



LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636

Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Commandant: ELLIS M. PEARCE III

Editor: DON H. GEE

VOLUME XIV, Number 4

APRIL 2002



**CENTRAL BUCKS
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Meets
7:30 p.m.,
2d Wednesday of Month
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**MARINE OF THE YEAR:
FRANK YOHE, PC**

SEARCH FOR 'RAIDER' REMAINS CONTINUES; NEW MOVIE PLANNED

By William Cole

Honolulu Advertiser Military Writer

The daring and bravery of a Marine raid on Japanese-held Makin Atoll in 1942 was the stuff of legend - immortalized in war movies such as "Gung Ho!" and highlighted again with the discovery of the remains of 19 "Makin Raiders" in 1999.

Veterans, guests and other dignitaries follow a Marine color guard - marching to a bagpiper's rendition of "Amazing Grace" - toward a monument at Punchbowl dedicated to the "Makin Raiders" of World War II.

Another extraordinary chapter soon may be added, with Hollywood, again, not far behind.

The U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii, which found the remains of 19 Marines on Makin Atoll, has had a team on Kwajalein Island since early January.

This time, anthropologists are looking for the remains of nine Makin Raiders who were captured by the Japanese and beheaded on Kwajalein, along with the crews of three downed B-24 bombers who are believed to have met the same fate.

Originally expected to remain until mid-February, the 10-person team has been bolstered with five more searchers and is staying until the end of March after getting some encouraging results.

"We're continuing to excavate the site," said laboratory spokeswoman **Ginger Couden**. "We haven't located the mass burial, but we have located some possible human remains.

National Geographic has been there, too, shooting a one-hour documentary expected to air late this year or early next, Couden said.

Among those who flew to Kwajalein, 2,100 miles southwest of Honolulu, were **Ben Carson** of Oregon, one of 222 Marine Raiders who fought on Makin, and **Lou Zamperini** of California.

A 5,000-meter runner in the 1936 Berlin Olympics who roomed with **Jesse Owens**, Zamperini was held as a prisoner of war on Kwajalein in 1943, and saw the names of the nine missing Raiders on his cell wall, Couden said.

Zamperini's own amazing story - which Hollywood has plans to produce with **Nicolas Cage** in the lead role - began shortly after his B-24 Liberator lumbered down

(See RAIDERS, Page 4)

**THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT
1930 ON 10 APRIL 2002 AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315
NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN**

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

I'm sure that most of you know by now that **Bob Sundling** was elected to serve as Commandant for this year. It was good to see Bob volunteer to run. He has been the Sergeant-at-Arms for longer than I have even been in the League. I know that each and every one of the Detachment members likes Bob and will do their best to support him. I can never express how great it has been to be the Commandant of such an outstanding Detachment. You Marines are the finest group of people I have ever had the privilege of being associated with. Thanks to each of you for the many years of support you gave me. Without the support and respect of the members, no Commandant would have an easy time. You guys not only made my term in office easy, you made it fun! With the change of command, it is extremely important for the members to come to the meetings. Commandant Sundling will be looking for some help moving the Detachment in the direction he, and you, want it to go. He will be depending on all of you, as I did, for guidance, support and friendship. Remember that Marines look after Marines and come to the meetings and help out our new Commandant. The suggested uniform for the April meeting will be the red blazer.

The Installation of Officers will be held at the April meeting. Several Department Officers will be present to conduct the installation ceremony. Department Senior Vice Commandant



LISTEN UP!

LISTEN UP! is the internal information publication of the **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636, Inc.** of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc. It is published monthly by and for the members of the Central Bucks Detachment.

John Moyses informed me that he'd be doing the full change of command ceremony, complete with the transferring of the Detachment colors. This should be rather impressive and might be worth coming out to see. The Department officers will also be filling us in on all the stuff going on in the League right now. This year the Department has a couple of candidates for Department Commandant and Jr. Vice Commandant. Over the next few months the detachment will be discussing how they want their votes to be cast. We will need all of your input, so be sure to be at the meetings so your voice can be heard.

I mentioned during the last meeting that the Department of Pennsylvania

Leadership School will be held in early May at the Headquarters building at Ft. Indiantown Gap. This program was extremely useful to me when I went through it back about nine years ago. This year's course will be an improved version with a lot more useful info and all the new ways of doing things. If you think you might someday be interested in being an officer, or just want to know more about how the League works, consider going to this school. I will have the proper forms for you to fill out at the meeting. The League needs you to keep it strong and help it grow. Think about it... see you at the meeting.

Semper Fi

Budd Prince

CMC Ends Crucible Emblem Ceremony

By **Cpl. Matt Preston**

MCRD, EASTERN RECRUITING REGION, PARRIS ISLAND, S.C.--Parris Island moved into an era of change as November and Kilo companies became the last units to be a part of the Crucible Emblem Ceremony Feb. 28.

Recruits will no longer receive the Marine Corps Emblem at the end of The Crucible around the Iwo Jima War Memorial. Instead, starting March 14 with Charlie Co., 1st Recruit Training Bn., the Emblem was given on Family Day in a ceremony now called the Marine Corps Emblem Ceremony.

The change comes at the direction of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, **General James L. Jones**, to give continuity between the ceremonies conducted here and at MCRD, San Diego.

"MCRD San Diego has experimented for several months on holding the Eagle, Globe and Anchor ceremony on Family Day," said **LtCol. Michael Viers**, deputy assistant chief of staff, G-3. "This has met with very favorable responses from friends and family members who have attended the Family Day ceremonies in San Diego. Our Commandant decided that it made sense for this event to be held at both recruit Depots on the

same day, the day prior to graduation.

"This will allow families and friends to also witness this emotionally charged event."

Both male and female companies will receive their emblems on the Parade Deck during outdoor ceremonies. Indoor ceremonies will be held in the Lyceum for male companies. Female companies will conduct theirs in the 4th Recruit Training Bn. gymnasium. Indoor ceremonies will not have families present because of space considerations, but the new Marines will be bussed to their respective battalion areas to meet their families.

However, the recruits will also have to wait one more week to earn the title "Marine." "They will be referred to as Marines after the emblem ceremony [on Family Day]," said **Maj. Nicholas Vuckovich**, Recruit Training Regiment operations officer.

Upon completion of the Crucible, the recruits will receive a motivational speech, most likely from their company commander, and then continue on to their Warrior's Breakfast. Specifics of how each Crucible march will end will be up to the respective training battalions.

Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held March 13, 2002, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 21 members present including all officers except the Paymaster and Quartermaster. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr., and Frank Yohe**; **Department of New Jersey Past Commandant Ed Hoth**; and **Marine of the Year Frank Yohe**.

Marines David J. Burke of Doylestown and **Joseph Mallozzi** of Maple Glen were unanimously accepted into membership.

The Minutes of the February Meeting were unanimously approved.

In the absence of **Paymaster Bob Cody**, the Paymasters Report was not presented.

Sick Call: Paymaster Bob Cody is still recuperating from his surgery and hopes to be at the April Meeting. **Marine Bob Randle** is recuperating from back surgery. **Mess Sergeant Wil Haas** updated the members about his wife, **Agnes**, condition. **Marine Ray Krout's** wife, **Mary Alice**, is in the hospital.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Budd Pearce reminded the Detachment about the Department Staff Meeting on Mar. 15-17 and the National Convention being held Apr. 26-28. He also recommended that anyone interested in serving as a Detachment officer in the future consider attending the Department's "Leadership School" on May 4 at the Department Headquarters at Ft. Indiantown Gap (See Page 4). He also reported the Detachment had received an acknowledgement from Doylestown Borough's "Community Service Memorial Committee" for the Detachment's purchase of a memorial paver for **Private Charles R. Francis**, the town's only Medal of Honor recipient. Copies of the National Bylaws changes adopted at the last National Convention are available for anyone wanting them.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller reported the Detachment strength at 58 members including 19 Life Members, 34 Regular members, and 3 Associate members. There are 5 members delinquent.

Junior Vice Commandant Don Parzanese Jr. reported on last month's memorial service at the Bucks County Courthouse. He reminded the members that ticket stubs and monies for the Department of Pennsylvania Raffle are due by the May Meeting so they can be forwarded to the Department before the Department Convention. He also reported the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for May 27.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported he had no correspondence besides what the Commandant had reported.

Judge Advocate Bob Momorella reported the Detachment had no legal problems.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling reported he had received a request to have the Detachment participate in the "Southampton Days Parade" on July 4. After some discussion, Commandant Pearce stated he would contact All Divisions Detachment to determine if it would cause any problem since Southampton is in its area. It was also noted the Southampton parade conflicts with our long-standing commitment to the 4th of July Parade in Chalfont. Further discussion on this matter was tabled until the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A-Day Committee--A-Day Chairman Bob Momorella reminded the members about "A-Day" at the end of April. He will have a "sign-up" sheet at the April Meeting for members to volunteer their time to man the parking areas. He noted this is our major annual fund-raiser and enjoined all of the members to volunteer some of their time for this effort.

Rifle & Pistol Team--In the absence of **Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Bill Rosenberger**, Commandant Pearce reported the Pistol Match schedule.

Birthday Ball Committee--Junior Vice Commandant Parzanese asked the membership to submit ideas about the Ball to him. He is particularly interested in determining if members would prefer to hold the Ball at a different site.

Public Relations--The Public Relations Officer set Mar. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the April issue of *Listen Up!* **Advertising Chair Bob Momorella** reminded the members the current advertiser listings expire with the April issue and asked them to seek advertisers for the coming year.

Young Marines--Young Marines Coordinator Bob Sundling reported the Bux-Mont Young Marines will be taking a trip to the Pocono Mountains for a "Capture the Flag" event. The Unit also has a "Coin Toss" fund-raiser in New Hope. The Young Marines are also trying to plan a "Sleep-over" in New Jersey.

Adopt-A-Highway Committee--Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce set Saturday, April 13, as the next highway clean-up date. Breakfast for the participants will be at 8 a.m. that day at Tilley's Restaurant in Doylestown.

POW-MIA--In the absence of **POW-MIA Committee Chair Ray Krout**, no report was made.

Sales Receipts--Redners Sale Receipts Coordinator Gary Smith reported he had submitted \$18,754.70 in Redners tapes. The Detachment should be receiving funds from the store shortly.

NEW BUSINESS

Junior Past Commandant Don Gee conducted the Detachment elections. Elected to office were: **Bob Sundling**, Commandant; **Bill Miller**, Senior Vice Commandant; **Don Parzanese Jr.**, Junior Vice Commandant; **Bob Momorella**, Judge Advocate; **Gary Smith**, Adjutant; and, **Bob Cody**, Paymaster. Installation of the officers will be held at the April Meeting.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling read some of the e-mail messages his wife, **Peggy**, has received about the packages she has been sending to the troops in the Mid-East. The program is very successful with the troops and is sincerely appreciated by them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mess Sergeant Wil Haas has planned a trip to the Marine Barracks, 8th & Eye Sts., Washington, DC, for June 14. Cost is \$25 per person. Contact him for more details.

Marine Bruce Sergeant reported he had recently read "Flags of Our Fathers" about the famous flag-raisers on Iwo Jima during World War II. He highly recommends it to the members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10.

RAIDERS (From Page 1)

the runway at Kualoa Field in May of 1943 on a search mission.

The B-24 Liberator was sent from Oahu to look for another bomber, a B-25, that had gone down in the Pacific near Palmyra Island.

It met the same fate. With first one and then the second port engine conking out, the heavy bomber crashed at sea.

For 47 days, Zamperini and a crewmate drifted in a life raft, avoiding strafing by a Japanese "Betty" bomber, fending off sharks and surviving on six bars of chocolate, fish and rainwater.

Picked up by a fishing boat and held as a POW on Kwajalein Island and in Japan, Zamperini endured beatings and confinement in eight-foot holes dug in the coral.

But compared to the nine Makin Raiders and other B-24 crew members who never made it off Kwajalein, Zamperini

was one of the lucky ones.

The Makin raid was planned as a diversionary maneuver to distract Japanese resupply efforts at Guadalcanal.

Col. Evans Carlson, who was in China for several years and adopted as his unit's motto the phrase, "Gung Ho," meaning, "work together," trained his Raiders off Barbers Point. They arrived under cover of darkness at Makin in two submarines, the Argonaut and Nautilus.

At least 19 Marines were killed in the Aug. 17, 1942 raid, which succeeded in briefly taking the island and boosting morale on the home front, but in the confusion of withdrawal, nine Raiders were left behind.

Not until the war's end would the Marine Corps learn of the mistake.

According to historian **Edward C. Whitman**, the Raiders at first were treated humanely, but after a change of heart by the Japanese commander of the Marshall island, **Vice Adm. Kose Abe**, the men were executed on Oct. 16, 1942.

At a ceremony last month at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, a 1,600-pound stone monument with a bronze plaque was dedicated to Marine Raiders of World War II.

The plaque memorializes the 8,054 Marines of the 1st Raider Regiment, 902 of whom died in battle. Another 2,482 Marines were wounded. A total of 158 Raiders are buried at Punchbowl.

"Words cannot describe how much we appreciate (the laboratory's) efforts," said **Mel Heckt**, president of the U.S. Marine Raider Association.

Last August, 19 members of Carlson's Raiders received a full-honors ceremony

at Arlington National Cemetery after CILHI identified the remains from Makin Atoll, now called Butaritari.

The search on Kwajalein, now an Army base and home to the Kwajalein Missile Range, has focused on the southwestern side of the island.

The search area originally was about the size of a football field, but has now been doubled, making it necessary to dig up a road in the process.

Couden said boring through coral "has been a little bit more difficult than anticipated," and the team burned out two jackhammers in two to three weeks time. But, she added, "based on what we're finding, CILHI is more convinced than ever we're in the right area."

Bone fragments turned up will have to be examined in the lab to determine if they are human or animal, American or Marshallese.

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8th & Eye Bus Trip

The Wil Haas Annual Bus Trip to the Marine Barracks at 8th & Eye is set for June 14.

Cost is \$25 per person. Money is due at April Meeting.

Contact Wil at (215) 257-7828 for more details.



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(Please detach and return this portion by April 24, 2002)

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