota as the Assistant Marine Officer Instructor for the NROTC Program. He then reported to Officer Candidates School, Quantico, Va., as company 1st sergeant.

After completing the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy Advanced Course, McMichael was assigned to Okinawa, Japan, as the 1st sergeant of Company C, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion.

In 1986, he was ordered to Marine Barracks Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, as the barracks' first sergeant.

From August 1988 to May 1989, he served as the deputy director of the SNCO Academy, Marine Corps Air



Sergeant Major Alford L. McMichael, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, is the first African-American to hold the position since its creation 42 years ago. (USMC photo)

Station El Toro, Calif., and then as its director until May 1991, when he was assigned as the sergeant major of the Officer Candidates School.

Returning to Okinawa in 1994, McMichael served as the sergeant major of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. He was assigned as the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing sergeant major July 1995.

McMichael has served as the Manpower and Reserve Affairs sergeant major, Headquarters Marine Corps, since January 1997.

Sergeant Major McMichael's personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star.



# Sergeant Major Lee receives historic sendoff

by Gunnery Sgt. Shannon Arledge  
Public Affairs Chief

In a posting and relief ceremony Sgt. Maj. Alford L. McMichael relieved Sgt. Maj. Lewis G. Lee as the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps June 28, making him the first African-American to hold the post since it was established in 1957.

Before the ceremony Sgt. Maj. Lee received a unique "sendoff" from the SNCOs of Marine Barracks. They joined together for a playoff ceremony on the parade deck honoring him as the 13<sup>th</sup> Marine to reach the highest Marine Corps enlisted post.

Playoff ceremonies honor officers and SNCOs who are saying farewell to "The Oldest Post of the Corps." General Leonard F. Chapman, 24th commandant of the Marine Corps, implemented the brief ceremonial event in 1958 when he was the barracks commanding officer. It was originally for officers transferring from Marine Barracks, and it was not until 1997 that playoffs began for departing SNCOs.

"It's an honor to receive a ceremony like this," said Lee. "Day-in and day-out, the barracks does more for our Corps and nation than anyone else. These Marines exemplify professionalism and present to the public all the great things throughout the Corps. It's a great honor to be part of a place like this."

The day started with an early morning breakfast at the SNCO Club where Lee addressed the SNCOs. He said his position as the Corps' senior enlisted has had its highs and lows. "I enjoy leading Marines and I've never forgotten my roots. Sometimes I think privates, privates first class and lance corporals forget that I've been there," said Lee. "Everyday I work hard and I'm not always successful. The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps makes mistakes, but I learned from my mistakes and never repeated them. This is what I expect [from other Marines]."

The sergeant major said he will miss associating with the professionals and the regimen the Marine Corps is known for, but choosing the one thing he will miss most is difficult.

"I've been at a great vantage point. I've seen all the

***"The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps makes mistakes, but I learned from my mistakes and never repeated them. This is what I expect [from other Marines]."***

Sergeant Major L. G. Lee



The 13th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. Lewis G. Lee salutes during his playoff ceremony, the first playoff for a Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps at the barracks. (photo by Gunnery Sgt. Shannon Arledge)

great things Marines do everyday all over the world," said Lee. "I get to see how unique we are in comparison to all the other services, and I get a great deal of pleasure being part of this unique organization."

Following breakfast, the SNCOs joined the sergeant major on the parade deck for the historical playoff.

Sergeant Major D. Scott Frye, barracks sergeant major, said, "Sergeant Major Lee represented the Corps with dignity and strength. His tenure took us through some challenging times. He has steered the Corps on a path of elevated performance."

Once the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps formed on the parade deck, Sgt. Maj. Lee took his position on "Center Walk." With precision and timeliness, the morning colors were raised as the "The Star-Spangled Banner" broke the morning silence. The anthem was followed immediately by the "Marines Hymn" and "Auld Lang Syne."

The playoff ceremony marked the first time the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps was honored in such a way at Marine Barracks.

"I've seen playoffs before, so I'm not totally unfamil-



iar with the tradition," said Lee. "It's great to be part of something as [unique] as this. Marine Barracks has a lot of tradition — I'm honored to be part of it."

"We had the playoff to honor a departing SNCO," said Frye. "Sergeant Major Lee has served the barracks and the Corps with pride. He is greatly appreciated."

After serving for 31 years, Lee said he feels he has made a lasting contribution. He also said there is nothing unusual about the post of Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.

"This position was an extension to everything I've ever done. I never came across anything I hadn't experienced before, [at least on] a broader scope," said Lee. "During my tenure, the commandant and I put a name on transformation and sustainment. I think we have been able to re-energize all leaders to exercise their

authority. We've stressed to the Corps' leaders to allow their NCOs and SNCOs room to grow and not to second guess their abilities; let them do their job. But our NCOs and SNCOs have to perform. We've raised the standards on everyone."

The thought of becoming the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps is a hope many Marines have, because the title embodies all attributes Marines are known for, according to Frye.

"The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps must set the example," said Frye. "He must be a person of character, an advisor, a war-fighter and keeper of history and traditions — he must be too many things to list. They must always shine and represent what we envision all Marines to be, and Sgt. Maj. Lee did these well."



## THE SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE MARINE CORPS

16 June 1999

Dear Colonel Hejlik,

As my tenure as Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps draws to a close, I wanted to take time to thank you for your support, and the support of your magnificent Marines toward myself and my office.

Your Marines epitomize all that is sacred about our institution: tradition, esprit, and professionalism. Anyone in doubt that the Corps is not all it used to be needs only to stroll through the barracks gates on any given day and witness first-hand Marines performing today the way they

did 20, 50, even 100 years ago. I'm so proud of all of them, please let them know.

Once again Sir, thanks for the superb support over the years, but I've honestly come to expect nothing less than excellence from the professionals of "8th and I."

Semper Fidelis,

*L.G. LEE*  
L.G. LEE

## FYI: Historical information about sergeants major of the Marine Corps

*compiled by Public Affairs*

Thirteen Marines have held the coveted title of Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. It is a post surrounded with the mystique and grandeur of decades of Marine Corps history and lore — the apex of success for enlisted Marines.

The Congressional Act of July 11, 1798 created the rank of Sergeant Major in the Marine Corp, and on Jan. 1, 1801 Archibald Summers was appointed by the commandant of the Marine Corps as the first Marine to hold the rank of sergeant major.

It was not until 1957 that the official title of Sergeant

Major of the Marine Corps was instituted by then Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Randolph Pate.

The decision was made to place the new sergeant major in the Office of the Chief of Staff to serve as the principle advisor on all issues affecting the enlisted force of the Marine Corps, a first in American military history.

On May 23, 1957, Sgt. Maj. Wilbur Bestwick took his post as the first sergeant major of the Marine Corps.

There have only been a dozen or more faces and personalities to serve in the Corps' top enlisted post in those 42 years, but their legacies have been invaluable to the shaping, honing, and successes of the Marine Corps.



# Spotlight

**Name:** Sergeant Lee B. Clements

**Unit:** Headquarters & Service Company

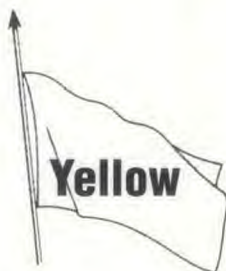
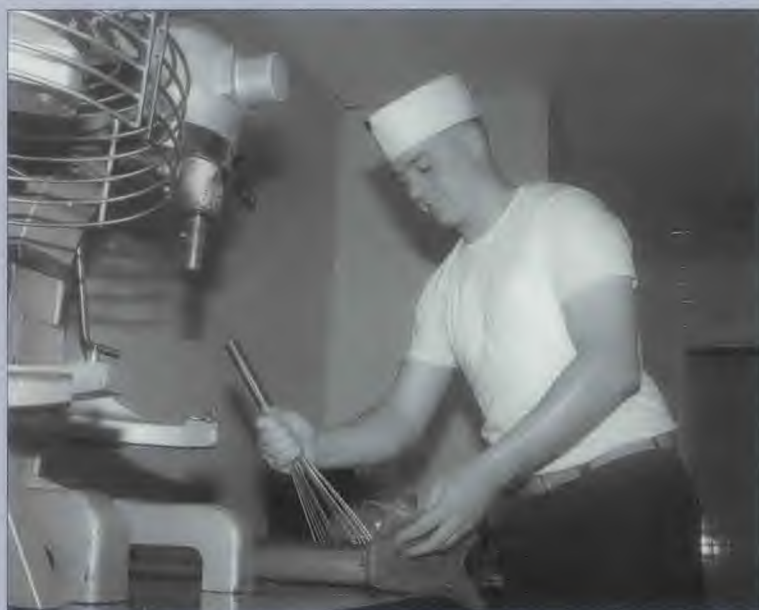
**Billet:** Chief Cook

**Joined Marine Corps:** January 2, 1994

**Hometown:** Woodlands, Tx.

"The Marines working with me are great and can adapt to any obstacle and meet huge demands," said Clements

"You see many things here that you do not see out in the fleet, such as the Friday evening dinners, but it is something special for all "8th & I" Marines and makes the extra work worthwhile."



## Watch for different flags as summer heat rises

*compiled by Public Affairs*

Heat conditions are used in implementing a flag warning system. These flags are flown over the parade deck parking lot on the United States Marine Band Hall building, and represent, respectfully, the least to most severe weather conditions.

**Green Flag (80\*-84\* F):** Heavy exercises, for unacclimatized personnel will be conducted with caution and under constant supervision.

**Yellow Flag (85\*-87.9\* F):** Strenuous exercises, such as marching at standard cadence, will be suspended for unacclimatized troops in their first two or three weeks. Outdoor classes in the sun are also to be avoided.

**Red Flag (88\*-89.9\* F):** All physical training will be halted for those troops who have not become thoroughly acclimatized by at least 12 weeks of living and working in

the area. Those troops who are thoroughly acclimatized may carry on limited activity not to exceed six hours per day.

**Black Flag (90\* F - Above):** All strenuous nonessential outdoor physical activity will be halted for all units. Essential activities are defined as those activities associated with scheduled exercises or other major training evolutions where the disruption would cause undue burden on personnel or resources, be excessively expensive, or significantly reduce a unit's combat readiness. Essential outdoor physical activity will be conducted at a level that is commensurate with personnel acclimatization as determined by the unit's commanding officer in coordination with the unit's medical officer or medical personnel. All efforts should be made to reschedule these activities during cooler periods of the day.





Gunnery Sergeant Carl P. Vermilyea, United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps company, company gunnery sergeant, Lance Cpl. Brady L. Kirk, Facilities/Maintenance technician, and Pfc. Jason L. Sampson, "B" Company marcher, quickly serve a long line of hungry Marines. (photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Habib)

## Barracks' picnic brings sections together

by Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Habib  
Staff Writer

Marines from every section gathered under the arcade and the shade of the parade deck trees for good company and a relaxing break from work during the barracks' picnic June 7.



Marines escape the afternoon heat in the shade provided by the arcade and surrounding trees. (photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Habib)

The picnic, sponsored by MCCS and the chow hall, provided a comfortable environment where different sections could exchange ideas and opinions, according to Sgt. Keith A. Burns, MCCS Information section, Ticket and Tours assistant director.

"The picnic gave the Marines time to sit back and relax with friends and good food, socialize and give each other a little constructive criticism," said Burns. "It was a comfortable place to pass friendly critiques between one another on the parades, or how things are handled around the barracks."

Even Marines from the mess hall learned some good lessons from the picnic, according to Pvt. Matthew J. McGuire, mess hall cook.

"I never cooked for that many Marines before," said McGuire who arrived here for his first duty station in February. "We were able to do it because things ran smoothly and I was able to see how well plans can work



Sergeant Darien T. Drake, United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps company, bugler, takes the last bite of his meal. (photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Habib)

out under good NCO leadership."

However, the majority of Marines said they had only one thing on their minds — having a good time.

"I took a break and was able to step away from work for a couple of minutes and relax with my friends outside," said Lance Cpl. Daniel S. Steakin, Headquarters and Services Company administrative clerk. "I got to eat a little chicken and have a couple of laughs. I could not ask for a better afternoon."





(above) Sergeant Major Lewis G. Lee, former Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, salutes Marines of the barracks during his playoff ceremony. (below) Sergeant Major Alford L. McMichael, the new Sgt. Major of the Marine Corps, receives the Sword of Office from General Krulak. (photos by Gunnery Sgt. Shannon Arledge and Cpl. Justin C. Bakewell)



(left) General James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine Corps future. (right) General Charles C. Krulak, 31st Commandant of barracks commanding officer, at the CMC's playoff ceremony.

## Changes of Command, Posting and **Marine Barracks** he

by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick  
Editor

**M**arine Barracks Washington, D.C., hosted more than eight ceremonies, and welcomed approximately 8,000 guests through its gates during a whirlwind week that saw personnel changes to three key offices.

The barracks supported playoffs, changes of command, and post and relief ceremonies for Gen. Charles C. Krulak and Gen. James L. Jones, 31st and 32nd commandants of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. Lewis G. Lee and Sgt. Maj. Alford L. McMichael, 13th and 14th Sergeants Major of the Marine Corps, and Col. Dennis J. Hejlik and Col. G. Kevin Brickhouse, barracks commanding officers.

The famous parade deck was also visited by such distinguished guests as the Hon-

***"As United  
States Marines,  
we must  
continue in  
keeping our  
Corps a force in  
readiness."***

Sgt. Maj. A. L. McMichael





greet the Marines at the barracks, and shares his plans for the future of the Marine Corps, walks beside Col. Dennis J. Heljick, former commandant of the Marine Corps. (photos by Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Habib and Sgt. Michael J. Bess)



Sergeant Major Lee was literally swarmed by supportive sergeants major as well as master gunnery sergeants and other high ranking enlisted and commissioned officers after his retirement/post and relief ceremony here. (photo by Cpl. Sean Fitzpatrick)

## Relieving, Playoff Ceremonies ... Posts changes to Corps

orable William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Richard Danzig, Secretary of the Navy, seven former commandants, three former assistant commandants, numerous congressional members and four former Sergeants Major of the Marine Corps.

With a new CMC and the first African-American Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps inducted at the cusp of the next millennium, the ceremonies punctuated a new era in the Marine Corps.

However, somethings will never change, according to General Jones.

"I have assumed the duties as the 32nd commandant of the United States Marine Corps," said Jones. "I ask that all Marines join me and my wife, Diane, in expressing our collective thanks to the nation's most valued institutions. My first observation is that the Corps is ready to do what the nation requires. My first order, therefore, in tribute to our 31st commandant, is 'continue to march.'"



(above) General Krulak during the reading of his Defense Distinguished Service Medal, second award, citation at the change of command ceremony with William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense. (below) General Jones greets guests after the ceremony. (photos by Cpl. Justin C. Bakewell)





“Leatherneck” leans into life and Corps, shredding challenges and ...

# Pushing the Limits



Gunnery Sergeant Willard F. Ivins, course developer, Marine Corps Institute Company, leans into the turn during a practice run several months ago. (photo provided by Gunnery Sgt. Ivins)

by Sgt. Michael J. Bess  
Staff Writer

The High Occupancy Vehicle lane is a two-lane stretch of highway starting a few miles north of Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., leading into Washington. It is restricted to all vehicles during rush hour traffic except motorcycles and vehicles with three or more occupants.

It is on this HOV lane where Gunnery Sgt. Willard F. Ivins, course developer, Marine Corps Institute company, travels to and from work, moving quickly but patiently through the grinding traffic on his motorcycle.

The slow pace will have to do while he is on duty, but once the work is done and the time is his to do with as he pleases, he leaves the highway for the racetrack and puts his racing experience to the test.

It was in Daytona Beach, Fla., an annual springtime host for college students and racing enthusiasts, where Ivins first became interested in motorcycle racing.

“Being with my father in Daytona Beach helped me get into the sport,” said Ivins. “We had the [Daytona Beach] Speedway right there, and he brought me up on motorcycles. For me, getting on motorcycles and on the track was natural.”

Ivins acted on his dream in 1986 and has been in numerous races ever since, but admits prerace jitters still bother him until he settles in on a motorcycle.

“I do not get nervous during the race, but rather leading up to the race,” said Ivins. “Plenty of nerves are involved.”

Like a true professional, Ivins runs through a mental and physical checklist of equipment for his motorcycle before each race to ensure a smooth safe ride.

“There is always a front-to-back, inside and outside check of the bike to make sure everything is where it is suppose to be, and functioning as it is suppose to function,” said Ivins. “That is the first thing. The second thing is to make sure I am physically and mentally prepared. I make sure I get enough sleep and eat well.”

There are situations no motorist can prepare for as Ivins found out one evening in 1987.

“The worst accident I was involved in was when I was hit by a drunk driver in California,” said Ivins. “I had just cleared a railroad track. It had a pretty good elevation change to it. The road was fairly clear. I did not see him coming up until it was too late.”

According to Ivins, the drunk driver was 150 yards behind him, moving at 80 miles per hour to Ivins’ 40 mph, and making up distance quickly. With the darkness, the car approaching from the rear with only its parking lights on, and the noise level of the motorcycle’s engine, it was impossible for Ivins to know a vehicle was behind him.

“I did not see him until he cleared the tracks,” said Ivins. “I was already past it myself. I was fortunate



because when he hit the bike, the impact was like a tablecloth [being pulled off a table]. It pushed the bike from underneath me, sending me up the hood, over the roof and off the back of the car."

The driver continued on his way leaving Ivins lying on the road with a broken ankle. He managed to move the motorcycle off the road and called the police and an ambulance from a nearby pay phone.

"They caught him, but he was an illegal alien driving someone else's car and there was no insurance or anything," said Ivins. "From an injury standpoint I was fortunate. There are people who have been in situations not as bad and end up much worse. It is the luck of the draw."

Despite the accident, Ivins continues to ride his bike in most weather conditions, but with extra precautions.

"A rider will have to adjust his riding style to suit the conditions," said Ivins. "On a sunny, dry day traction is much better and visibility is improved. When it starts to rain a rider will have to smooth his inputs to the brakes and steering. In the turn he does not lean as far. He will have to think farther ahead, plan his moves, and think of 'what-if' situations when he is in traffic. The 'what-if' situations

I recycle through my head have saved me quite a few times."

Ivins' most recent racing event was in Detroit, Mich., May 21-23, at Grattan Raceway.

"I had a very good weekend racing in Michigan," said Ivins. "I arrived there for Friday's open practice and used the day to get familiar with the track. With the exception of turns one and 12, all the turns are blind—you cannot really see it until after you have crested a

small hill or reached the point where the drop off begins."

Ivins was finishing his laps half a second quicker than several racers familiar with the track by the end of the day. He improved his time Saturday morning by almost two seconds, only a second behind the seasoned veterans.

"Rather than risk trying for that last second, I decided to concentrate on running consistently," said Ivins.

The weather cooperated throughout the weekend until Sunday. Ivins' race was bumped up from the sixth to the second because of the weather.

"I only had one set of motorcycle rims and had to gamble on the decision to run either slick or rain tires," said Ivins. "The rainfall began, but it was intermittent so I chose to go with slicks."

The light drizzle quickly turned into a downpour and riders began falling out of the race in the first lap. Ivins cautiously made his way through the pack and despite two near collisions, he finished 10th out of 24 racers. Even with his strong finish, he said the rims probably cost him a better showing.

"After hearing how much time it would take to switch tires, going with slicks became the only option," said Ivins. "Now I have a second set of [wheels] to mount rain tires on, so I will not be in that situation again."

Ivins said driving on Interstate 395 compared to blazing 160 mph on a racetrack are polar opposites. Even with the tension of high speeds, the race track offers less obstacles to the riders. There are no curbs, light poles, or angry motorists dialing cell phones and cutting off drivers.

"Someone riding on a racetrack marvels at what a different environment it is," said Ivins. "It is a very controlled, pure environment where the limitations are [the rider] and [the] machine. Riding on a track provides a chance to safely test those boundaries."

Limitations come naturally, however true grace and understanding of motorcycle racing takes more than just getting on a bike. Ivins encourages beginning riders to attend basic-level schools for motorcycle control, and for every rider to put some street-riding experience under his belt, and get comfortable with a bike. Whether on the race track or on the highway, Ivins and other cycle enthusiasts agree, safety is paramount.

"Riding a motorcycle is different from driving a car," said Cpl. Jesse G. Boardman, Logistics clerk, MCI Company. "A lot of the things that may not happen when driving may happen when riding a motorcycle. A sense of awareness is needed at all times."



Ivins prepares to perform some much needed preventive maintenance on his motorcycle. (photo provided by Gunnery Sgt. Ivins)



Sergeant Terry walks to work every morning fulfilling a younger man's enlistment to ...

# Finish what he started



Sergeant Charles E. Terry, Headquarters and Service Company, Facilities/Maintenance electrician, examines blue prints of the phone lines before making repairs. (photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Habib)

*by Sgt. Michael J. Bess*  
*Media Chief*

Many people would not think of enlisting in the Marine Corps at the age of 33. By the time most Marines who enlisted at the age of 18 turn 33, they are probably thinking more on the lines of retiring in the next five years.

Not Sgt. Charles E. Terry, Headquarters and Service Company, maintenance electrician. The Washington, D.C., native has the unique distinction of enlisting in the Marine Corps in both 1981 and 1996.

When Terry graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School, he departed for Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., on July 5, 1981. He was only a few weeks away from graduating when he received word his grandfather, the head of his household, was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

"All my life, all I remember are my grandparents," said Terry. "My father passed away when I was seven and I was the only son of my mother, so it would become my responsibility to take charge of the household in the event of my grandfather's passing. That was something my grandfather has been trying to prepare me for all my life."

"When I found out he was sick, it was a choice whether to continue pursuing my own career, or to put my plans on hold and go back," said Terry.

Terry left Parris Island on Sept. 3, 1981 to help guide the household and take care of his grandfather, who passed away the following year. Pressed with this new challenge, he turned to the electrician trade to help make the house payments and support the family.

"My grandfather was a tradesman, and he did everything from auto mechanics, to plumbing, to electrical work," said Terry. "Every tool you could possibly think of, he had. He did it all. I look back, and many of my skills were learned from him."

While Terry polished his electrical tradesman skills, he committed himself to several other job opportunities including marketing and working as a postal supervisor.

"After I found out those careers were not what I was made for, I decided to go into business for myself," said Terry.

Terry left the post office after five years and purchased a human resource and development company and a janitorial service. He said he had a hard time with both of them because the business partners he had lacked the dedication to make the businesses truly succeed.

Terry's brother-in-law, who coincidentally ended his career in the Air Force as an electrician, faced the same problem. They discussed what they could do to remedy their situations and decided to go into the electrician business together.

"[My brother-in-law's] problem was he had the knowledge and the skill but could not find the people who had the dedication and the drive to make a business successful," said Terry. "I told him I was not a certified electrician, but I could do the work."

It was a success. As a minority-owned and operated business, they handled numerous projects in the District of Columbia/Metropolitan area, including the refurbishment of the first floor of the Navy Annex.

Though the numerous projects and responsibility of running the family kept Terry busy, there was still the unfinished business of becoming a Marine.

"It has always been a dream of mine to come back, and I was just waiting for the best time to do it," said Terry.



"But as time went by it seemed like I would not be able to. I had to make up my mind to set something in motion to allow me to leave my job as an electrician and join the Marine Corps."

Terry presented a plan before local Marine recruiters, hoping to convince them how his family and estate would be taken care of while he was away in basic training.

They needed a little more convincing. According to Marine Corps recruiting standards, the age restriction for a potential recruit is 28 years. Terry would be over the limit by five years.

"I was 33-years-old at the time," said Terry. "Higher-ranking Marines would not be the same age as me. I would have 22-year-old Marines, 11 years younger than me, in positions of authority over me. They were concerned about how I would be able to handle being subjected to these individuals."

"The recruiters also cared about my physical, financial, and mental well-being," said Terry. "Could a 33-year-old man submit himself to the authority of a 21-year-old, or an 18-year-old with a higher rank? I look at that Marine's rank. It is not the person I am obeying, it is the rank and authority he is holding."

It took a total of six months for Terry to gather the necessary paperwork and sway the recruiters, but on March 6, 1996, he raised his right hand and repeated the very oath he took more than 16 years before re-enlisting in the Marine Corps.

Terry was assigned to Platoon 2109, "F" Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion. On "Forming Day," when the drill instructors take charge of the recruits, he saw a reminder of the Corps he left in 1981.

"I ran into a gunnery sergeant who went to basic training with me back in 1981," said Terry. "The first day with the platoon, after everyone was introduced, I was called to report to the senior drill instructor."

"As I walked into his office, he had his back turned to me, and he slowly turned around," said Terry. "I recognized him, and he said, 'What are you doing back here?' I explained to him how I did not get the chance to complete basic training earlier and this was something I wanted to do."

Terry completed basic training with honors. He was named platoon and series honor graduate, and was also featured in *The Tribune*, the Parris Island base newspaper, as the oldest recruit, but he did not stop there. He was also named honor graduate of Marine Combat Training and his Military Occupational Specialty school. He was meritoriously promoted to every rank except sergeant, which he

received less than three years after enlisting, and he was recently named to fill the vacant stage manager billet for the "President's Own" United States Marine Band, earning a future promotion to the rank of staff sergeant.

Terry's dream in 1981 turned into reality in 1996, but challenges loomed over the horizon that would test him.

In early 1997, Terry had just returned to Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C. from a deployment in Grenada when he received word his grandmother was very ill.

"I had to come back, and it seemed like history was about ready to repeat itself," said Terry. "When I returned she was very sick and passed away a month later."

"I was looking at being transferred here at the time to be closer to my family, because after my grandmother passed away my wife's mother became ill," said Terry. "Here I am, trying to fulfill my dream, and responsibilities back home are pulling me away from my duties at Camp Lejeune."

With the help of his command, Terry transferred to Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C. in April 1998, where he continues his role as an electrician, cable and phone repairman, bringing nearly 20 years of civilian and military electrician experience into many projects around the barracks and the bachelor enlisted quarters.

"My greatest asset to the barracks is my experience as a civilian electrician," said Terry. "There are a lot of projects here that normally would have to be contracted out. With my knowledge I am able to go in and fix the problem."

Fellow Facilities/Maintenance Marines value the skills Terry brought with him to "The Oldest Post of the Corps."

"Sergeant Terry is an outstanding electrician with a lot of civilian experience," said Staff Sgt. Stephen McElvine, barracks electrician. "His knowledge and skills have saved the barracks a large amount of money."

In spite of losing loved ones, and the trials and hardships he had to face to fulfill his dream, Terry's focus has changed very little.

"With attitude, anything can be done," said Terry. "I have been meritoriously promoted through the ranks. That is not to say I am a great person, but it was because of the level of my dedication and perseverance. Hopefully, someone will see this and say, 'If he can do it, I can do it.'"

"There are a lot of young lance corporals and corporals who can excel the same way I did," said Terry. "The point I want to make is that these Marines can reach the level where I am today. If they make up their minds, they can do it. It is about the mind."



**W**hen you see these Marines, congratulate them on their recent promotions

## H&S Company

Capt. J.F. Stann  
Sgt. C.S. Cox III  
Cpl. J.R. Norton  
Lance Cpl. C.W. Franklin  
Lance Cpl. L.W. Lewis III  
Lance Cpl. R.I. Nagy  
Lance Cpl. A.J. Polley  
Lance Cpl. J.H. Silva

## MCI Company

Lt. Col. D.M. Guzik  
Capt. J.S. Dunne  
Lance Cpl. R. Hardy  
Lance Cpl. J.P. Meserole  
Pfc. R. Jules

## "A" Company

Sgt. J.P. Maggerine III  
Cpl. B.E. Collins  
Lance Cpl. K.M. Eben  
Lance Cpl. D.L. Everett  
Lance Cpl. J.G. Hunter

## "B" Company

Capt. M.E. Hammond  
Cpl. J.R. McNeil Jr.  
Lance Cpl. H.J. Angulo  
Lance Cpl. J.S. Hale  
Lance Cpl. A.M. O'Neil  
Lance Cpl. F.L. Retzlaff  
Lance Cpl. T.J. Schulze

## D&B Company

Sgt. O.C. Rose

## Security Company

Cpl. R.L. Knoll  
Lance Cpl. K.L. Abbott

## USNA Company

Gunnery Sgt. L.A. Aucoin III  
Cpl. D.M. Blaess  
Cpl. M.K. Neset  
Lance Cpl. P.T. Bowker

**C**ongratulate the following Marines for the awards they recently received.

## Meritorious Service Medal

First Sgt. F. Robles Jr.

## Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Capt. D.V. Kuhn

## Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Master Gunnery Sgt. D.K. Williams

Staff Sgt. T.E. Wheeler

Cpl. C.A. Hupfeld

**C**ongratulations to the following career Marines who re-enlisted recently.

Gunnery Sgt. W.F. Ivins

Staff Sgt. J.C. Alvaradocastro

Staff Sgt. J.A. Rzonca

**B**est wishes to the following Marine and his family on their recent addition.

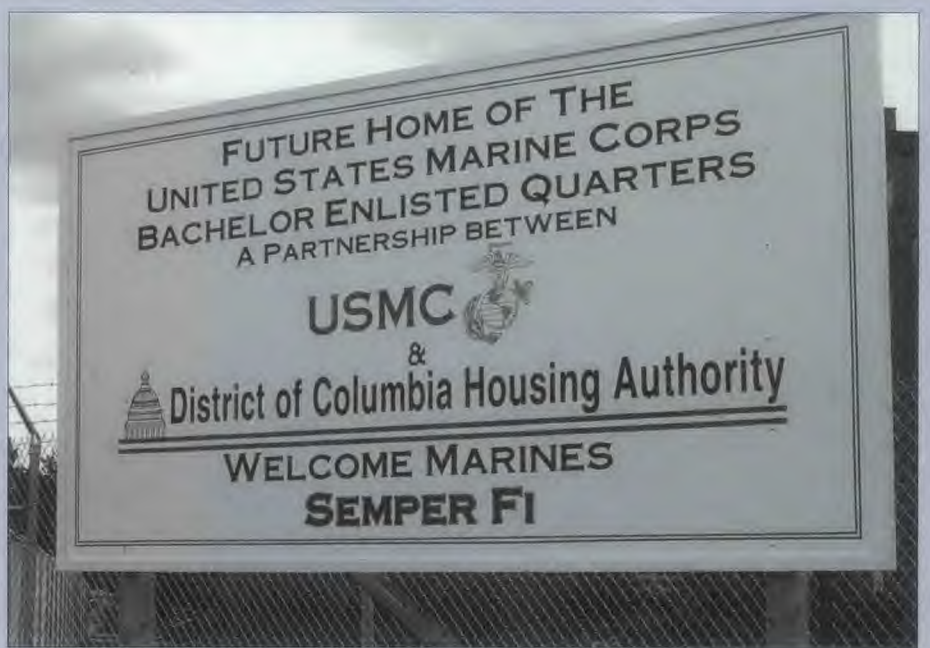
Gunnery Sgt. and Mrs. S. Arledge had a 7-pound baby girl, Elizabeth Shannon, July 3.

## OUTSTANDING!

The plot of land which will be conveyed to the Marine Corps for the future sight of a 300 man bachelor enlisted quarters is approximately two blocks southwest of the barracks.

The property consists of 10 acres of land, including the "Lincoln Playground," and the Marine Corps will acquire the land as soon as required demolition is completed.

Reasonably foreseeable future projects include a parking structure, a personnel support facility, and improvements to the "Lincoln Playground" as a sports complex to be shared with the community. (photo by Cpl. Justin C. Bakewell)





# Prayers are answered

Chaplain's wish granted, working with childhood heros

by Lt. Gregory C. Cathcart, USN  
Barracks Chaplain

It was during the Fourth of July weekend in 1979, exactly 20-year-ago, that I sat in the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, Calif., and watched one of the most moving ceremonies I had ever seen.

Like most kids I did not particularly want to sit in church and listen to some guy talk for an hour, however, this day was different — there were no prayers and no sermon was delivered. What *was* given, though, spoke louder and struck a deeper cord than anything I had experienced before.

Just as the service was about to begin, an enormous American Flag was raised as a backdrop towering over the large congregation. The large doors from the back opened as the flag finally unfolded and in marched the most impressive group of people I had ever seen. It was the "President's Own," the United States Marine Band accompanied by the Silent Drill Platoon and the Marine Corps Color Guard. As they entered the Cathedral they marched to the Marine Corps Hymn which is as sacred as any hymn played in church.

That day left an impression I will never forget. I decided then and there that no matter what happened, I would be affiliated with that group of people. Little did I realize that some 20 years later I would have the honor of being the chaplain to the very place those Marines resided, Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

There are few places in the world that carry such high distinctions and honors as the barracks does. Many of us were probably raised listening to accounts of famous Marine battles and the sacrifices from anonymous Marines who gave everything to purchase the very freedom we enjoy to this day. Therefore, to be here at the barracks as your chaplain is something I hold sacred and take very seriously.

## Personal information

I am originally from St. Joseph, Mo., but I spent time in Newport Beach, Calif. as well. In 1983 I attend the University of Missouri and majored in football and somehow managed to pick up bachelor degrees in art and science as well. I later received my master's degree in

divinity from St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Mo. I am currently working on my doctorate of theology at Regent University, Virginia Beach, Va.

Before I entered the military I worked as a counselor/chaplain in a 340-bed cancer unit for five years. It was there that I learned what moral courage was all about from some very heroic people who fought brave battles against cancer. It was during this time in particular that I began to ask myself some questions about this life and what was next.

As a chaplain I can say that I certainly do not have all the answers, but I know who does, and I believe from my personal experience that God wants a personal relationship which each of us no matter where we come from, or who we are. The good news is, He takes us just as we are.

I have been fortunate enough to serve with several Marine units over the last several years within the fleet and they include that 7<sup>th</sup> Motor Transport Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Force Service Support Group, Headquarters & Service Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> FSSG, and briefly with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Marines.

During that time I have been fortunate enough to work for some of the finest people God put on this earth — tremendous Marines, sailors, and civilians doing impossible work, who make it look easy.

As your chaplain, I am here to serve you and I am interested in your total well being. Please feel free to consult with me on any matters pertaining to your spiritual, personal, and professional development.

During the next several months I would like to introduce several proactive programs designed to facilitate the Marines total well being — body, mind, spirit.

I am here as your chaplain regardless of your religion or denominational affiliation, faith background or no faith background. I am here for each and every one of you to support you in anyway I can.

I have truly enjoyed my experiences with the Marines during the years and I especially look forward to the next several years here at "The Oldest Post in the Corps."

Semper Fi and God Bless,  
Chaplain Cathcart



# Independence Day 1955



More than 44 years ago, service members and civilians sat along the hillside in front of the Iwo Jima Monument and enjoyed the Independence Day ceremonies at the Marine Corps War Memorial, July 4th, 1955.  
(Official USMC photo)

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