



LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636

Marine Corps League Of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Commandant: ELLIS M. PEARCE III

Editor: DON H. GEE

VOLUME XVI, Number 4

APRIL 2004



**CENTRAL BUCKS
DETACHMENT, Inc. #636**

P. O. Box 1372

Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

Meets

7:30 p.m.

2nd Wednesday of Month

American Legion Post 210

315 North Street, Doylestown, PA

**Sr. VICE COMMANDANT
WILLIAM R. MILLER**

**Jr. VICE COMMANDANT
DONALD D. PARZANEZE Jr.**

**ADJUTANT
GARY SMITH**

**PAYMASTER
ROBERT J. CODY**

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
WILLIAM E. JERROM**

**QUARTERMASTER
ROBERT DUFF**

**CHAPLAIN
EDWARD W. HOTH, PDC**

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
WILLIAM L. MICKELSON**

**MESS SERGEANT
WIL HAAS**

**WEBMASTER
JAMES E. PEARCE**

**MARINE OF THE YEAR
ROBERT J. CODY**

DoD Announces New Medals Criteria

By Lisa Burgess
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — One year after President Bush signed an order creating two new medals for U.S. military forces involved in operations in the war against terrorism, Defense Department officials have spelled out the eligibility criteria for the awards.

On March 12, 2003, Bush signed an executive order creating the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, which is for military personnel supporting operations against terrorism anywhere in the world; and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, for those who deploy to designated combat areas.

The executive order directed DOD to spell out precise criteria, which were issued Feb. 26.

Military members both medals as long but only one award rized for any indi-award devices will

Moreover, mem-qualifying period of awards — they unique deployment

Battle stars for plicable for person-actual combat under circumstan-ger of death or seri-enemy action," the criteria say.

But battle stars can be requested only by a combatant commander, and must be approved by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In terms of wear, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal will be positioned above the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal in precedence.

And both medals "directly follow the Kosovo Campaign Medal" when worn, according to the criteria.



Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (left) and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

can receive and wear as they meet the criteria, of each may be autho-vidual, so no multiple-be prescribed.

bers can't use a single service to justify both need to establish a period for each medal.

both medals may be ap-nel who were engaged in against the enemy "and ces involving grave dan-ous bodily injury from

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

To qualify, a servicemember must have participated in or supported global war on terrorism operations on or after Sept. 11, 2001, to an end date not yet determined by the Secretary of Defense.

(See **NEW MEDALS**, Page 6)

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

As you know, if you were at the meeting, your new Commandant is **Bill Miller**. In choosing Bill Miller the Detachment has chosen well. Marine Miller is the type that does not take this new position lightly. I have every faith that Bill will prove to be an outstanding Commandant. I look forward to joining the troops on the other side of the table and being led by someone I have confidence in. Thanks, Bill, for more or less volunteering for the job! Whatever you need as the new Commandant I'm sure you'll have the same generous support that I received during my time in office.

Since this is my last Commandant's message I'll be doing for a while I thought I would take a moment to thank those who have served so faithfully as

our officers over the past few years. I have been in office long enough to have served with quite a few different people. When I think about having been Commandant 10 out of the last 12 years, it amazes me that some of the present officers have been doing their jobs almost as long. **Bob Cody** has been Paymaster for longer than I remember and Gary Smith has been sitting up front so long he gets lost going to the back of the room. I've served with a couple of Jr. Vice Commandants; **Ernie Ortiz, Paul Caprio, Mike Waldron, and Donny Parzanese**. (I hope I remembered them all) Sr. Vice has seen some changes also, there was **Will Haas, Bill Rosenberger, Don Gee** and, of course, **Bill Miller**. We've had a couple of Judge Advocates; **Don Parzanese** (back when he spelled his name with an s), **Bob Momorella** and **Bill Jerrom**. **Frank Yohe** served as our Chaplain almost forever and now **Ed Hoth** is doing a great job for us. Sgt-at-Arms was always **Bob Sundling** until we conned him into the Commandant job a couple of years ago and now **Bill**

Mickelson is doing the honors. I know that I'm leaving someone out, but hell, I'm getting old and my mind is going (ask my wife and kid). Anyway, I truly do thank each and every one of these outstanding Marines for the fantastic jobs they did and do. Without officers like you this Detachment and the Marine Corps League would have dissolved long ago. You guys have become family to me and I love you all! Thanks you for being there for me and your Detachment. I also want to thank this Detachment for the years of faithful support you have given me. I have said it before, but I'll say it again, you guys are the most outstanding group of Marines I have ever had the pleasure to work, serve and play with!

Now come to the April meeting and witness the swearing in of you new Commandant!

Semper Fi and Thank You All,



Budd Pearce

2004 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS
APRIL 4**

**GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 9**

**EASTER
APRIL 11**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
&
OFFICER INSTALLATION
APRIL 14**

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.

Confederate Marine Corps: They Also Served

ALBANY, Ga.-- Military working dog handlers here and throughout the Marine Corps have a new tool in their arsenal in the fight against crime.

The manager of the Marine Corps Working Dogs Program recently issued new body armor to K-9 units Corpwide.

The K-9 department here is testing the unique body armor, which has been specifically designed to protect their four-legged counterparts.

The new K-9 operations vests are made of woven Kevlar fiber, soft body armor panels.

With these thin body armor panels, the vest weighs only seven pounds and is strong enough to protect dogs against small arms fire and stab wounds.

The vests are manufactured to the same standards as human body armor, and are durable enough to take multiple hits to the same area.

The extra level of protection offered by the new body armor is particularly a

necessity for the Marine Corps' military working dogs due to their need to train in an expeditionary nature.

"The new armor is versatile enough for deployments that involve searches, tracking and extractions," explained **Cpl. Daniel Hillery**, military working dog handler here.

"Any day, on the base or in a deployed status, we could encounter a situation where the dog is being targeted. If we see someone as a hazard and we're going to release the dog on them, we'll know that the dog will be safe because he's protected," he further explained.

The vests have several features that give K-9 units previously inaccessible flexibility.

"Removable cold packs inside the vests help keep the military working dogs cool in extreme climates such as in the Middle East," Hillery explained.

At \$1,000 a piece, the new vests are a significant investment for the Corps.

Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held March 10, 2004, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 20 members present including all officers except the Junior Vice Commandant. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Bob Sundling and Frank Yohe; Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth; and Marine of the Year Bob Cody.**

The Minutes of the February Meeting were unanimously approved with a correction to show Past Commandant Frank Yohe was in attendance.

The Paymaster's Report was delivered by Paymaster **Bob Cody**. The report was unanimously accepted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Budd Pearce, PC, reported on plans for our annual parking fund-raiser at DelVal College's "A-Day" on Apr. 24-25. He also gave the members a "heads up" for a fund-raiser in May at the State Store in Cross Keys. He also reported he had received a request from **Marine Marlin Miller** to transfer to a Detachment closer to his home. The Commandant also reported the National Northeast Division will hold a meeting in Bethlehem on April 3. He stated the Detachment had received the Minutes of the Department of Pennsylvania's Winter Meeting and they were available for anyone interested in reviewing them. He also reminded the members of the department's Leadership School at Ft. Indiantown Gap on May 1.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller reported the Detachment strength at 59, including 32 Life Members, 25 Regular members and 5 Associate members. There are 4 members delinquent in their dues. He recommended the Detachment set a date to sell Department of Pennsylvania Raffle tickets at Redner's Market in Warrington.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported he had received no additional correspondence beyond what had already been reported by the Commandant.

Judge Advocate Bill Jerrom reported the Detachment had no legal problems.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Mickelson reported he had received no requests for the Color Guard since the last meeting.

Chaplain Ed Hoth, PDC, reported his services were available but not needed since the last meeting.

Quartermaster Bob Duff reported he was still maintaining his usual items for sale to Detachment members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Relations--The Public Relations Officer set Mar. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the April issue of *Listen Up!*

Rifle & Pistol Team--**Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Bill Rosenberger** reported the Department Pistol Match is scheduled for June 4-6 at Ft. Indiantown Gap. Anyone interested in joining the team should contact him at: (215) 348-7275.

Young Marines--**Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling, PC**, reported the Liberty Young Marines will participate with us in the Memorial Day Parade in Doylestown. The Unit plans to have a cook-out and the Detachment is invited to attend. The Young Marines unit will be holding a "Coin Toss" on April 17-18 in New Hope.

Grocery Receipts--**Redner's Receipts Coordinator Gary Smith** reported he had submitted more than \$12,000 worth of receipts and the Detachment should receive a check from the store chain shortly.

Adopt-A-Highway--**Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce, PC**, set April 18 as the date for the next highway clean-up. As usual, the members participating will meet at Tilley's Restaurant in Cross Keys for breakfast on the Detachment.

NEW BUSINESS

Junior Past Commandant Bob Sundling conducted the election of officers. Unanimously elected to office for the next year were: **Bill Miller** as Commandant; **Don Gee, PC**, Senior Vice Commandant; **Jim Powell**, Junior Vice Commandant; **Gary Smith**, Adjutant; **Bob Cody**, Paymaster; and, **Bill Jerrom**, Judge Advocate. The installation of the new officers will be conducted at the April Meeting.

A motion was made and unanimously accepted to hold the May Meeting at MAG-49 (NARTB, Willow Grove). Commandant Pearce requested that all members attending that meeting wear their Marine Corps League uniforms. Members should plan to arrive at the MAG Hanger by 6:45 p.m. The meeting starts PROMPTLY at 7 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mess Sergeant Wil Haas announced he has changed the date of his planned bus trip to 8th & I to August 27.

The Public Relations Officer reported he had received information about an Organ Donor program and the "Marine for Life" program which he will include in the next newsletter issue.

Judge Advocate Bill Jerrom announced he had a videotape about the flag-raising on Iwo Jima which he will make available to Detachment members interested in seeing it.

Past Commandant Bob Sundling gave the members a report on the program his wife, **Peggy**, conducts for service members deployed to SW Asia. He reminded the program still needs support from the members to continue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14.

Espirit de Corps: What It Means, Where It Comes From

*by Bernie Eveler,
Retired Lieutenant of Marines*

Ask a Marine what's so special about the Marines and the answer would be "Esprit de Corps", an unhelpful French phrase that means exactly what it looks like - the spirit of the Corps, but what is that spirit, and where does it come from?

The Marine Corps is the only branch of the U.S. Armed Forces that recruits people specifically to fight.

The Army emphasizes personal development (an Army of One), the Navy promises fun (let the journey begin), the Air Force offers security (its a great way of life).

Missing from all the advertisements is the hard fact that a soldier's lot is to suffer and perhaps to die for his people, and take lives at the risk of his/her own. Even the thematic music of the services reflects this evasion.

The Army's Caisson Song describes a pleasant country outing. Over hill and dale, lacking only a picnic basket.

Anchors Aweigh, the Navy's celebration of the joys of sailing, could have been penned by Jimmy Buffet.

The Air Force song is a lyric poem of blue skies and engine thrust. All is joyful, invigorating, and safe.

There are no land mines in the dales nor snipers behind the hills, no submarines or cruise missiles threaten the ocean jaunt, no bandits are lurking in the wild blue yonder.

The Marines Hymn, by contrast, is all-combat. We fight our Country's battles, First to fight for right and freedom, we have fought in every clime and place where we could take a gun, in many a strife we have fought for life and never lost our nerve.

The choice is made clear. You may join the Army to go to adventure training, or join the Navy to go to Bangkok, or join the Air Force to go to computer school. You join the Marine Corps to go to War!

But the mere act of signing the enlistment contract confers no status in the Corps.

The Army recruit is told from his first minute in uniform that "your in the Army now", soldier. The Navy and Air Force

enlistees are sailors or airmen as soon as they get off bus at the training center.

The new arrival at Marine Corps boot camp is called a recruit, or worse, but never a MARINE. Not yet, maybe never. He or she must earn the right to claim the title of UNITED STATES MARINE, and failure returns you to civilian life without hesitation or ceremony.

Recruit Platoon 2210 at San Diego, California trained from October through December of 1968. In Viet Nam the Marines were taking two hundred casualties a week, and the major rainy season operation Meade River, had not even begun. Yet Drill Instructors had no qualms about winnowing out almost a quarter of their 112 recruits, graduating eighty-one. Note that this was post-enlistment attrition; every one of those who were dropped had been passed by the recruiters as fit for service.

But they failed the test of Boot Camp, and not necessarily for physical reasons; at least two were outstanding high school athletes for whom the calisthenics and running were child's play. The cause of their failure was not in the biceps nor the legs, but in the spirit. They had lacked the will to endure the mental and emotional strain, so they would not be Marines. Heavy commitments and high casualties notwithstanding, the Corps reserves the right to pick and choose.

History classes in boot camp? Stop a soldier on the street and ask him to name a battle of World War One. Pick a sailor at random to describe the epic fight of the Bon Homme Richard. Everyone has heard of McGuire Air Force Base. So ask any airman who Major Thomes McGuire was, and why he is so commemorated.

I am not carping, and there is no sneer in this criticism. All of the services have glorious traditions, but no one teaches the young soldier, sailor or airman what his uniform means and why he should be proud of it. But ask a Marine about World War One, and you will hear of the wheat field at Belleau Wood and the courage of the Fourth Marine Brigade, fifth and sixth regiments.

Faced with an enemy of superior numbers entrenched in tangled forest undergrowth, the Marines received an order to attack that even the charitable cannot call ill - advised. It was insane. Artillery support was absent and air support had not yet been invented, so the Brigade charged German machine guns with only bayonets, grenades, and indomitable fighting spirit. A bandy-legged little barrel of a gunnery sergeant, Daniel J. Daly, rallied his company with a shout, "Come on you sons a bitches, do you want to live forever"?

He took out three machine guns himself, and they would give him the Medal of Honor except for a technicality: he already had two of them.

French liaison officers, hardened though they were by four years of trench bound slaughter, were shocked as the Marines charged across the open wheat field under a blazing sun directly into the teeth of enemy fire. Their action was anachronistic on the twentieth-century battlefield; so much so that they might as well have been swinging cutlasses. But the enemy was only human; they could not stand up to this. So the Marines took Belleau Wood.

The Germans called them "Dogs from the Devil."

Every Marine knows this story and dozens more. We are taught them in boot camp as a regular part of the curriculum. Every Marine will always be taught them! You can learn to don a gas mask anytime, even on the plane in route to the war zone, but before you can wear the Eagle Globe & Anchor and claim the title you must know about the Marines who made that emblem and title meaningful. So long as you can march and shoot and revere the legacy of the Corps, you can take your place in line. And that line is unified spirit as in purpose.

A soldier wears branch of service insignia on his collar, metal shoulder pins and cloth sleeve patches to identify his unit. Sailors wear a rating badge that identifies what they do for the Navy.

Marines wear only the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor, together with personal ribbons and their CHERISHED marksman-

ship badges. There is nothing on a Marine's uniform to indicate what he or she does, nor what unit the Marine belongs to. You cannot tell by looking at a Marine whether you are seeing a truck driver, a computer programmer, or a machine gunner. The Corps explains this as a security measure to conceal the identity and location of units, but the Marines' penchant for publicity makes that the least likely of explanations. No, the Marine is amorphous, even anonymous, by conscious design.

Every Marine is a rifleman first and foremost, a Marine first, last and always! You may serve a four-year enlistment or even a twenty plus year career without seeing action, but if the word is given you'll charge across that wheatfield! Whether a Marine has been schooled in automated supply, automotive mechan-

ics, or aviation electronics, is immaterial. Those things are secondary - the Corps does them because it must.

The modern battlefield requires the technical appliances, and since the enemy has them, so do we, but no Marine boasts mastery of them. Our pride is in our marksmanship, our discipline, and our membership in a fraternity of courage and sacrifice. "For the honor of the fallen, for the glory of the dead", Edar Guest wrote of Belleau Wood, "the living line of courage kept the faith and moved ahead."

They are all gone now, those Marines who made a French farmer's little wheatfield into one of the most enduring of Marine Corps legends. Many of them did not survive the day, and eight long decades have claimed the rest. But their actions are immortal. The Corps

remembers them and honors what they did, and so they live forever.

Dan Daly's shouted challenge takes on its true meaning - if you lie in the trenches you may survive for now, but someday you will die and no one will care. If you charge the guns you may die in the next two minutes, but you will be one of the immortals.

All Marines die; some in the red flash of battle, some in the white cold of the nursing home. In the vigor of youth or the infirmity of age, all will eventually die. But the Marine Corps lives on. Every Marine who ever lived is living still - in the Marines who claim the title today.

It is that sense of belonging to something that will outlive your own mortality, which gives people a light to live by and a flame to mark their passing.

Navy Department Grounds All Marine Corps Harriers

WASHINGTON - The Navy has temporarily grounded all Marine Corps AV-8 Harrier attack aircraft after tests showed potential engine problems that could lead to catastrophic engine failure and aircraft loss, Navy officials said recently.

The Naval Air Systems Command's flight restriction effects all 217 Harriers in the Marine fleet. The aircraft are to resume flying once they pass mandatory inspections, the officials said.

The British-designed aircraft, distinctive for their ability to take off and land vertically, like a helicopter, are being checked for an improper high-pressure compressor configuration in the engine, officials said.

Navy and Marine officials said that the mandatory inspections would have no significant impact on flight operations and that the tests should be complete later Monday. Seventy-five percent of the fleet has already been inspected, they said, adding that 11 suspect engines had been identified so far.

The Harrier, manufactured by McDonnell-Douglas, is under congressional investigation after records showed that it was the deadliest aircraft in the U.S. military.

Records released last month at a hearing of the House Armed Services Com-

mittee showed that the jet's accident rate in 2003 was 11.05 per 100,000 hours, more than five times the average rate for all military aircraft. More than one-third of the fleet has been destroyed in crashes in the 32 years the Marines have flown the single-seat jet; five Harriers crashed last year alone.

Vietnam War M-I-A Identified

A serviceman missing in action from the Vietnam War has been identified and returned to his family for burial.

He is Army Capt. Clinton A. Musil Sr. of Minneapolis, Minn.

On May 31, 1971, Musil was aboard an OV-1A Mohawk helicopter flying a daylight reconnaissance mission over Savannakhet Province in Laos. Though enemy antiaircraft artillery was known to be in the area, none of the crewmembers in other aircraft noted any attack on Musil's helicopter. Several people did see a large fireball when the helicopter crashed. Attempts to contact him by radio were unsuccessful, and search and rescue efforts were precluded by enemy forces in the area.

During two investigations in 1993 and 1995, U.S. and Lao specialists learned of a potential crash site from local residents. The purported site was located on a steep slope, and appeared to corre-

All told, 45 Marines have died in 148 noncombat accidents.

The House Armed Services Committee last month appointed a task force, headed by Rep. Buck McKeon, R-Calif., to assess the safety of the

Harrier, which was previously grounded in 2000.

late within 200 meters with the loss location in U.S. wartime records. The site had been scavenged, but the team found small pieces of aircraft wreckage and possible human remains. Following the recommendations of the investigators, other U.S. and Lao teams excavated the site twice in 2001 and once in 2002. During these three excavations, they recovered aircraft wreckage, personal effects, aircrew-related items and human remains.

The recovered remains were identified in 2003 by the Central Identification Laboratory through skeletal analysis and mitochondrial DNA. The remains of a second crew member have yet to be identified. The Defense Department's POW/Missing Personnel Office establishes policy and directs the effort to account for the more than 88,000 missing in action from all conflicts. Of these, 1,871 are from the Vietnam War.

Marines Bound for Iraq Getting New M-16 Model

WASHINGTON - Most of the Marines going into Iraq will carry a new model of the M-16 rifle, beginning a process that will give virtually all Marines an improved personal weapon over the next several years.

The M-16 has been the standard personal weapon for the U.S. military since the early days in Vietnam, more than 40 years ago. Although familiar in appearance, the new M-16A4 will facilitate attachment of a variety of high-tech sights and other devices to improve troops' ability to fight in varying conditions.

The Marines' new rifle is the result of a seven-year, Army-led program called the "modular weapon system," David Hansen, a ground weapons program manager at Marine Corps Systems Command, said.

The first shipment of 31,000 of the new rifles is being rushed to the units deploying to Iraq, said Lt. Col. Michael

Mulligan. The rifles are being issued to the "ground combat element," which means infantry, artillery, tank and light armored vehicle units, he said.

The new rifle looks much the same and performs like the M-16A2 version that Marines have carried for 20 years, Mulligan said.

\$75 Million Pricetag

But on the new rifle, the familiar carrying handle on top of the receiver can be removed easily to allow attachment of different optical or night-vision sights.

The new model also has a rail mounting system, or fasteners, on the handguard to facilitate attachment of other devices, such as a 40mm grenade launcher, high-intensity flashlights or infrared illuminators.

The new rifles will come with "the advanced combat gunsight," which is a

four-power optical sight with an illuminated image for aiming called a reticle, which can be used for both close combat and long-range engagements, Mulligan said.

In addition to the new model M-16 rifles, the "modular weapons system" program will produce about 30,000 M-4 carbines, a modified M-16 with a shorter barrel and an adjustable stock. The M-4 also has fasteners for the same high-tech sights and other devices that can go on the larger rifle.

The shorter weapon will go first to the "close combat specialists," such as the Marines in force reconnaissance units and in the new platoon that will deploy with the SEALs later this year. It will be issued later to Marines in support units in place of the M-9 automatic pistol, Mulligan said.

The contract calls for a total of 65,463 rifles and sights at an expected cost of \$75 million, Hansen said.

NEW MEDALS

(From Page 1)

The initial award of the service medal will be limited to airport security operations from Sept. 27, 2001, until May 31, 2002; and to members who have supported three specific missions: Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle and Iraqi Freedom.

Individuals must have been assigned, attached to, or mobilized with a unit participating in or serving in support of one of the designated operations for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days.

The time requirement is waived if the member was engaged in combat or circumstances similar to combat, or was killed, wounded or injured requiring medical evacuation.

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

To qualify, a servicemember must have been deployed outside the United States on or after Sept. 11, 2001, to a future date yet to be determined.

"Under no circumstances are personnel in the United States eligible for the

expeditionary medal," according to the criteria.

The initial award for the expeditionary medal is limited to personnel deployed abroad in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The area of eligibility encompasses the United States Central Command area (except the lower Horn of Africa); Middle East; eastern Turkey; Philippines; Diego Garcia; and all air spaces above the land and adjacent water areas.

The minimum length of deployment is 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days. For air crews, each day an air crewmember flies sorties into one of the designated areas counts as one day of deployment toward the 30- or 60-day requirement.

The time requirement is waived if the member was engaged in combat, or was killed, wounded or injured requiring medical evacuation.

Now that the criteria are in place, each service is working to establish procedures that spell out precisely how members are supposed to apply for the medals, including application procedures for

veterans, retirees, and next-of-kin.

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (left) and GWOT Service Medal (right), shown obverse and reverse, presented in graphic form, as released by DOD.

Designated geographic locations for the GWOT Expeditionary Medal are: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bulgaria (Bourgas only), Crete, Cyprus, Diego Garcia, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Romania (Constanta only), Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey (east of 35 degree east latitude), Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Yemen, that portion of the Arabian Sea north of 10 degrees north latitude and west

of 68 degrees longitude, , Bab El Mandeb, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Aqaba, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Suez, that portion of the Mediterranean Sea east of 28 degrees east longitude, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Strait of Hormuz, Suez Canal — *Source: Office of the Secretary of Defense.*

MARINES: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has initiated a "Workplace Partnership for Life" program. The information on the form below is self-explanatory. Our Detachment can be of great assistance in this program if our members will approach their employers and gain their support for this truly humanitarian program. Won't you please help launch this program in your workplace? It's what we Marines do.

Sign-Up Sheet



Workplace Partnership for Life

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services



SIGN-UP SHEET

Workplace Partnership for Life members are asked to help build awareness of the need for voluntary organ, tissue, marrow, and blood donations—and to encourage people to sign a donor card and talk with their families about their donation decisions.

- Please print in the space below your company or organization's name as you would like it to appear on your membership certificate and the roster of *Workplace Partnership for Life*.

Company or Organization Name

• **Contact Information:**

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
E-mail: _____ Website: _____

- Number of employees in your company/organization: _____
- Please comment on whether your organization is interested in promoting organ, tissue, marrow, or blood donation, or all of these: _____

How did you hear about the *Workplace Partnership for Life*?

- Letter from Secretary Tommy G. Thompson ☐
- United Network for Organ Sharing ☐
- Coalition on Donation ☐
- Organ Procurement Organization ☐ (please specify) _____
- Blood Collection Organization ☐ (please specify) _____
- Tissue/Eye Bank ☐ (please specify) _____
- National Marrow Donor Program ☐
- Marrow Donor Center ☐ (please specify) _____
- Presentation at meeting (please specify meeting) _____
- Other (please specify) _____
- Family/Friend/Colleague ☐
- Internet/Surfing the Web ☐
- The Marrow Foundation ☐

- Please return completed form to:

WorkPlace Partnership for Life
Division of Transplantation
5600 Fishers Lane
Parklawn Building, Room 16C-17
Rockville, MD 20857

Phone: (301) 443-7578
E-Mail: vwalker@hrsa.gov
Fax: (301) 443-1267

'Suicide Charley' History of Company C, 1st Bn, 7th Marines

by **Cpl. Jeff Womack**
Combat Correspondent

CAMP SAMAESAN, Thailand--Units march in formation with heels striking the deck and eyes locked straight ahead as their gold and scarlet guidon flails in the wind.

One such company carries more than just its official Marine Corps guidon; this company carries two.

Marines from Company C, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, a Unit Deployment Program (UDP) unit home-based in Twentynine Palms, CA, and currently assigned to Okinawa, Japan, carries a flag with a skull and crossbones on a white background.

According to **Cpls. Beau L. Menvielle**, machine gunner, and **Joseph P. Scofield**, police sergeant, Company C, 1/7, on Oct. 24, 1942, at Henderson Field, Guadalcanal, 1/7, then commanded by **LtCol. Lewis "Chesty" Puller**, was tasked to set up a defensive perimeter around the field with Company B to the left, Company A to the right and Company C in the middle.

No one knows why the Company name is misspelled

At approximately 8 p.m. that night, three Japanese regiments and a portion of a brigade breached their perimeter. Company C received the brunt of the attack and held its ground.

The next day, after the attack, the Marines were still holding their position. A flag was found flying over Company C's area bearing a skull and crossbones with the words "Suicide Charley" on a Japanese white, silk parachute. No one is quite sure why the company name is spelled incorrectly.

The guide wasn't seen again until the Battle of Peleliu. It was a replica of the old flag and was used as a motivational tool for the worn-out Marines of that bloody battle.

Copies of the flag appeared in other places as the company traveled around the world, but the history of the flag changed with the times.

In 1961, the 1st Marine Division commanding general authorized the flag for carry in all functions and ceremonies.

Menvielle and Scofield said that guidon exists today because men bled on the battlegrounds of Guadalcanal and Peleliu and their memory lives long in the hearts of the Marines who carry this flag.

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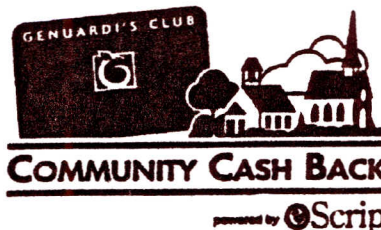
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SHORT ROUNDS

MOAA: Concurrent Receipt Glass Half Full

Asked, "Why did you settle for a partial (concurrent receipt) deal?" the Military Officers Association of America says there was less "settling" than there was taking the partial deal or nothing.

MOAA adds that "all or nothing" negotiations in the past have usually ended up with nothing, which they found unacceptable this year. In addition, "If we want these legislators to help us make further progress in the future, we need to thank them for their efforts, not spurn them," stated MOAA officials. They also say that, although they had hoped for a five-year phase-in, the package offered was 10 years or no deal. However, the 10-year spread is front-loaded, so that qualified military retirees will get back at least 95 percent of their retired pay in six years.

For phase-in charts, visit www.moaa.org/Legislative/Retirement/CRCharts/Default.asp.

For a "Frequently Asked Questions" guide, see www.moaa.org/Legislative/Retirement/CRQA.asp.

Medical Journal Supports VA Reorganization

A recent study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* reports that the Department of Veterans Affairs' shift from inpatient to outpatient care during the past decade has been efficient and safe.

Survival rates among chronically ill veterans remained constant despite a sharp reduction in hospital-based care, according to the journal's Oct. 23 edition. Over the past eight years, VA has reorganized its health care system, closed hospital beds, expanded outpatient care and improved primary care.

The journal article was based on a study by researchers at VA's Houston Center for Quality Care and Utilization Studies and Baylor College of Medicine who studied the records of 342,000 chronically ill veterans to track their

health care and survival between 1994 and 1998. Hospital stays fell by 50 percent and outpatient care increased moderately, while survival rates remained constant.

2004 Retired Military Personnel Handbook Just Published--Only \$9.95!

For 2004, The Retired Military Personnel Handbook has been COMPLETELY REVISED AND EXPANDED AND IS STILL ONLY \$9.95!

The Retired Military Personnel Handbook is now in its fifth year and has been distributed to military installations and federal government agencies all over the world!

It is specifically written for all military personnel and retirees and their families and is designed to guide you through every aspect of your retirement, explaining what benefits you may qualify for and how to get them, as well as providing a context for making many of the important decisions that lie ahead.

Government Warns About UPS Uniforms Purchase

There has been a huge purchase, \$32,000 worth, of United Parcel Service (UPS) uniforms on e Bay over the last 30 days. This could represent a serious threat as bogus drivers (terrorists) can drop off anything to anyone with deadly consequences!

If you have ANY questions when a UPS driver appears at your door, they should be able to furnish VALID I.D. Additionally, if someone in a UPS uniform comes to make a drop off or pick up, make absolutely sure they are driving a UPS truck.

UPS does not make deliveries or pickups in anything, except a company vehicle. If you have a problem, IMMEDIATELY call your local law enforcement agency right away! TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY!

(Source: Kimberly Bush-Carr, Manage-

ment Program Specialist, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Bureau Customs and Border Protection, Washington, DC 20229)

VA Revises Priority For Doctor Visits

WASHINGTON - Veterans needing medical help about health problems stemming from their military service will be scheduled first for nonemergency appointments under new rules announced Friday by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Appointments for such veterans must be scheduled within 30 days of the request. When an appointment is unavailable, the VA must arrange for care at another VA facility or contract for out for it, VA Secretary Anthony Principi said in a statement.

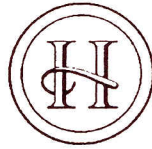
Any veteran needing emergency care still will be treated immediately. The new rule changes a policy in which veterans with service-connected health issues, such as a war injury or certain cancers related to Agent Orange exposure and who are not severely disabled, waited with other veterans for appointments.

Basilone Book & Video Set for Release

HILTON HEAD, SC--The Sgt. John Basilone Foundation announces its forthcoming book publication and video release titled "I'm Staying with My Boys: The Heroic Life of Sgt. John Basilone, USMC."

GySgt. John "Manila John" Basilone was the first enlisted Marine to receive the Medal of Honor in WWII for his heroic defense of an airfield on Guadalcanal. He went on to receive the Navy Cross posthumously for extraordinary bravery on Iwo Jima.

For details: Call (toll free): 1-888-827-2762; on-line: www.sgtjohnbasilone.com; write to: P. O. Box 5967, Hilton Head, SC 19938; or e-mail: sgtjohnbasilone@aol.com.



HARDWICK

CLOTHES

SINCE 1880

TO: All Marine Corps League Detachments
FROM: Hardwick Clothes, Inc.
SUBJECT: Price Increase
DATE: February 16, 2004

Effective immediately, the following will be the price for the red blazers.

Marine Corps League Price List Effective March 2004

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
Men's Blazer	34-50	\$82.50
	52-56	\$90.75
Ladies Blazer	4-20	\$82.50
	22-24	\$90.75

No Portlys
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ATTN: Kaye Buckner
P. O. Box 2310
Cleveland, TN 37320-2310

Send your order on Marine Corps stationery together with a Marine Corps check made payable to Hardwick Clothes, Inc. for the correct amount. We do not accept personal checks, or any credit cards. Price includes tax, freight, and service charges.

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Date of Discharge/Separation/Retirement _____ SSN _____

Type of Application -- New () Renewal () Associate () Phone (____) _____

E-mail: _____

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I hereby certify I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, the character of my service has been honorable and, if discharged, I am in receipt of an Honorable Discharge. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of Honorable Discharge/service upon request.

(Sponsor - where applicable)

(Applicant's Signature)

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